

change your life

By Grant Johnston

What is Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE)?

Students in Free Enterprise is an international organisation of universities. The idea behind SIFE is that students should use the knowledge and information gained during their degree to teach others skills that will benefit them. This concept is done by each chapter of SIFE developing community outreach projects. SIFE challenges students to make a difference to their community, while in the process develop teamwork, communication and leadership skills.

SIFE at UNE?

SIFE UNE has been active on campus for approximately 24 months. In that time SIFE has been diligently working on two outreach projects, and presented these projects on a National level, at the annual SIFE Australia competition. Currently SIFE UNE is made up of nine permanent members, these being Benita Wolfenden, Emma Falkenmire, Olivia Thurling, Andrew Kapinga, Karina Gill, Rowan McKeever, Scott Finneran, Grant Johnston, and Peter Mc Clenaghan (academic advisor).

SIFE Competes!

SIFE UNE takes the results of its projects and showcases them at a National audience annually. For the last two years the SIFE Australia national competition has been held in Melbourne.

Where are we located?

Our office is located in the Faculty of Economic, Business and Law building, room 203 (down the stairs as you enter building W40 opposite tutorial room 2). Although a majority of SIFERs are from the EBL faculty, SIFE would like to incorporate more faculties in 2005. NEW Members are welcome. You can view SIFE UNE online at <http://www.une.edu.au/sife/>

SIFE UNE'S Current Projects

SIFE UNE has developed, maintained and enhanced two projects, and has another on the way.

1. Graduate Aware: Graduate Aware was the first project SIFE UNE developed. This project is centered on "regional connectivity", highlighting the opportunity and potential for graduate and regional firms by breaking down the power boundaries between students and employers. The regional firms and students meet for a formal presentation and social BBQ, where the atmosphere is more relaxed, providing students and employers with an opportunity to interact in a much more open environment.

2. Armidale Markets Online: Armidale Markets Online is the second project developed. This project has been in working

progress for 18 months and aims to create a website that promotes and potentially sells products offered by monthly market stall holders. Members of SIFE UNE are involved in educating stallholders in three major areas: Information Technology, Marketing Strategies and Accounting & Finance. The site can be viewed at <http://www.armidalemarkets.com/>

3. Seed of Growth (under development)

This is the most recent project SIFE UNE plans to develop during 2005. This newest SIFE UNE initiative focuses on the agricultural sector.

What can SIFE offer you?

On completion of 50 hours of SIFE community project based work you will receive an official SIFE scholar certificate. This SIFE scholar certificate is recognised by many businesses as an international credit to your resume. SIFE is also associated with the New England Award.



The 2004 SIFE UNE celebrating their achievements at the national competition in Melbourne.

SIFE UNE's achievements

SIFE UNE has developed from a three person team to an eleven member team, with a busy project schedule of now three projects with potential for more to be developed during the year. SIFE UNE students have attended two national competitions, where these projects have been rewarded. The SIFE UNE team has now collectively brought home 5 awards from the national competition.

2003- Best Rookie Team
2003: Ernest & Young League
2003- Most Supportive Vice Chancellor

2004- 2nd Runners Up: HJ Heinz Co league
2004- Most Supportive Vice Chancellor
2004- Most Outstanding Academic Mentor

SIFE is Recruiting! Can you join SIFE in 2005?

The answer to this question is yes. During the 2005 year Students In Free Enterprise will be recruiting. Joining SIFE will not only be a rewarding and fulfilling experience, you will also make life long friendship, and gain valuable networking skills. SIFE is looking for enthusiastic, hard working, outgoing people who are prepared to meet new people and make new friends.

Do you want to be part of SIFE UNE? Do you have leadership skills, good communication skill, or would you like to improve these skills? Then ring SIFE on extension 5117 or email us on our web site.