

Ngunnawal Centre

The Centre continues to contribute to the improvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student success at the University of Canberra (UC). Under the Australian Government's Indigenous Student Success Program, the Centre has employed four full-time staff, including a Centre Manager, two Student Engagement Officers, and an Administration Officer/Tutorial Program Coordinator. All staff provide pastoral care and support to students. The University, through the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy & Leadership also employs an Elder in Residence on a part time basis. All staff are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and are able to provide a culturally safe and enriching environment for students. The team builds on the established relationships with the Faculties, which involve staff collaborations, as well as staff/students' relationship strengthening activities. The aim is to improve our monitoring of student progress, and identify how to best support students and increase completions. We continue to build positive working relationships across the university, including facilitating student/staff connections with all student support services including Faculties.

In 2017, the Ngunnawal Centre began implementation of its new Operational Plan which aligns to the University's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategic Plan 2017-2021. The Plan guides staff on implementing a coordinated whole of institution approach, to providing holistic support services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The Ngunnawal Centre participated in NAIDOC Week activities, ACT Indigenous Careers Expo, National Multicultural Festival. In addition, the Centre contribute to internal UC recruitment events such as Open Day, Course Advice Days, UC 4 Yourself to promote UC as a university of choice to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME) Partnership

AIME and the University of Canberra engaged 161 students across 8 schools - Young, Yass, Mulwaree, Gold Creek, John Paul College, Harrison, St. Francis Xavier and Belconnen. This contributed to the overall number of students in the ACT (216 students) across 14 schools. The program also engaged 80 university student mentors who participated in the AIME Theatre of Education and the School Tutor Squads.

The AIME Theatre of Education delivered on campus included six different courses tailored for each specific high school year group featuring 50 unique modules -

Value of Scholarships awarded by the university to remote or regional students in the 2016 academic year (Section 21(3) in the Guidelines refers)	\$62,388
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to the CRM site will improve relationships with all UC student facing services and provide wrap around support to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

CareerTrackers Partnership

CareerTrackers Indigenous Internship Program is a national non-profit organisation that creates structured internship opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander university students. Their goal is to increase the number of Indigenous Australians who are working in professional private sector employment as industry and community leaders. CareerTrackers have been engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to participate in 12-week paid internships over the course of the year that align with their university studies and career goals.

Students have monthly meetings with a CareerTrackers Student Advisor, focused on their internship, university studies, personal and professional development. Students attend a 4 Day Leadership Development Institute and 2 Program Days during the year. This provided students with professional development and leadership training aligned to graduate attributes. CareerTrackers currently work with 108 corporate partners and 1354 students across Australia. Total number of University of Canberra students interning in 2017 was 13, with a total of 4 University of Canberra alumni.

2A TUTORIAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE PROVIDED (2017 BREAKDOWN)

Assistance type	Level of study	Number of students assisted	Hours of assistance	\$
Tutorial assistance	Undergraduate	22 – semester 1, 2017 68 – semester 2, 2017	387.80 – Semester 1, 2017 737.45 – Semester 2, 2017	127,292.08
	Post graduate	0	0	
	Other	0	0	0
		90	1125.25	127,292.08

3. COMPLETIONS (OUTCOMES)

The Ngunnawal Centre team continues to liaise regularly with key services across the campus and connect students with relevant staff to assist with course advice, career advice, work experience, internships and practical support and training. Providing wrap around support is an essential part of our pastoral care that allows our students to enjoy the full UC experience and to facilitate progression.

To connect graduates with employment (both within and outside UC) the Ngunnawal Centre promotes industry graduate programs to students in their final year to provide a connection to employment after completion.

The Alumni Office monitors student outcomes and success stories after graduation through the news, online blogs, LinkedIn and networks within the UC and/or Canberra community. Often graduates will either contact the University directly to share their story.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Completions

2016	2017	
33	30	-9.09%

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Success Rate

2016	2017
70.04%	76.39%

4. INDIGENOUS EDUCATION STRATEGY ACCESSIBLE BY PUBLIC

The approved [UC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategic Plan 2017-2021](#) provides a comprehensive framework for a university-wide approach for the key areas affecting Indigenous education, including student access, participation, retention and success, human resources, teaching and learning, Indigenous research, community engagement and governance.

The University of Canberra is committed to implementing a whole-of-institution approach to Indigenous Australian education, research, employment and engagement founded upon the principles of cultural competence, social justice and reconciliation.

The UC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategic Plan aligns with the UC [Reconciliation Action Plan 2018-2020](#), the University's Enterprise Agreement and the University of Canberra Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy all of which promote increased participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in both academic and professional employment capacities. Furthermore, the University's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander strategies align with key existing priorities from major Commonwealth policies and the Universities Australia Indigenous Strategy 2017 - 2020.

The University of Canberra is one of 10 universities across Australia that has established an endorsed Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to build a greater understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives and cultures across the university. The University of Canberra's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2018-2020 can be found at <https://www.canberra.edu.au/about-uc/office-of-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-leadership-and-strategy/reconciliation/documents/UC-RAP-2018-20.pdf>. The RAP details the integrated approach, measurable targets and timeline for:

- < **Increasing the number of Torres Strait students enrolling, progressing and completing courses leading**

2. Review of culturally appropriate recruitment and selection processes
- 3.

5.

6. INDIGENOUS INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION-MAKING

Indigenous Student Success Program Committee

The Indigenous Student Success Program (ISSP) Committee is constituted as per the Australian Government Indigenous Student Assistance Grant 2017. To act as an Indigenous Governance Mechanism for the expenditure of the ISSP Grant at the University of Canberra and has met once in February 2017. The committee is comprised of an appropriately qualified senior academic employee of the provider who is an Indigenous person; or constituted by a majority of Indigenous persons, each of whom has skills and experience relevant to the role and is comprised of:

- < Dean, Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership and Strategy
- < Director, Student Success
- < Executive Officer, Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership and Strategy
- < Centre Manager, Ngunnawal Centre
- < Assistant Manager, Scholarship and Prizes

The Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership and Strategy; and the Indigenous Advisory Group continue to be the peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, employment, research and community engagement cultural advisory bodies to the University of Canberra.

The University

6a. STATEMENT BY THE INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE MECHANISM

The University of Canberra strongly believes that the collaborative approach and activities undertaken the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership and Strategy and the wider University community have consistently demonstrated successful outcomes in the participation, retention and success of its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students over the past decade, providing opportunities which will improve health, lifestyle and career progression for graduates, their families and communities.

The details shown in this financial acquittal from and the accompanying pages – represent a complete, true and correct summary of the transactions that took place during the funding year under the Indigenous Student Success Program (ISSP).