



WPI

Legacy Down Under: Documenting and Promoting the Melbourne Project Center

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WPI Local Coordinator: Jonathan Chee
Sponsor: WPI IGSD



Worcester Polytechnic Institute

The WPI Plan

“A bold experiment in higher education”





Interactive Qualifying Project

The IQP Process

Preparatory Term
(7 weeks)

Understanding
the Problem

Social Science
Research

Proposal

Project Term
(7 weeks)

Data Collection
and Analysis

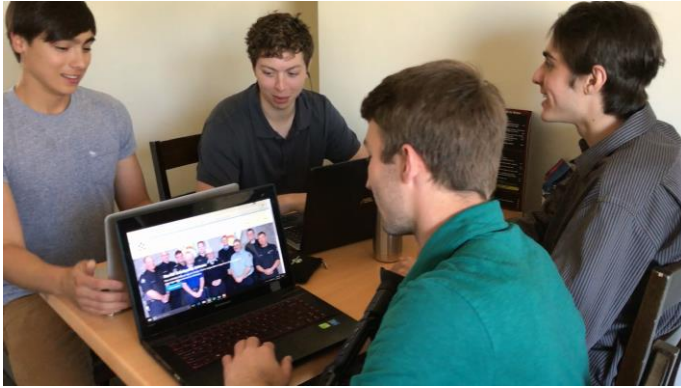
Community
Interactions

Deliverables and
Recommendations

High Impact Learning

	Project-Based Learning	Service Learning	Study Abroad*
Learning Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage multiple tasks • Collaborate effectively on a team • Communicate with multiple stakeholders • Create innovative and relevant solutions • Improve understanding of underlying material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education via community service • Improve personal efficacy • Enhance individual growth • Combat reductive seduction tendencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved open-mindedness • Experience learning as a way of life • Intercultural development
Unique Application to the IQP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute research and recommendations to address open-ended problems • Hands-on group work • Project spanning several months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-based nature • Working alongside organizations and their communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immersion into an unfamiliar culture • Emphasis on ethics and collaborative practice <p>*Not all IQPs are completed abroad</p>

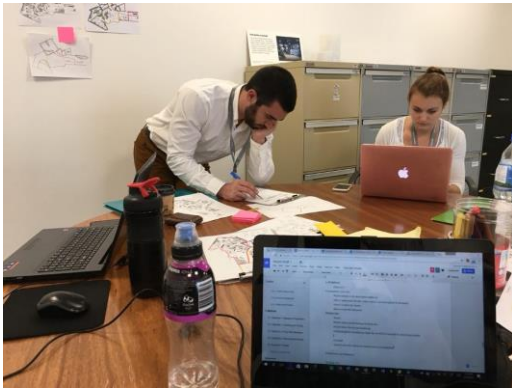
Melbourne Project Center: 1998-2016



~160 Projects

~40 Sponsors

~600 Students



Current Sponsors of IQPs





Project Goals

Shortcomings

Melbourne, Australia Project Center (IQP)

Melbourne, Australia (Outgoing Program)

Program Terms: B term, D term *This program is currently not accepting applications.*

Restrictions: WPI applicants only

Estimated Expenses: B term, D term

Dates / Deadlines:

Term	Acad Year	App Deadline	Decision Date	Start Date	End Date
D term	2017-2018	10/04/2016 *	12/19/2016	03/08/2018	05/03/2018
D term	2016-2017	10/19/2016 * **	Rolling Admission	03/09/2017	05/04/2017
B term	2017-2018	04/19/2017 * **	Rolling Admission	10/19/2017	12/14/2017

** Indicates rolling admission application process. Applicants will be immediately notified of acceptance into this program and be able to complete post-decision materials prior to the term's application deadline.

* Indicates that deadline has passed

Fact Sheet:

Project Opportunities: IQP	Placement Rate: 59%
Active Since: 1992	First Round Apps / Space Available: 80/48
Director: Lorraine Higgins, Stephen McCauley	Center Highlights: International, Urban
Housing Type: Self Catered Apartment	Program Preparation: 1/6 PQP in the term preceding departure, Country-specific orientation, ID 2050 in the term preceding departure
Program Eligibility: All majors eligible, Good academic standing (not on academic warning or academic probation), Sophomore at the time of application	Visa Requirements: Visa Required for US Citizens - International Students Should Confirm Personal Status
Application Process Notes: Non-Interview Site	

Program Description:



