



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

English Language Centre
(ELC)

**CONNECT WITH ONE
STUDENT AND THE
REST WILL FOLLOW**

adelaide.edu.au

Presenter: Hung Dao

Outline

1. Why?
2. The ELC Intercultural Program – What is it?
3. Promotion
4. Student Voice – Testimonies
5. ELC Intercultural Volunteers
6. Volunteer Voice - Testimonies
7. Constraints – difficulties
8. Plans for the future

Why?

‘For some students, developments in ‘non-language’ areas such as confidence, motivation, cultural understanding and development of learning skills through learning English are just as important, if not more so, than increases in language competency or proficiency. Many students come to learn English in Australia to meet people from other countries and to do something different from their normal routine...’
(English Australia – Guide to Best Practice in Monitoring Student Progress in ELICOS)

Why?

The ELC found students want to be engaged outside the classroom 'I want to talk English to local people'.

The ELC wanted to provide opportunities to students to be socially active while they are studying English.

The ELC wanted to provide opportunities for students to become engaged with the wider community as well practice their English.

The ELC Intercultural Program

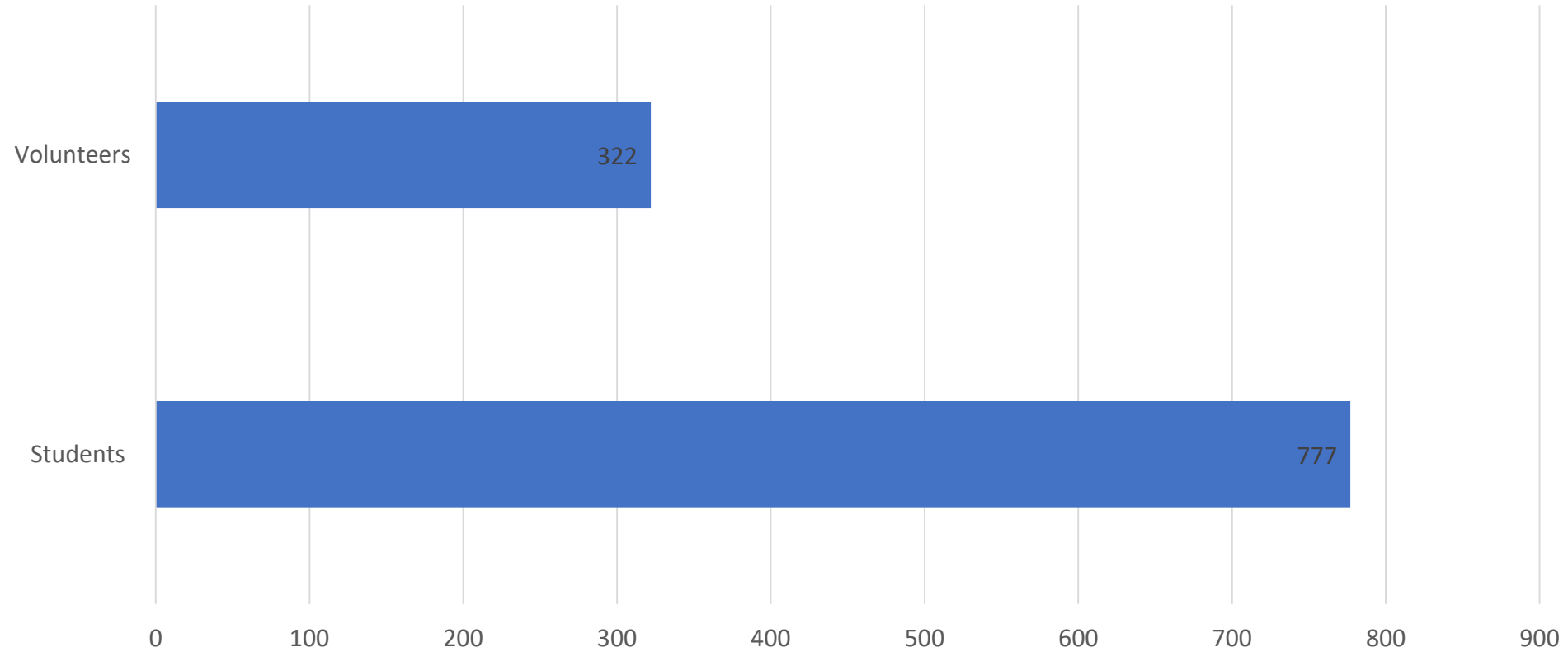
The ELC Intercultural Program includes three areas in which students can register their interest:

1. Coffee & Chat: A weekly 1 hour event promoting informal conversations between students in the ELC Programs and volunteers over a coffee.

