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AUSTRALIA

Giving Credit Where it's Due: Credit and Articulation at the University of Newcastle

Student and Academic Services Portfolio

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17 September 2013

Snap Shot of UoN

- UoN is a large multi-campus institution with five campuses which span cities between Sydney and Singapore.
- More than 200 u/g & p/g degrees are offered to 37,450 students across five Faculties.
- We are the largest provider of enabling programs in Australia, offering about one third of the nation's Commonwealth supported places.

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Topics

1. Credit Transfer Arrangements
2. Reverse Articulation Agreements
3. Centralised Credit Processing
4. Credit Application Tracking System (CATS)
5. Credit Transfer at Newcastle System

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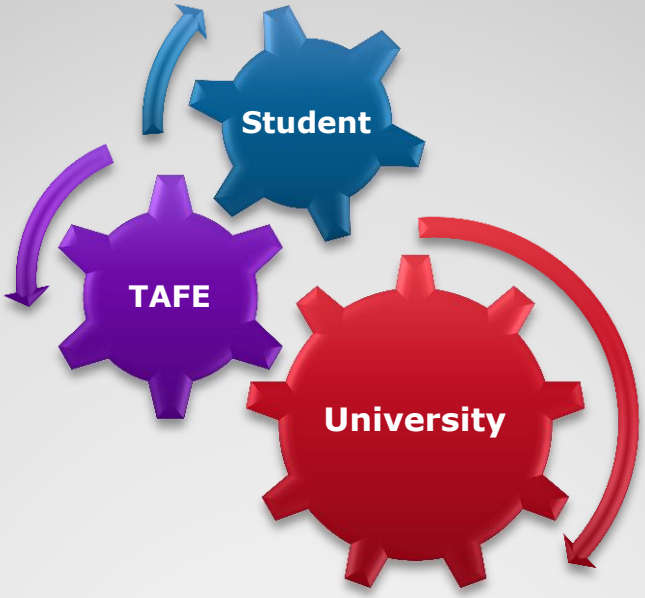

1. Credit Transfer Arrangements

Goals and Objectives

- Renew all credit transfer agreements with TAFE NSW.
- Update the Credit Transfer Website.
- Improve all Business Processes relating to credit.

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Making light work of a complex task by bringing the right people together

University of Newcastle
The Credit Office
June Wieland
Karen Newson

TAFE NSW – Hunter Institute
Manager of Recognition & Pathway Services
Jillian Albrecht

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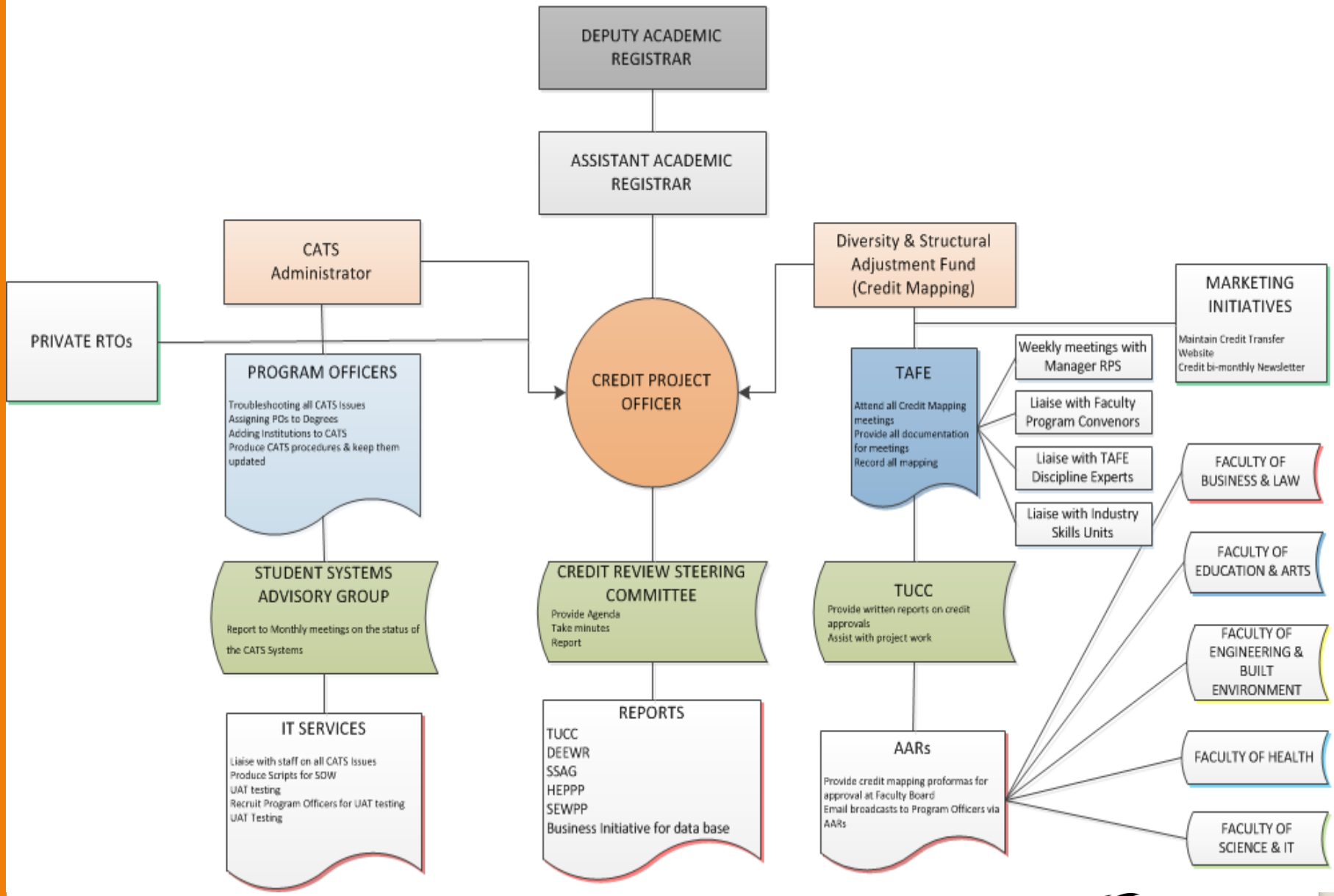

