

Workshop – 5th November 2016 (15 participants)

STRENGTHS

- Bringing together like minded people – intellectual and physical needs. Recreational & social.
- Variety of courses and quality of Tutors. Outstanding and exceptional tutors.
- Opportunity to learn
- Message flow (to Tutors)... positive
- Provides antidote to depression, isolation, boredom and loneliness.
- No exams
- Social benefits
- No gender, racial and religious bias – Freedom of expression
- Provides opportunity to extend/explore our own potential – become tutor, work in office
- Use technology and learn new skills.
- Very diverse 3rd agers.
- Willingness to share experiences and skills.
- Thirst for learning.
- Many good at analysing situations
- Large range of courses and activities.
- Affordable
- Excellent range of venues.
- A/V technical assistance via university mikes and rooms.
- Keeps us 3rd agers well and happy (minds young).
- Friendships.
- Social interaction.
- Beyond social stratification.
- Discovery like-minded open-hearted lively 3rd agers.
- Tutors continue to grow and be valued.

Weaknesses and Solutions

- Lack of communication for the non-computer user/access.
 - Provide communication options for non-computer users.
- New/prospective members do not have access to information through office.
 - Arrange paid administrator/office manager.
- ‘Secret Society’
 - Be open and proactively promote U3A membership.
- Active outreach to members.
 - Provide volunteers in office with training and skills development.
- Shortage of Tutors.
 - Actively target areas where tutors are needed.
- K.I.S.S.
 - Keep communication and procedures basic.
- Website.
 - Needs improvement and more user friendly.
- AGM Structure and general business.
 - Provide a better managed AGM

- Need to recognize office management as heart of U3A.
 - Provide paid administrator and promote the office.
- Constitution and rules need to be reviewed.
 - Use qualified assistance to review Constitution and rules.
- Communication needs to be improved. Currently depends too much on emails.
 - Arrange regular tutor meetings. More general meetings.
- No handbook.
 - Reinstate handbook.
- Need to know what happens at management meetings.
 - Minutes are made available to members' access.
- We lack an intellectual and social hub.
 - Have our own facility.
- Lack of promotion and advertising.
 - Promote and advertise more.
- No budget presented at AGM.
 - Present financial report and budget at AGM.
- Lack of Sunshine Coast Regional Council funding.
 - Pursue funding from SCRC.

Ideas for the future

- Consolidate before expand.
- Update, amend or replace current rules.
- Extend office hours (9am to 1pm)
- Arrange paid office management and review membership fees to fund this.
- Reinstate EOGM's and Tutor meetings.
- Improve website.
- Establish membership officer.
- Activate building fund for our own venue.
- Make SATH accessible for all.
- Re-join BWMCA.
- Arrange intergenerational mentoring involving 3rd agers and youth.
- Reinstate hard copy newsletter.
- Update brochure, leaflet – outreach. Doctors' office, libraries etc.
- Arrange common meeting place.
- Keep exploring what we could do better.
- Undertake feasibility of establishing our own premises (Keluin – Breakfast Creek Road)
- Arrange more advertisement, publicity and articles in free community newspapers.
ESPECIALLY 3 weeks before open day.