Coffee & Chat



Coffee & Chat Statistics



The ELC Intercultural Program

2. ELC Social Club events: A variety of affordable, fun events and activities in and around Adelaide in which volunteers assist with both the coordination of the event on the day and connecting with participating students using English.

ELC Social Club Events



ELC Social Club Events



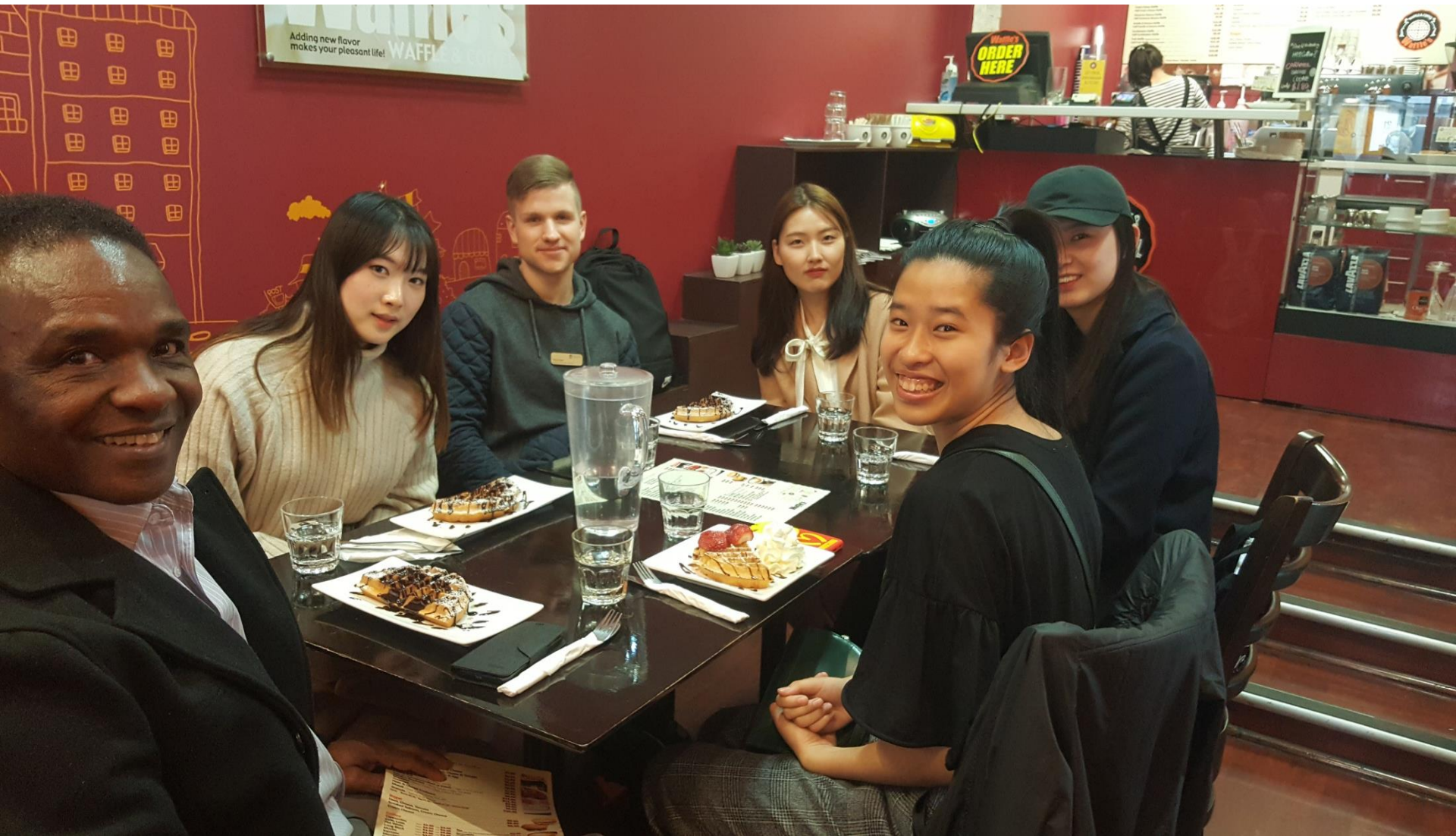
ELC Social Club Events



ELC Social Club Events



ELC Social Club Events



ELC Social Club Events



ELC Social Club Events



The ELC Intercultural Program

3. Cross-Cultural Conversations: A series of short informal conversations held as a structured timed event during which participants discuss various topics with a range of different people.