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How Did We Get Here?

- Established strong working relationships with TAFE NSW.
- Working within the AQF Qualifications Framework.
- Developed a Communiqué between TAFE NSW – Hunter and the University on roles and responsibilities relating to credit.
- Developed and implemented a ‘Credit Newsletter’ to improve communication with staff at both institutions.

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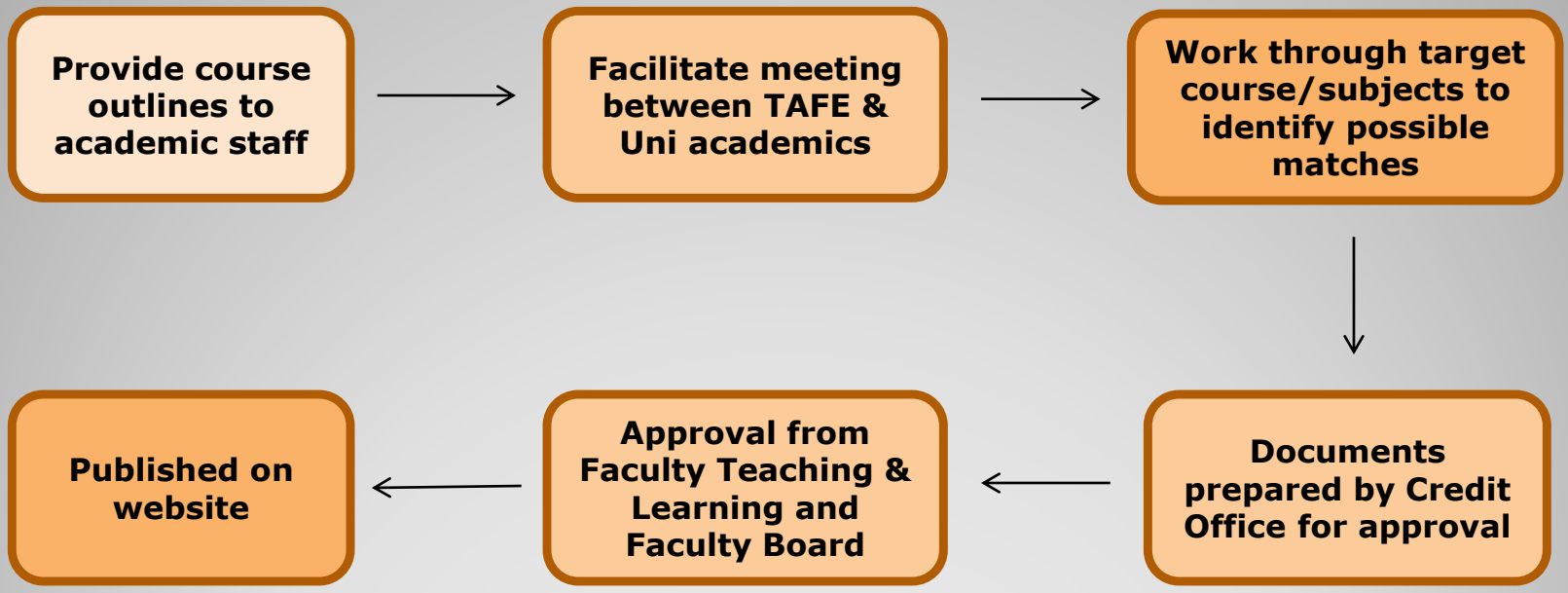
Credit Mapping Work Flow



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Outcome of Credit Mapping Example