Limited information about the MPC

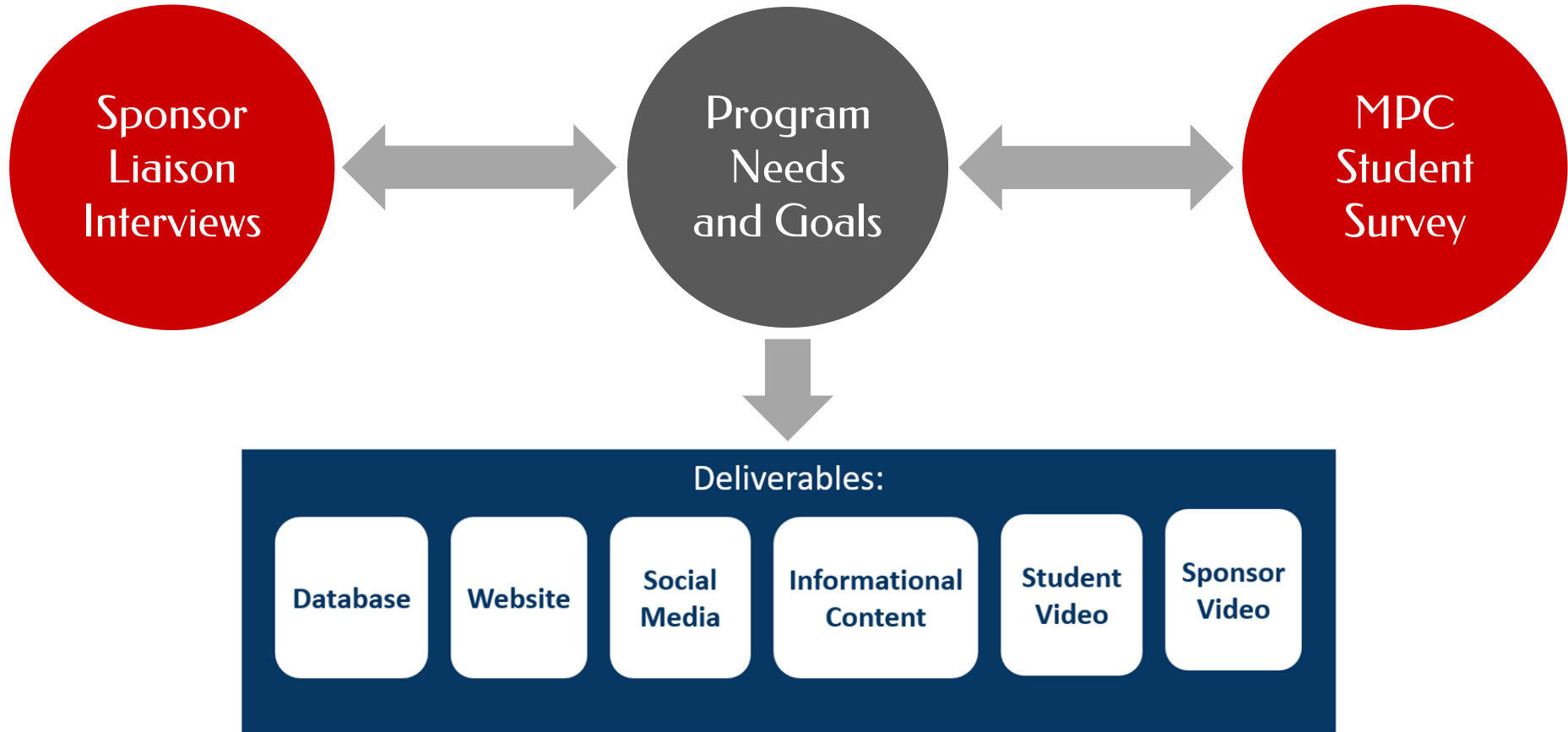
Lack of documented feedback from sponsoring organizations



Reliant on word-of-mouth information from peers

Little information produced by WPI on the Melbourne area

Project Goal: Understand and Improve the Impacts of the MPC





Findings

Perceived Impacts from Sponsor Liaisons



83.3% High Impact on Sponsoring Organization

75.0% High Impact on Project Community Stakeholders

70.8% Long Lasting Impacts

92.6% Positive Experience with the WPI IQP

88.9% Positive Experience with WPI Students and their Professionalism

Student Survey Results



73.6%

List of Activities to do at the Project Center

63.7%

Project Center Specific Video

61.9%

Project Center Specific Website



Deliverables

Database

Tab	Descriptions
Projects	Information on projects from 1999 to 2017 Includes: titles, abstracts, authors, sponsors, link to final report
Sponsor Overview	Overall information about the sponsors Includes: how many projects they sponsored, if they were contacted or interviewed for this project
Project Sponsors	Contact information for sponsor liaisons
Sponsor Impacts	Raw data from sponsor liaison interviews