Cross-cultural Conversations



1. Discussion Topic: English Conversations

What makes it easy to talk to someone in English and how do you start a conversation in English?

Talk about an English conversation you have had?

- What did you talk about?
- What made it so great?
- Where were you?

2. Discussion Topic : Making Conversation with the opposite sex

Who do you think communicates better: men or women? Explain why.

How do conversations between men and women differ?

Do you prefer starting a conversation with a man or woman? Explain why

On a scale of 1-10, how do you rate your conversational skills with the opposite sex? Explain.

3. Discussion Topic: Phone V Face to face

Do you think that some conversations are easier to have on the phone? What types are easier?

What types of conversations do you think are better face to face and why?

If you could have a conversation with a famous person;

- Who would you talk to?
- What would you talk about, and why?
- Would you rather it be face to face or on the phone?

4. Discussion Topic: Intercultural Conversations

Have you ever had a misunderstanding in a conversation by bringing up a topic that may be culturally insensitive? Explain your answer.

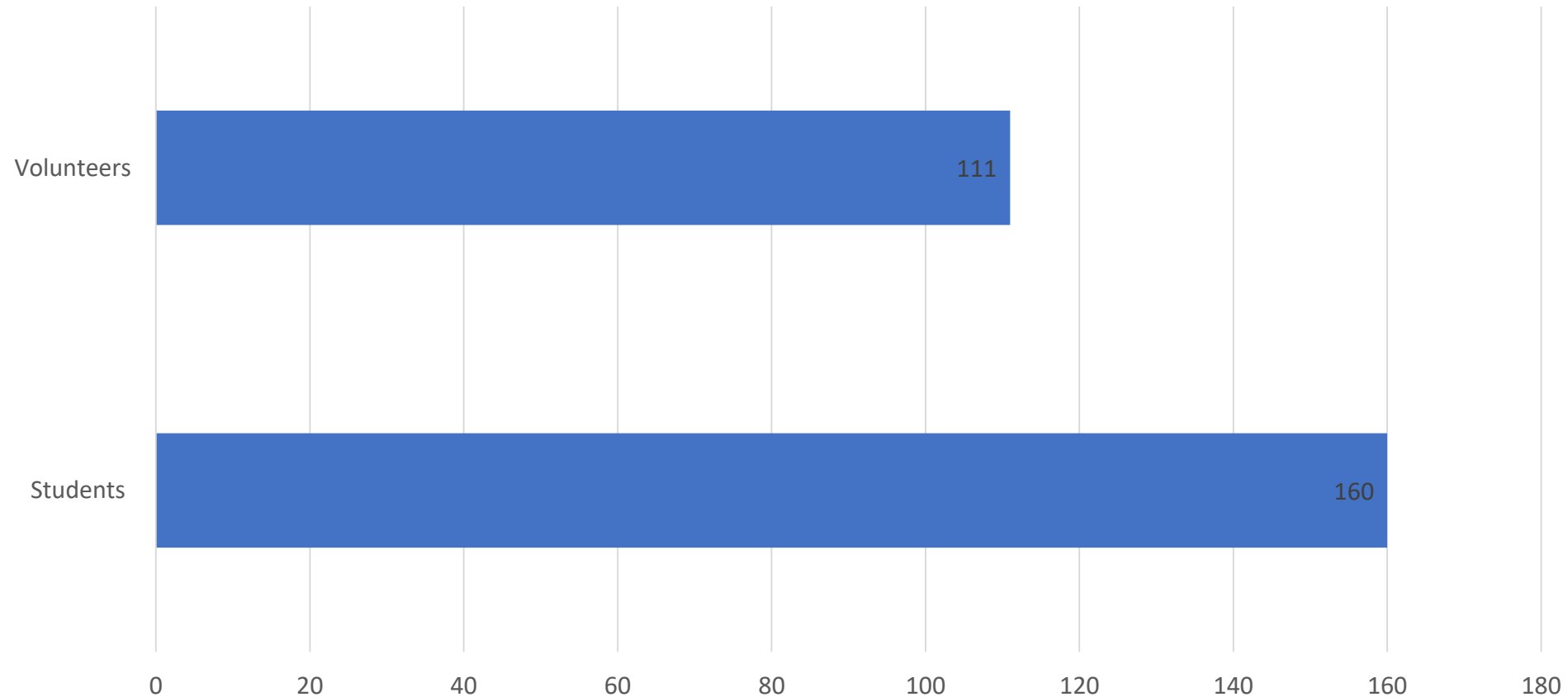
What topics are taboo for your culture and for you personally?

