

All eyes on the Recruitment Academy

The recently launched

Recruitment Academy is continuing to make an impression on the industry, with its latest announcement of the launch of the Australian Recruitment Excellence Awards (AREAS). The awards, due to take place November 15th at Melbourne's Crown Casino will be a first for the industry and a much needed benchmark for recruitment companies across the country. Nominations are free of charge and can be made online: www.areaawards.com.au. The 29 Categories include recognition for individuals, niche organisations, national companies and international firms and will be judged by a panel of individual experts, yet to be revealed.

Academy Director, Michael Dimopoulos says, "the AREAS provide an opportunity for individuals, teams and organisations who are part of the recruitment profession to be acknowledged for the skills, expertise and commitment they contribute to the success of businesses around Australia. This is an extremely important initiative for the industry and is proving

to be of huge interest with nominations soaring every day."

There's no doubt Dimopoulos is keen to make his mark in the industry and fulfill his ambition to help raise the standard of professionalism across the Australian recruitment industry; just months on from the launch of the Academy, some recruitment companies are already signing for a second round of new recruits to attend the four day industry induction courses, having seen the results from other new hires who have completed the course with a real taste of working life in recruitment. Recent graduates of the course, David Bellas and Varteni Varjabedian told Recruitment extra how they felt the course would impact on their new consulting roles within the industry.

"It's been an intense four days but I feel that I've gained an enormous amount of clarity and confidence regarding the recruitment process," says Bellas, who began working with Manpower Professional in May. "I'm new to the industry so it's given me a real insight into what a typical working week can bring

and how to overcome some of the challenges consultants face."

While Varjabedian has worked within the recruitment industry for two years, with Marker Consulting, her experience to date has been within an administrative capacity, her recent promotion within the company to resourcer is the reason she attended the course.

"It's been fantastic, we've heard some great stories from Maria (Borg, Trainer) and Michael that have given us some real ideas about what can happen and what works and what doesn't.

"I'm amazed at how much we've learnt and retained during such a short period."

Sydney trainer Maria Borg and Dimopoulos have a combined experience of twenty years in the industry and both are still clearly passionate about recruitment,

"The students are given the opportunity to work in a fun and interactive way yet we pull no punches about the reality of working a desk, it's hard work, sometimes disappointing but is also extremely rewarding – it's been a great week sharing that with these people,



"The Recruitment Industry now has a vehicle in which they can send new recruits and take Induction demands off their hands. It's effectively a bridge between the inexperienced and the Industry, and is proving already to be winner with both," says Dimopoulos.

The Academy, now running in Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Adelaide attributes part of its instant success to the fact that the courses concentrate on entry level roles only, "we're not trying to be all things to all companies or individuals, we've targeted a critical area for development, one which, if delivered successfully will impact dramatically on the rest of the industry for years to come," he added. ■