TAFE NSW		The University of Newcastle		
Course Code	**Module / Course / Program name**	**Course Code**	**Course / Program name**	**Units**
10702	Completed: *Advanced Diploma of Applied Environmental Management*			
		Core to Program		
AHCNAR502A AHCPCM502A AHCFAU501A NSWTENV610B	**All of the following:** Conduct biological surveys Collect and classify plants Manage fauna populations **or** **All of the following:** Interpret ecological inter-relationships	BIOL1002	Organisms to Ecosystems	10
NSWTENV615B NSWTENV617B	**All of the following:** Manage water quality Design and implement a water management plan	ENVS1001	Environmental Science Concepts & Methods	10
NSWTENV601B	Implement principles and practices of ecologically sustainable development	ENVS1003	Environmental Values & Ethics	10
NSWTENV603B NSWTENV608B MSS027004A	**All of the following:** Implement environmental legislation Undertake an environmental assessment **or** **All of the following:** Contribute to environmental decision making	ENVS2002	Environmental Legislation & Planning	10
NSWTENV612B CPPSIS5010A	**All of the following:** Map, interpret and communicate features of the natural landscape using various media Collate and interpret spatial data	GEOS2161	Geographic Information Systems & Remote Sensing	10

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2. Reverse Articulation Arrangements

Based on the completion of the second year of the Bachelor of Podiatry

Keep studying at university but gain a qualification that lets you work in the industry with reverse credit

Over 100 Podiatry students have taken up this offer since 2010

Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance

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Certificate III & IV in Fitness Recognition and Gap Training Program

- This program is designed for students undertaking the Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Science degree.
- The program provides recognition for the skills and knowledge already obtained by these students at the end of their second year of study.
- Students need to complete gap training in three units of competency from the TAFE qualification.

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Recent student survey responses upon receiving a TAFE award

‘definitely a worthwhile opportunity, you would be mad not to take up this offer!’

Was useful having a completed qualification over the summer break!

‘definitely added value to my CV portfolio.’

‘absolutely assisted me in gaining employment whilst completing my degree.’

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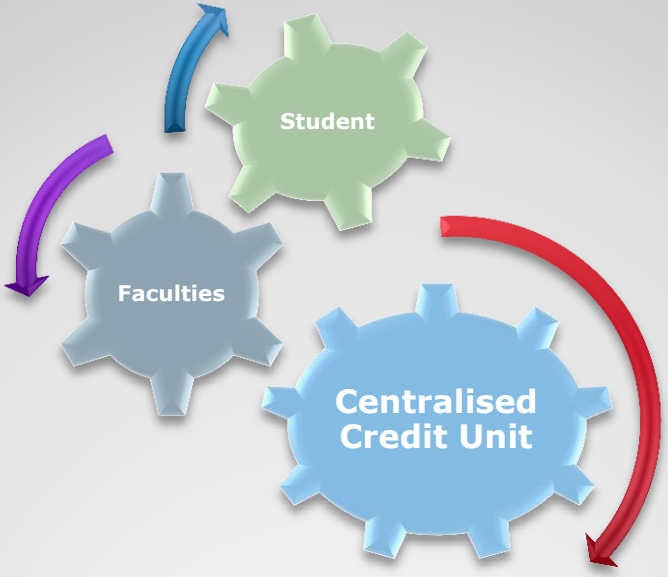

3. Centralised Credit Processing Pilot

The objectives of the pilot were to:

- Create & process credit applications for students before offers of admission were released.
- Gain an understanding of the usefulness of the UAC data.
- Identify common issues the University will need to consider if they decide to implement centralised credit processing.

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The Plan

- Action Group
- Team of three
- Five priority areas
- 9 November 2012 – 1 March 2013

Five Priority Areas

1. Early Round Offers.
2. TAFE Awards with established credit transfer pathways into our degree programs.
3. Internal Transfers.
4. Main Round Offers.
5. Assistance during Program Information Enrolment Sessions.

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Credit Applications Statistics

- Semester 1, 2011 = 2,223 (Year total 4,382)
- Semester 1, 2012 = 2,432 (Year total 4,483)
- Semester 1, 2013 = **2,295** (Year to date 3,825)
- Team Credit processed 1,397 (in Sem 1, 2013)

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Credit at UoN Benchmarking a Self-Review

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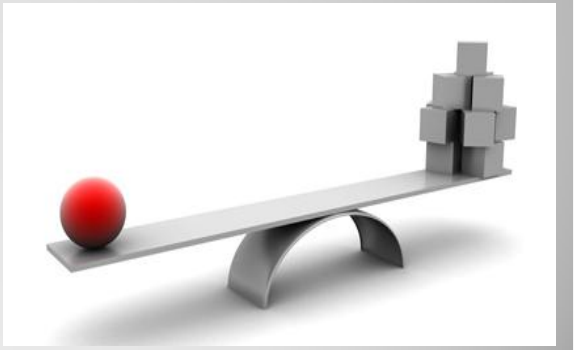
Reasons behind the Benchmarking

- Variances between Faculties in their approach to credit.
- AQF compliance.
- Review of Credit Policy & Procedures
- Identify best practice.