What topics do you know that you should avoid when talking to someone from another country? Eg. Age and income.

If you are in a conversation where someone starts talking about a topic you are uncomfortable with, how would you politely change the topic?

5. Discussion Question: What was a difficult conversation you have had in your life? How did it turn out? What made it hard? What was the result? How can you improve your English conversation skills? Discuss.

Cross-cultural Conversations Statistics



Promotion: How do ELC students find out about The ELC Intercultural Program?

- Presentation at Orientation
- [Website](#)
- Emails
- Notice Board – level 9 & 11
- Newsletters
- Spruiking
- Teacher support
- Student support (word of mouth)

ELC Student Voice



How to become an ELC Intercultural Volunteer



Become a Volunteer

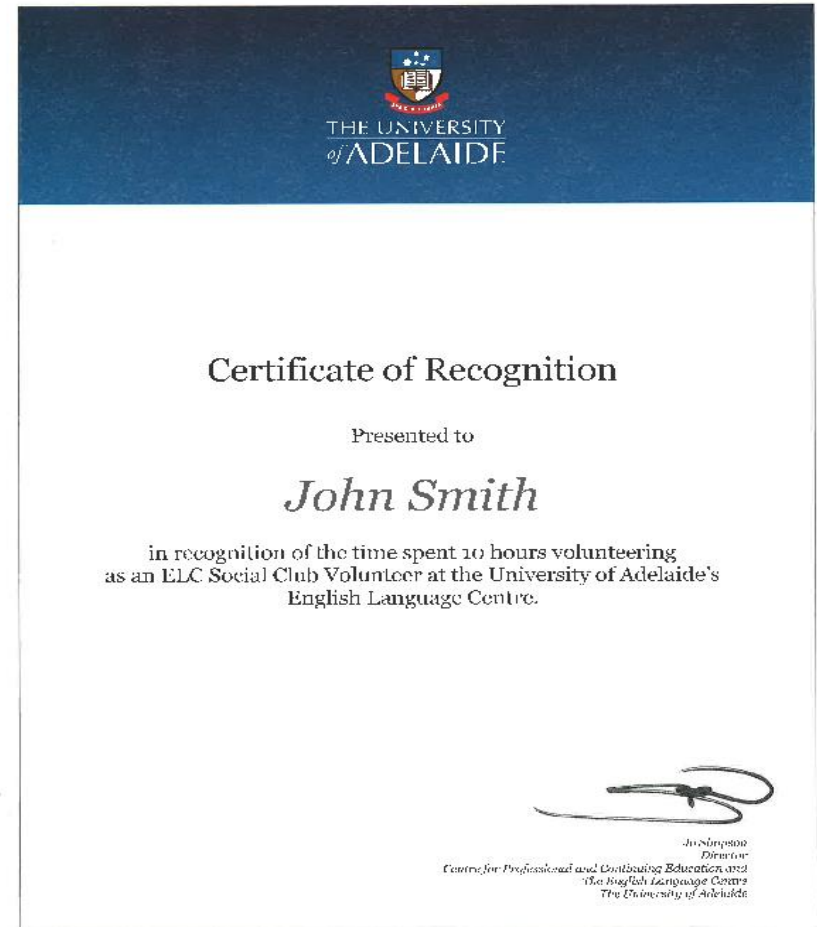
intercultural program for international students

Who are our ELC Intercultural Volunteers



Recognition of ELC Intercultural Volunteers

- Certificate of Recognition indicating total number of volunteering hours
- University of Adelaide Volunteer pin
- Personalised Letter of Recognition of Volunteer Service
- Volunteer of the Year Award for outstanding contribution
- Annual internal recognition event
- Annual University recognition event
- [The Adelaide Graduate Award](#)