MPC Outreach



“In terms of the impact.. it gave them [service providers in Fawkner] the evidence base to gain funding to set up a small community market. It helped them to show that food insecurity needed to be addressed. Now fresh fruit and vegetables are sold at discounted prices.”

- Meredith Lawrence, Fawkner Community House

Website

The screenshot displays the website for the Melbourne Project Center at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The header includes the center's name, the institute's name, a 'Dashboard' link, and the WPI logo. A navigation menu contains links for HOME, ABOUT, STUDENTS, PARTNERS, PROJECTS, BLOG, and CONTACT US. On the left, there is a search bar and a 'Partners' section with links to Project Impacts, Information for Potential Project Hosts, Host Guidelines, and FAQ. Below this is a 'Local Coordinator' section with a portrait of a man. The main content area features an 'Edit Partners' link and a video player titled 'Melbourne Project Center Part Video' showing three people on a beach. An 'Overview' link is visible below the video.

Dashboard »

Melbourne Project Center

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

WPI

HOME ABOUT STUDENTS PARTNERS PROJECTS BLOG CONTACT US

Search Search

Partners

- Project Impacts
- Information for Potential Project Hosts
- Host Guidelines
- FAQ

Local Coordinator

Portrait of a man

Edit Partners

Melbourne Project Center Part Video

Overview

Website

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Dashboard »

Melbourne Project Center

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

HOME ABOUT STUDENTS PARTNERS PROJECTS BLOG CONTACT US

Search Search

Students

- Impacts on Students
- About Melbourne
- Housing & Costs
- Things to Do
- FAQ

Edit

Students

Melbourne Project Center Student Video

Dan Arthur
Sponsor: ATA

ATA


"The experience of spending 2 months living and working in a foreign country really broadened my understanding of the world and its different cultures. Working every day in an interdisciplinary team helped me learn how to collaborate with people of differing backgrounds and areas of expertise."

Website

[Dashboard »](#)

Melbourne Project Center

Worcester Polytechnic Institute





HOME ABOUT STUDENTS PARTNERS PROJECTS BLOG CONTACT US

Projects

- [Projects By Sponsor](#)
- [Projects By Year](#)
- [Projects By Theme](#)

[Edit](#)

Projects



(Please Note: These are draft pictures)

Each year the Melbourne Project Centre at WPI conducts a set of 6 or 7 projects, typically with 3 or 4 students per project team, during B Term (from late October to mid-December) and another set of projects in D term (from mid-March to early May). In these pages you will find links to the reports of projects completed from 1999 to the present. The projects have been organized by sponsor, by year and term, and by the themes of the projects. For the full report PDF of each project, see the links provided at the bottom of each project page.

Website

The screenshot shows a website interface. On the left is a sidebar with a 'Projects' section containing a list of project titles and their years (2014, 2015, 2016). On the right is the main content area for a specific project, titled 'Gas or Electricity – An Evaluation of Electricity and Natural Gas as a Residential Energy Source'. This area includes sections for Authors, Sponsor, Advisors, Term, Abstract, Final Report, and Supplementary Materials.

Projects

Projects By Sponsor

Projects By Year

2016

2015

2014

A Critical Assessment Of Endpoint Technology for the E.W. Tipping Foundation

An Analysis of Hoarding and Squalor Related Incidents and Responses by the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board

An Evidence Based Approach to Home Fire Safety

Analyzing Qualitative Data at Museum Victoria

Analyzing the Potential Use of Solar Photovoltaic Systems by Commercial Businesses in the Moreland Municipality

Banksia Gardens Community Centre B14 – After-School Computer Club

CERES Australia 2050 Trail Phase 2 – Designing an Interpretive Trail

Digital Literacy Programs for Coburg Neighborhood Houses

Gas or Electricity – An Evaluation of Electricity and Natural Gas as a Residential Energy Source