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Scoping Statements

Consistent Business Practices

1. Credit Policy & Procedures and the AQF
2. Systems (CATS & NUSTAR)
3. Transition Support
4. Institutional Support for Credit Transfer Pathways

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Reflection

- Indicators of good practice
- Areas for improvement

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4. Credit Application Tracking System (CATS)

The CATS system overview

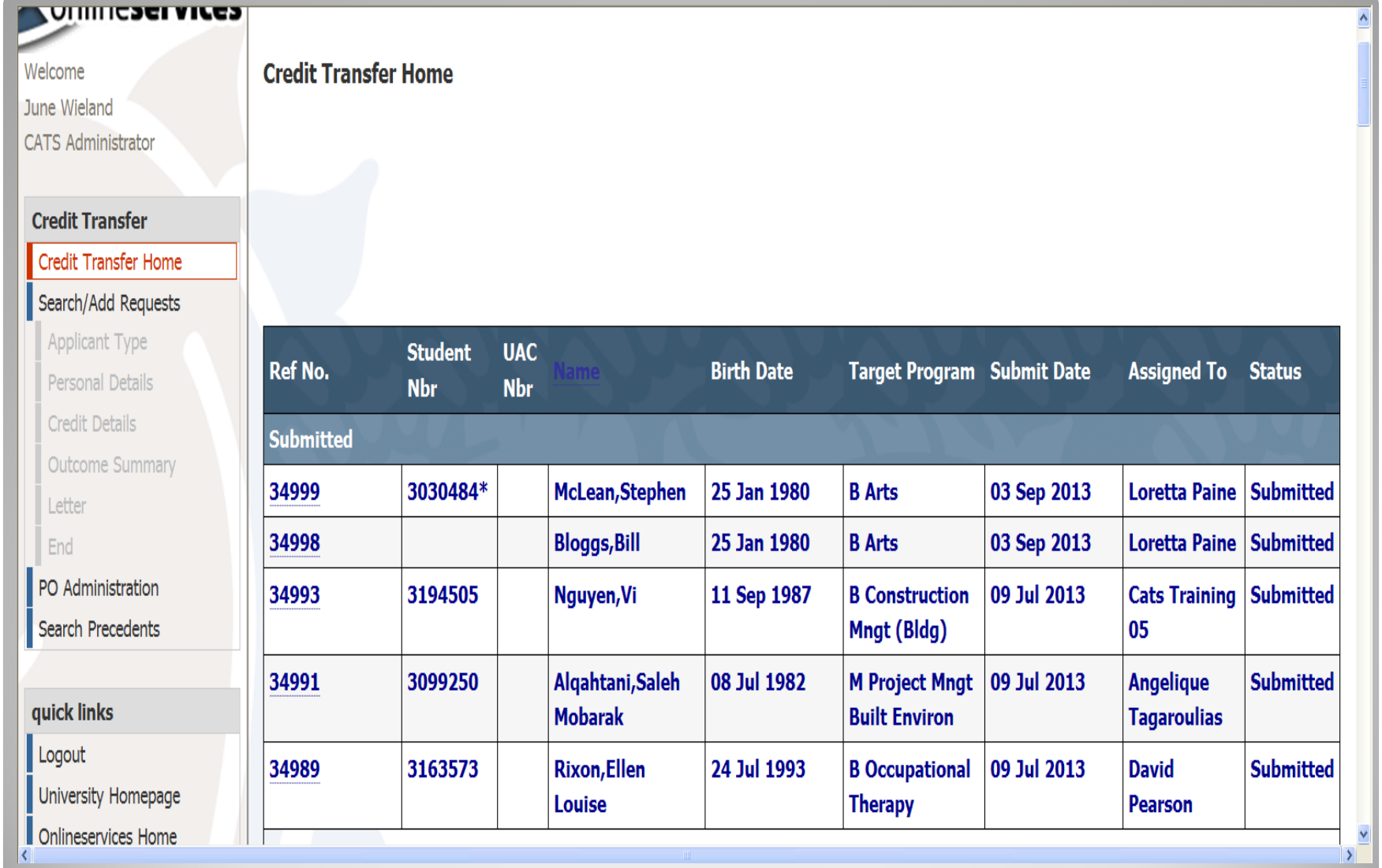
- University staff and students can track credit applications as they progress through the university system.
- Permanently stores all credit applications (both approved or denied) as an audit trail and historical reference in our PeopleSoft/Oracle Student Information System.