Professional & Continuing Education
including the English Language Centre

seek LIGHT

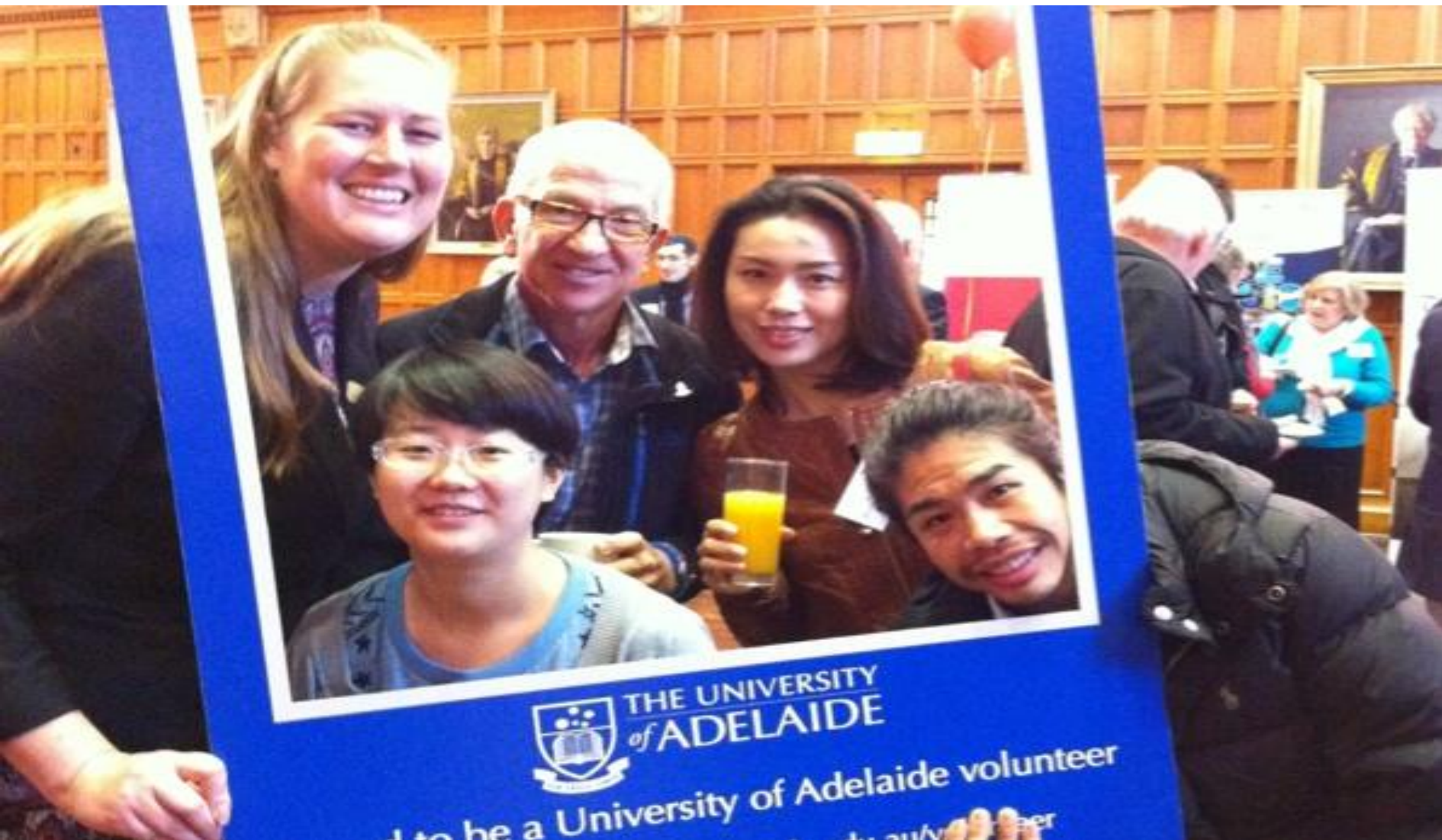
ELC Intercultural Program Volunteer Recognition Event



ELC Intercultural Program Volunteer Recognition Event



University Thank you Morning Tea Event



ELC Intercultural Volunteer Voice



Challenges for ELC Intercultural Program

- High turn-over of both students and volunteers
- Volunteer co-ordination and management
- Limited marketing
- Time management
- Limited staff participation
- Increasing diversity of volunteers and particularly native English speakers involved in the program
- Changing the perception of what ELC students believe are 'local people'

Plans for the future of the ELC Intercultural Program

- The ELC Intercultural Program will aim to provide Ambassador roles for both students and volunteers
- Increase number of volunteers and students involved in the program
- Improved tracking of volunteer commitments
- Have structured incentives for student and volunteer participation
- To be recognised within the wider University as an exceptional Volunteer Program

Contact information

Email: hung.dao@adelaide.edu.au

Resources

The ELC Social Club:

<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/elc/socialclub/>

The ELC on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/uoa.elc>

The ELC Intercultural Volunteer Program:

<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/volunteer/>

The Adelaide Graduate Award:

<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/adelaide-graduate-award/>



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