

KENNETH ROSS SIMS

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Nationality: New Zealander

I am the Academic Quality Coordinator at the Universal College of Learning (a New Zealand Polytechnic College), and I develop, maintain and verify systems to ensure the highest academic quality of programmes taught and qualifications awarded. I am responsible for the organisational quality management system, and for verifying the achievement of external and internal academic quality standards. I have been fortunate in being able to develop such systems in a variety of different organisations and business streams during my career.

Employment History

2001 – 2005	UCOL Polytechnic College	Academic Quality Co-ordinator
1999 – 2000	Self Employed	Outdoors-NZ Online Ltd
1978 - 1998	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries MAF Quality Management	Quality Management Facilitator Technical Officer
1967 - 1978	Waikato Hospital Laboratory	Laboratory Officer

Education and Qualifications

2002	Quality in Tertiary Education	Edith Cowan University, Perth
1994	Organisational Self-Assessment (NZ National Quality Awards Foundation)	1992 Team Management Systems (Margerison-McCann)
1992	Auditing Quality Systems (ETRS Stebbing, Australia)	1991 Quality Assurance Auditing (Alan Sayle and SANZ)
1990	Total Quality Management (Total Quality Management Institute)	1990 Quality Management (MAF Quality Management Training)
1989	Developing Quality Systems (Massey University)	1989 Business Process Management (IBM New Zealand Quality Institute)
1972	Certificate of Proficiency in Medical Laboratory Technology –(Waikato Hospital) - Basic Training Certificate, Microbiology Part II & III (<i>5 year full-time qualification</i>)	
1966	University Entrance - English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology	1965 School Certificate Dannevirke High School

Skills

Client Focussed
Innovative
Communicative
Knowledge Driven

Collaborative
Flexible
Organised
Aligned and Aware

Competent and knowledgeable in the use of modern computer-based technology, and its application to:

- Quality assurance process management
- Digital and hardcopy documentation.

Performance Strengths

As an experienced manager, supervisor and team performer, I am familiar with taking responsibility to achieve professional and personal growth. I am a logical thinker; questioning, innovative and decisive.

My accomplishments in the application of technology combined with my abilities in system planning and management have resulted in ongoing career development and career progressions.

My team strengths are in creativity/innovation, with strong organising and promoting skills. I enjoy a facilitating role, developing new ideas, bringing them to the team and seeing them implemented, often by others.

These qualities enable me to be a flexible, adaptable and productive team member, who makes a positive contribution to the achievement of the organisation's goals.

Professional Affiliations

- Past Chairperson, Manawatu-Wanganui Branch of the New Zealand Organisation of Quality
- Associate Member, New Zealand Institute of Medical Laboratory Technologists
- Massey University Angling Club, Past President
- Manawatu Freshwater Anglers Club, Executive Member
- New Zealand Federation of Freshwater Anglers, Research Officer, Editor/Webmaster, Past Secretary.
- Council of Outdoor Recreation Associations of New Zealand (CORANZ), Executive Officer

Feedback from external and internal customers

“The evaluation panel commends UCOL on completing what is clearly a major revision needed to address significant changes impacting on the institution's capability to provide quality education and training throughout its expanded catchment area. The document is well organised, professionally presented, and consistent in its approach to addressing all elements of academic quality management.”

“UCOL is to be commended on developing a relevant and coherent QMS to support the effective delivery of its programmes and services. The document represents a constructive and forward-looking commitment to key stakeholders and client groups as it bases its structure on the APNZ Quality Standards.”

“Overall this version of the QMS is a concise, coherent document that is informative and user friendly. It includes several examples of ‘good practice’.”

ITPQ Evaluation Reports on UCOL's AQMS

“The evident commitment to auditing and reviewing all UCOL programmes over a 5 year cycle, and the extent of implementation of the audit plan to date was noted. The comprehensive audit checklists appended to the AQMS were recognised as an example of **Good Practice**.”

ITPQ Audit Report

“Thanks Ken. Funny how half an hour with someone who knows what they're talking about can make things so clear - far more efficient than the many hours plus I would have needed to work it out for myself (and probably still be uncertain)!”

UCOL eLearning Consultant.