Authors

Ashleigh C. Collins, Jake A. Brown, Andrew M. Andraka

Sponsor

Alternative Technology Association

Advisors

Andrew G. Klein, Seth Tuler

Term

March – May 2014

Abstract

Australian natural gas prices are projected to increase 30-50% by 2030, leaving many residential consumers with higher cooking and heating expenses. The Alternative Technology Association (ATA) recognized this impending increase and is seeking ways for consumers to reduce the costs of cooking and heating. ATA is creating a financial model to determine the cost of energy for consumers in the future. Our goal was to assist ATA in informing consumers of cost efficient cooking and heating appliances. For their model, we determined initial and consumption costs of each of three electric appliances: cooktops, hot water heat pumps, and reverse cycle air conditioners. Through a series of fact sheets, we suggested how different households could save money on their energy bill

Final Report

[Gas or Electricity – An Evaluation of Electricity and Natural Gas as a Residential Energy Source](#)

Supplementary Materials

[ATA FactSheets.zip](#)

Social Media

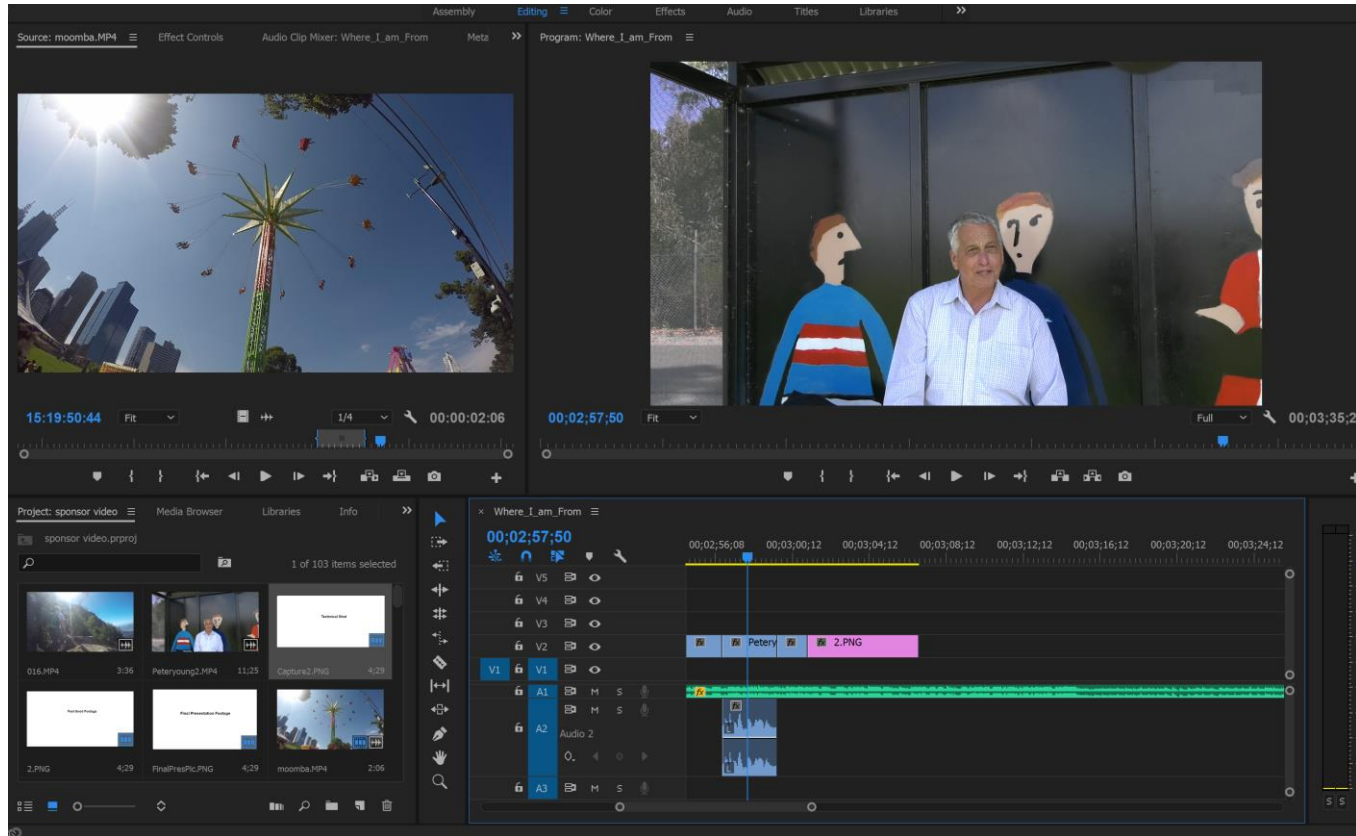
The screenshot shows a Facebook page for 'WPI's Melbourne Project Center'. The page header includes the Facebook logo, the name 'WPI's Melbourne Project Center', and a search icon. Below the header are navigation tabs: Page, Messages, Notifications, Insights, Publishing Tools, Settings, and Help. The main content area features a cover photo of a city skyline and a profile picture with the text 'I GOAT GLOBAL #goatsgoglobal'. The page name and handle '@WPIMPC' are displayed. A left-hand navigation menu lists options like Home, About, Events, Photos, Videos, Reviews, Likes, and Posts. The main content area has a 'Write something...' prompt and several action buttons: 'Share a photo or video', 'Advertise your business', 'Get messages', 'Create an event', 'Write a note', and 'Start a Live Video'. A right-hand section titled 'Know friends who might like your Page?' lists three friends: Tommy Larkin, Lori O'Connor Carlson, and Tayler Tush, each with an 'Invite' button. At the bottom, there is a section for '2 Scheduled Posts' and an 'Education' category.