The process …

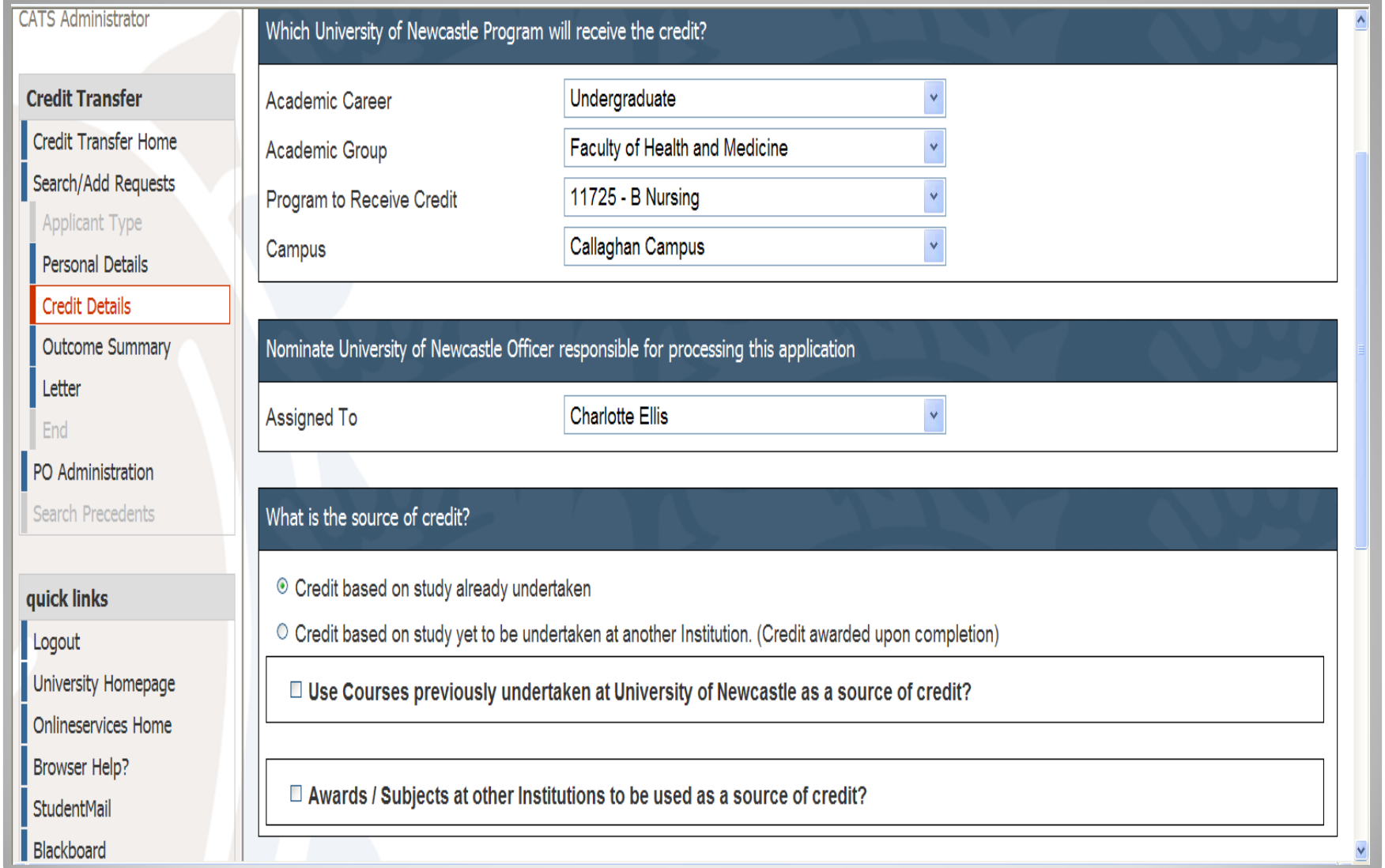
- Student applies on-line via CATSO.
- This triggers an email to the Program Officer notifying them of a new credit application in their CATS Home Page.
- Status of credit applications:
  - Submitted
  - Awaiting Documents
  - Being Assessed
  - Approved on Hold
  - Approved to send to NUSTAR
  - Denied
  - Expired
- Letters

No more manual processing!!

- CATS has stream lined the credit transfer business process by providing supporting functions such as:
  - generation of the credit letter
  - emails student the credit letter
  - cover sheet printing to send non precedents to Program Convenor for approval
  - uploads the approved credit to the student's academic record in our Student Information System.



