Keynote Speaker’s Profiles and Presentation Summary

Dr Joe Collins - Executive Director Office of Advancement and Alumni, UWS

Dr Collins is an experienced Chief Executive Officer & Non-Executive Director, a trusted leadership practitioner focused on delivering transformational change and outcomes that really matter. He was recently appointed as the Executive Director of the Office of Advancement and Alumni at UWS where he is focused on developing philanthropic support & alumni engagement. In this role he has a particular interest in student mentoring and supports enhancing student employability. His career features a wide range of commercial leadership experience and highly regarded achievements in Government, Commercial and Not-For-Profit sectors.

Formerly, Executive Chairman of Immune Systems Therapeutics and Executive Chairman, Children’s Cancer Institute Australia where he initiated and led CCIA’s strategy to become one of Australia’s premier independent MRI's, including the construction of a world class $100 million research facility completed in a JV with UNSW. His Not-For-Profit interests include the Higher Education Sector, Childhood Cancer Research, Community TV and Leadership Development. Dr Collins is a member of the Advisory Board and Honorary Life Fellow, Australian Graduate School of Leadership. In 2007 he was awarded SAA’s Inaugural Scholarship for Non-Profit leaders to the Stanford Graduate School of Business in Palo Alto, California.

Presentation Summary

The value ascribed to student mentor programs to enable professional engagement and provide practical support is neither homogeneous nor easily quantifiable. A reductionist view of these programs may not be the right or only way of looking at value. How do we make mentoring programs more effective or is it luck when either a mentor or mentee has a ‘good ‘experience? Forget whether its student mentoring or some other form or mentoring, Let’s take a look at some practical tips to help make mentoring programs and mentoring relationships more meaningful and maybe even more valuable.