Student Video

The screenshot displays a video editing software interface with two main preview windows and a multi-track timeline below them.

- Left Preview Window:** Shows a group of people walking on a paved path outdoors. The timecode is 13:03:21:15.
- Right Preview Window:** Shows three people on a sandy beach. One person is kneeling and using a tool on the sand. The timecode is 00:02:56:13.
- Timeline:** Features multiple tracks for video (V1-V5), audio (A1-A3), and image (IMG). A pink clip labeled 'FinalPr' is visible on the V1 track. The timeline shows various video and audio clips with their respective timecodes.
- Library Panel (Bottom Left):** Lists various editing actions such as Trim, Import Clip, Overwrite, and Delete Project Items.

Sponsor Video



Conclusion

Elements of the WPI Strategic Plan



More in Four

Global Projects for All

Major and
a Mission



Competency-based
Online Education

WPI PhD Plan

Research Enterprise



Center for
Project-based Learning

Global Partnerships

Foiese Innovation Studio

Acknowledgements



A number of the organizations who have hosted IQPs between 1998 - 2017

Thank you to all the sponsors and liaisons who made this project possible.

Special thanks to Professor McCauley, Professor Michalson, and Jonathon Chee.



Questions?

mpc17-mpcspring@wpi.edu

Image Sources

<https://www.wpi.edu/offices/marketing-communications/resources>

<https://au.pinterest.com/pin/32088216065513053/>

<https://www.princetonreview.com/schools/1023881/college/worcester-polytechnic-institute>

<https://www.wpi.edu/academics/undergraduate/project-based-learning/global-project-program>

<https://wpi-sa.terradotta.com>

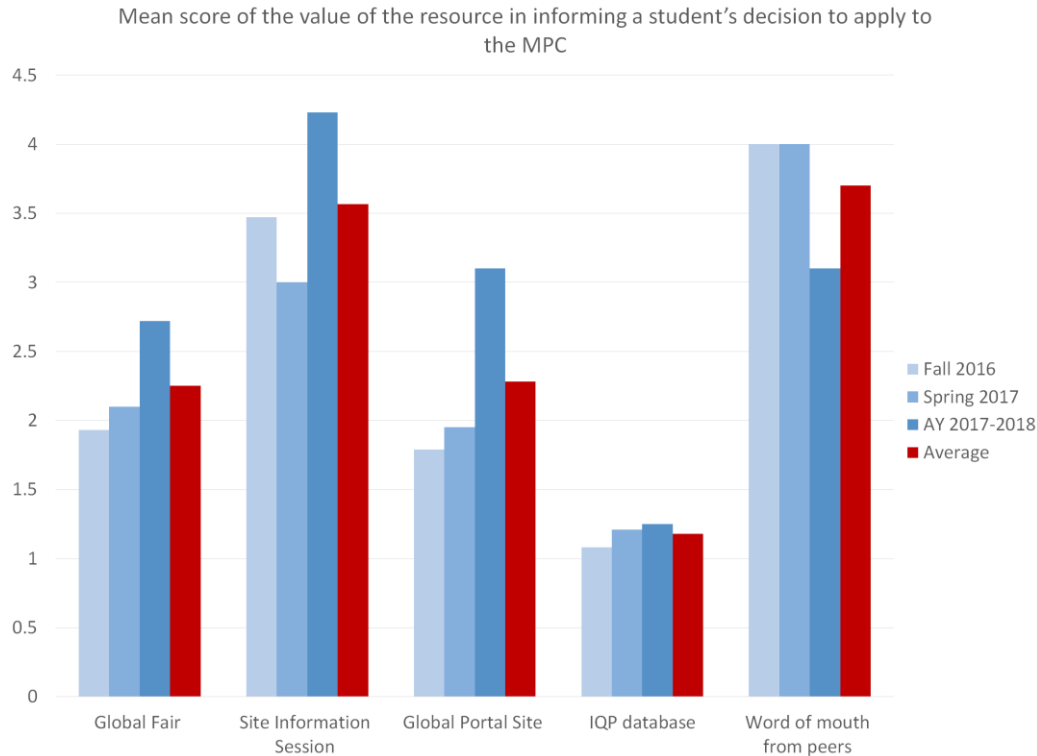
<http://wp.wpi.edu/melbourne/projects/projects-by-term/2014-2/fawkner-community-house-solutions-to-decrease-the-amount-of-food-insecurity-in-fawkner-victoria-australia/>