Ref No.	Student Nbr	UAC Nbr	Name	Birth Date	Target Program	Submit Date	Assigned To	Status
Submitted								
34999	3030484*		McLean,Stephen	25 Jan 1980	B Arts	03 Sep 2013	Loretta Paine	Submitted
34998			Bloggs,Bill	25 Jan 1980	B Arts	03 Sep 2013	Loretta Paine	Submitted
34993	3194505		Nguyen,Vi	11 Sep 1987	B Construction Mngt (Bldg)	09 Jul 2013	Cats Training 05	Submitted
34991	3099250		Alqahtani,Saleh Mobarak	08 Jul 1982	M Project Mngt Built Environ	09 Jul 2013	Angelique Tagaroulias	Submitted
34989	3163573		Rixon,Ellen Louise	24 Jul 1993	B Occupational Therapy	09 Jul 2013	David Pearson	Submitted



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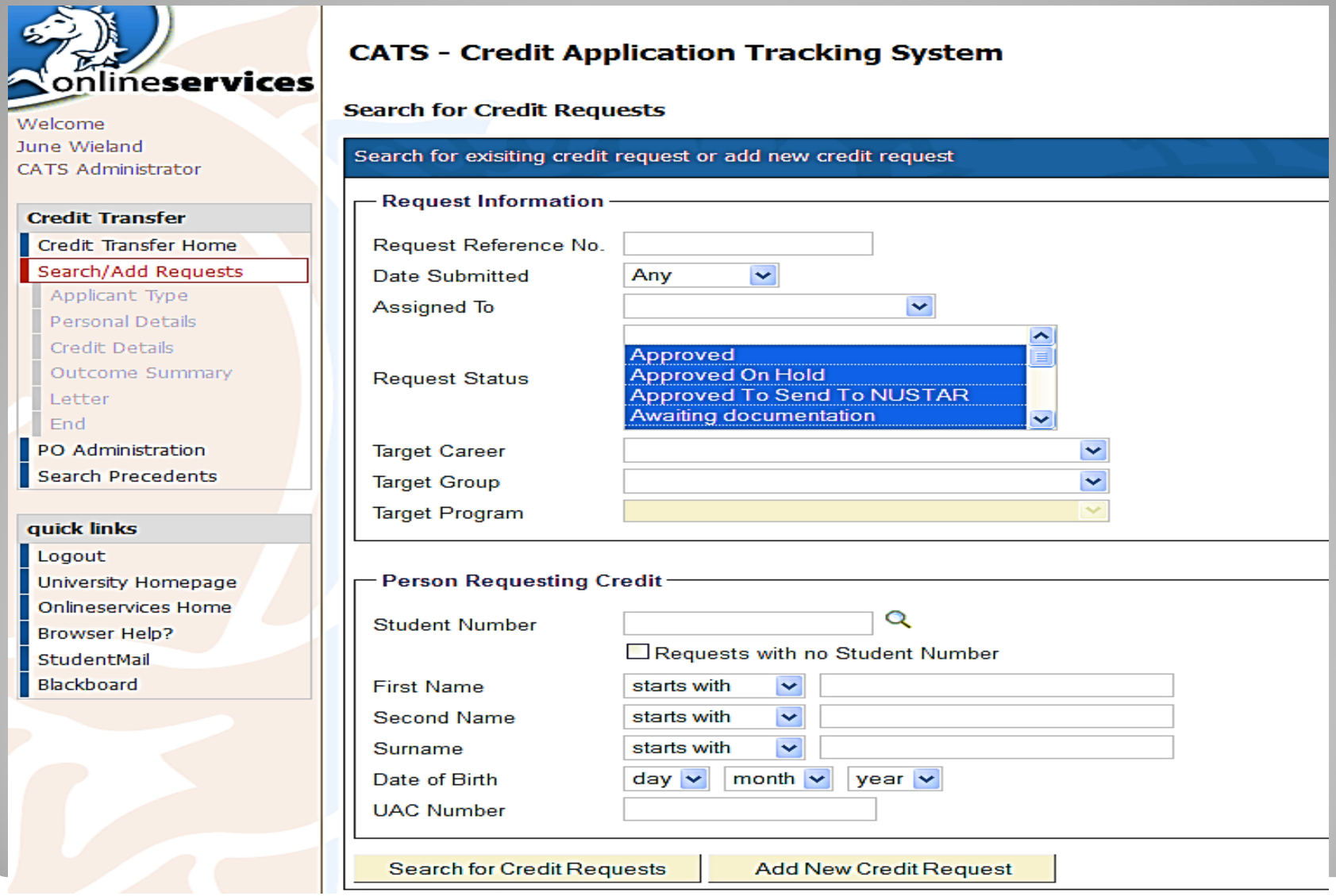

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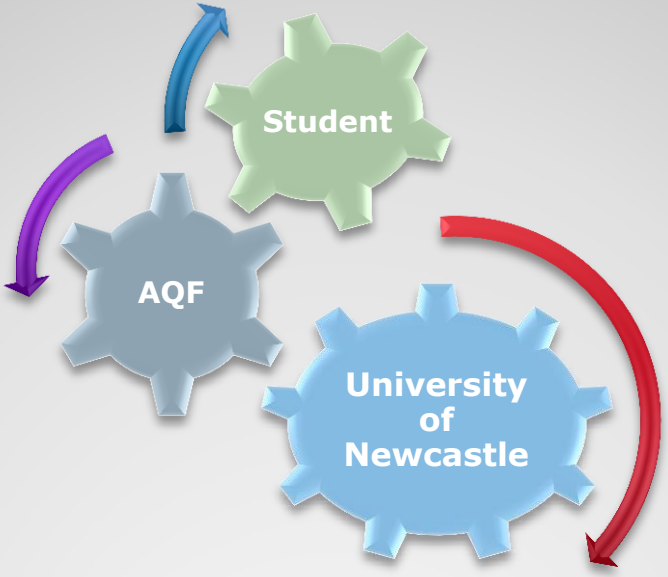


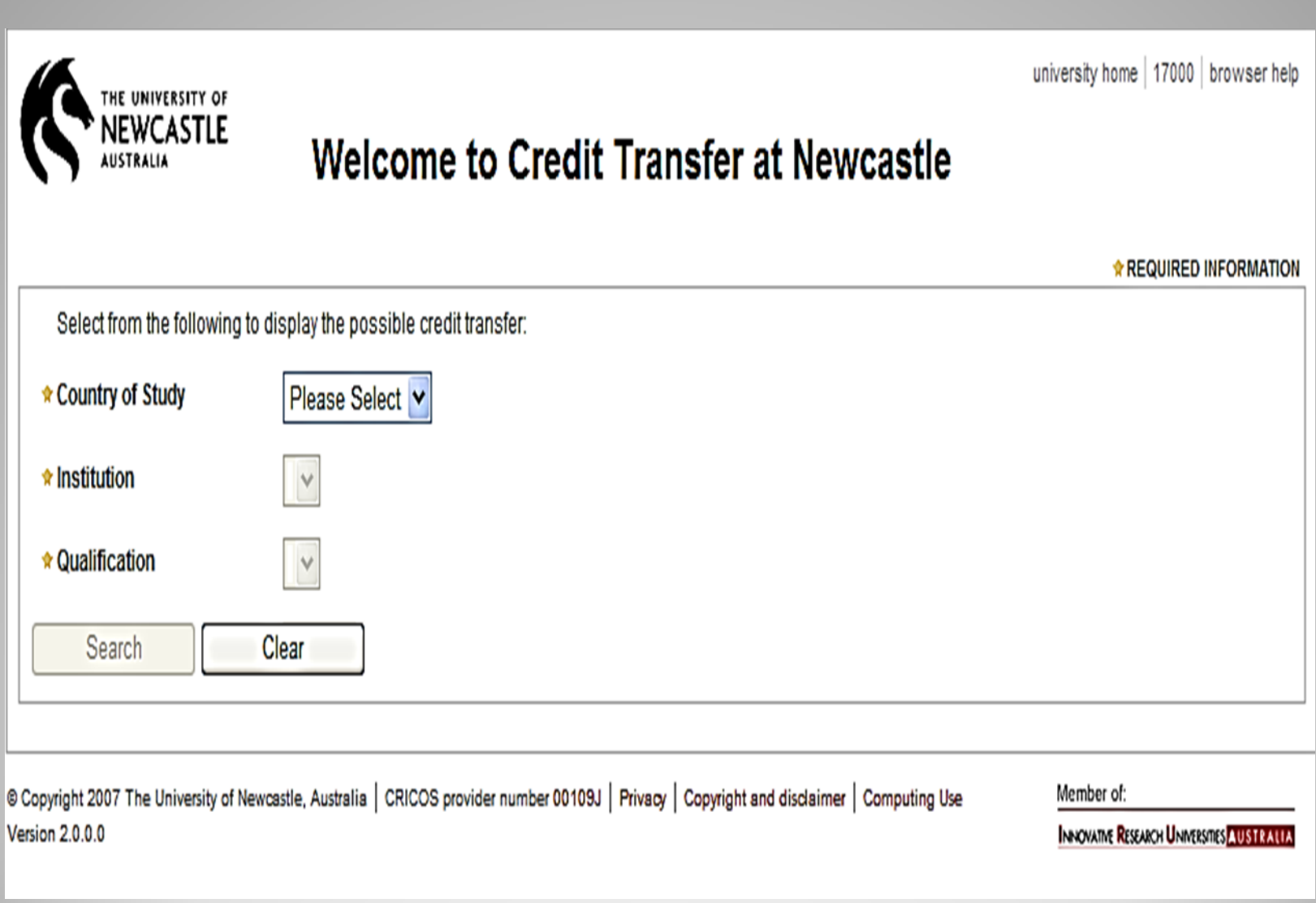
5. Credit Transfer at Newcastle System

New Technology

Key reasons for this system:

- Corporate approach to precedent management across the University.
- Ensure pathways are made publicly available, widely promoted and easily accessible to all prospective and existing students to enable them to:
  - Make well-informed choices between alternative pathways
  - Take into account the credit that may be available to them

  (2.1.2 AQF Qualification Pathway Policy)