<https://www.facebook.com/WPIMPC/?ref=bookmarks>

<http://wp.wpi.edu/strategicplan/>

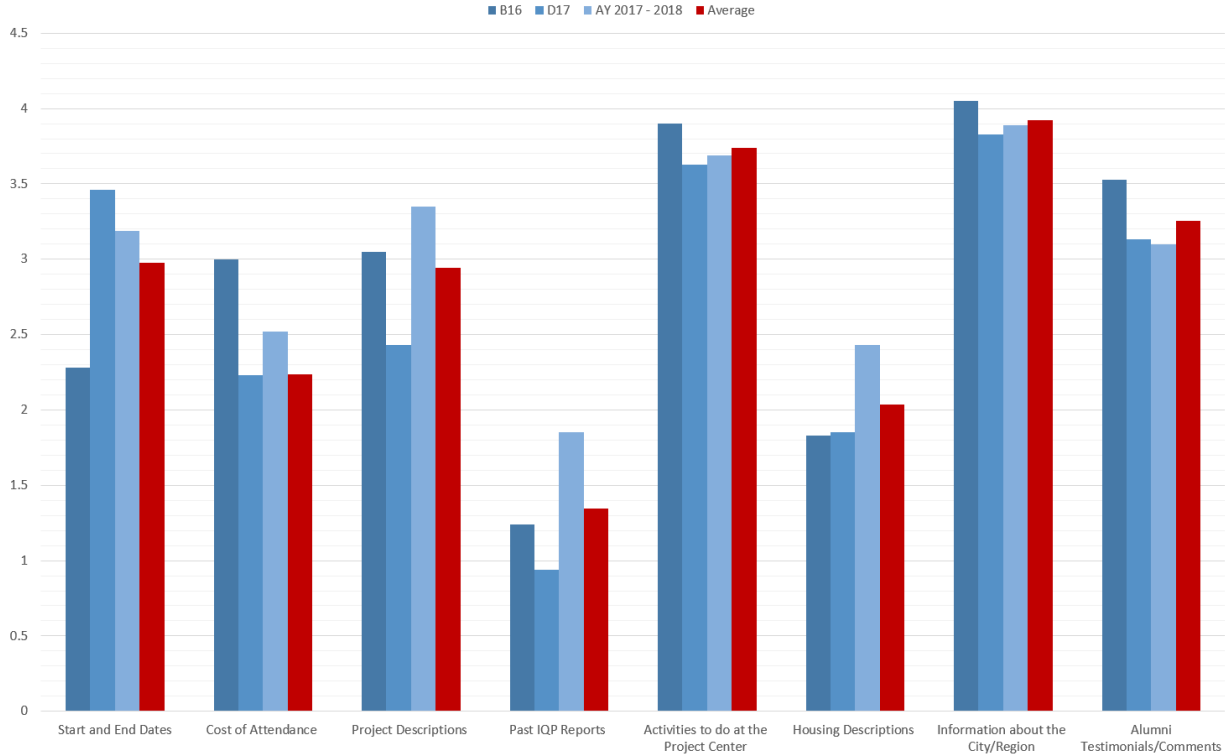
Additional content was created by the MPC team.

Resources Currently Available to Students



Information Students Found Important

Information content ranked on importance in informing a student's decision to apply to the MPC



Resources for Future Participants