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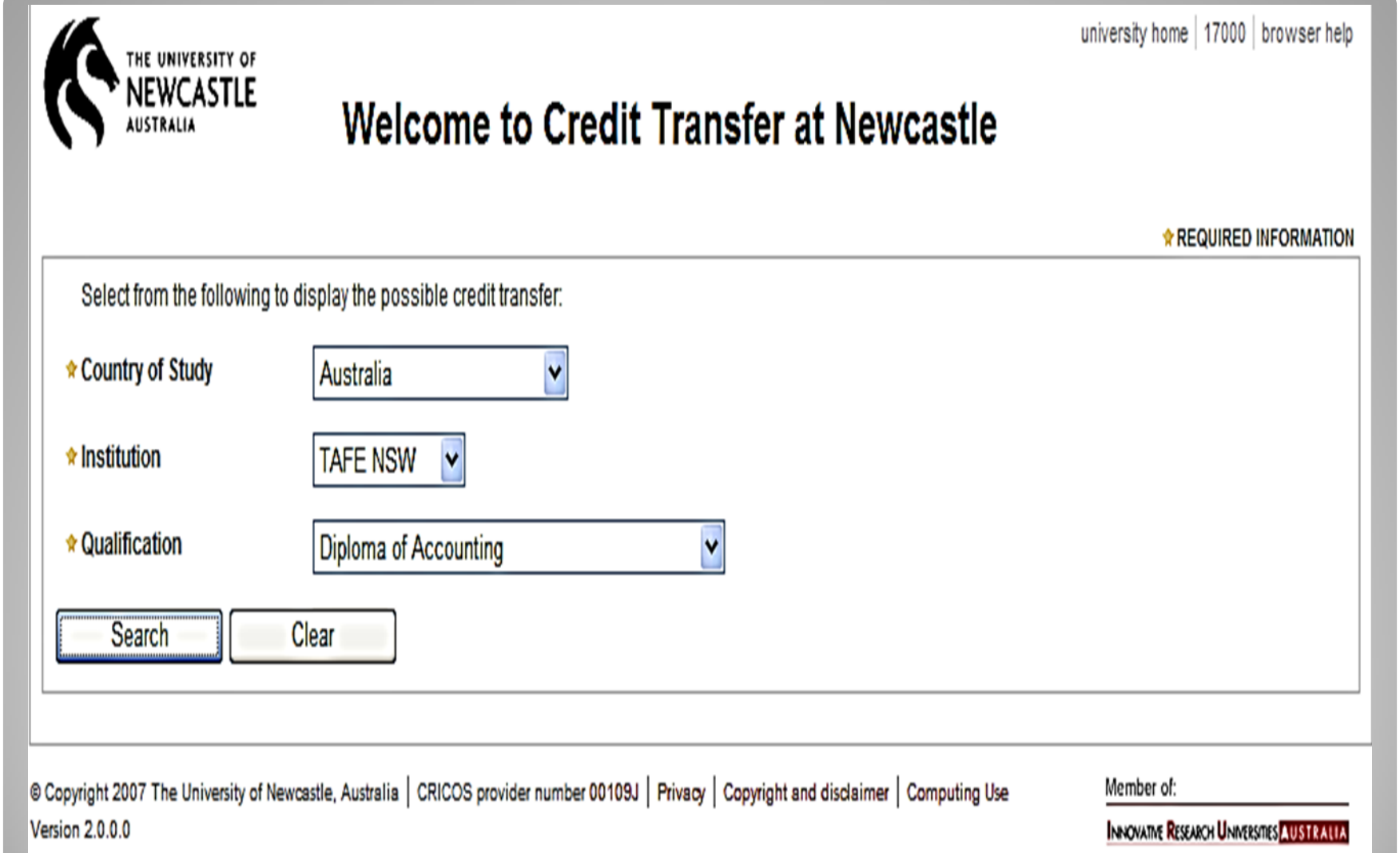

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Institution: TAFE NSW
Award: Diploma of Accounting [11362]

Institution: The University of Newcastle
Degree: Bachelor of Business

Total Units for Program	Maximum Units Granted	Total Units to Complete	Expiry Date
240	50	190	November, 2014

Course Code	Course Description	Units	
ACFI1001	Accounting for Decision Makers	10 Units	All of the following must be completed: BSBFIA401A, FNSACC404A, FNSACC507A, FNSACC402A, FNSACC608A
CRGR1000	Unspecified Credit Granted at 1000 level	20 Units	
ECON1001	Microeconomics for Business Decisions	10 Units	Must have completed: FNSINC601A
LEGL1001	Foundations of Law	10 Units	Must have completed:

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Today's Situation

- Increased opportunities for students through effective credit transfer agreements.
- Improved processes and communication between all stakeholders.
- Improved efficiencies for Professional and Academic staff through a central coordination point for credit arrangements & processing.
- Working towards sustainable systems through monitoring and benchmarking against national guidelines.

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THANK YOU

Any Questions