



**2017 Mission Based Compact
Between the Commonwealth of Australia and Edith Cowan University**

PURPOSE

This compact is an agreement between the Commonwealth and the University. Entering into a compact is one of the quality and accountability requirements which a higher education provider must meet under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA) as a condition of receiving a grant. Specifically, subsection 19-110(1) of HESA requires Table A and Table B providers must, in respect of each year for which a grant is paid to the provider under HESA, enter into a mission based compact with the Commonwealth for a period which includes that year.

MISSION

The strategic focus, values and aspirations of Edith Cowan University (ECU) are set down in the ECU Strategic Plan, 2017-2021, approved by the University's governing Council in October 2016.

ECU's vision is to be recognised for our world-ready graduates and leading edge research.

ECU's purpose is to transform lives and enrich society through education and research.

ECU's values are: Integrity (being ethical, honest and fair); Respect (considering the opinions and values of others); Rational Inquiry (motivated by evidence and reasoning); and Personal Excellence (demonstrating the highest personal and professional standards).

ECU's strategic themes are: dedication to our students; connections to the community and the world; building strategic partnerships and collaborations; fostering strong alumni relations; and promoting equality, diversity and social responsibility.

INNOVATION

ECU's strategic goal for 2017 to 2021: **Advancing research and knowledge translation**, includes the following objectives:

- Objective 6: *Extensive research collaboration* - ECU will grow research collaborations and alliances, through actions to: increase the visibility of ECU's research; foster connections across disciplines; and seek out international partners.
- Objective 7: *Increased knowledge translation* - ECU will promote partnership and collaboration with business, industry, the professions and government in research, especially where this leads to knowledge translation and commercialisation, to build capacity and societal impact.

ECU's strategic themes for 2017 to 2021, include the following strategies:

- ECU will play a leading role in sharing knowledge to promote public understanding of higher education teaching and research and by offering ECU's excellent teaching experiences to an increasingly diverse range of learners, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.
- ECU will develop new University-wide approaches to external partnerships that enhance our capacity and competitiveness and embed good practice, in order to deliver real value to our partners and grow the reputation of ECU.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

ECU's strategic goal for 2017 to 2021: **Enhancing learning and teaching**, includes the following objectives:

- Objective 1: *Teaching that inspires* - ECU will maintain the exceptional quality of its teaching and teaching staff, through a range of actions to recognise, support, and upskill Academic staff and increase the emphasis on collaborative working.
- Objective 2: *Transformative learning experiences* - ECU will continue to provide excellent learning experiences that motivate and inspire and are inclusive and focused on the needs of our students.
- Objective 3: *A globally relevant and innovative curriculum* - There will be a renewed focus on a curriculum that is outcomes-driven and learner-focused and builds graduate readiness for careers and further study.
- Objective 4: *Improved learning outcomes and career readiness* - There will be additional emphasis on improving outcomes for our graduates, through a range of actions that extend opportunities and connections with business and industry partners and embed employability skills in the curriculum.

ECU's strategic themes for 2017 to 2021, include the following strategies:

- ECU will continue to focus on the student journey and develop new flexible and personalised learning experiences.
- ECU will build foundations for life-long relationships with our alumni and develop an integrated philanthropic program, to provide tangible ways for alumni and industry to support ECU.

ECU's strategic targets for enhancing learning and teaching, include:

- to remain in the national top 10 for overall quality of educational experience (based on the Student Experience Survey) in each year of the Strategic Plan
- to achieve an undergraduate retention percentage at least equivalent to the national average by 2021
- to achieve a graduate employment percentage (based on the Graduate Outcomes Survey) at least equivalent to the State average by 2021
- to remain in the national top 10 for median domestic graduate salary (based on the Graduate Outcomes Survey) in each year of the Strategic Plan

RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING

ECU's strategic goal for 2017 to 2021: **Advancing research and knowledge translation**, includes the following objectives:

- Objective 5: *Growth in research capacity and culture* - ECU will continue to build research capacity, by recruiting high-achieving researchers, enhancing retention strategies and succession planning for high-performing research teams, refining recognition and incentive mechanisms and increasing support for researchers.
- Objective 8: *Growth in research training* - ECU will increase higher degree by research (HDR) enrolments and completions, by: improving supervision capacity; including generic and targeted research skills training in HDR programs; increased marketing to high-performing coursework students; and providing additional support for those completing their research and moving into employment.

ECU's strategic targets for advancing research and knowledge translation, include:

- to achieve a top 100 ranking in the THE World Universities Under 50 and a top 500 ranking in the THE World University Rankings by 2021
- to achieve an overall SciVal Field Weighted Citation Impact score of 1.5 by 2021
- to grow annual research income from grants and contracts by five per cent in each year of the Strategic Plan
- to increase annual scholarly outputs by five per cent in each year of the Strategic Plan
- to remain in the national top 10 for annual higher degree completions per 10 FTE in each year of the Strategic Plan

EQUITY

ECU's Access and Participation Plan, 2015-2017, focuses on improved outcomes (participation rates and completions) for people with low socio-economic backgrounds, people with disabilities, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and people from rural and remote areas.

ECU's Access and Participation Plan, 2015-2017, includes the following strategies for achieving improved outcomes:

- Continue outreach projects with schools and the local community to raise aspirations for higher education within under-represented groups.
- Increase enrolments through flexible entry arrangements and articulation pathways to encourage wider participation.
- Provide equity scholarships for students from disadvantaged groups to promote success and seek external sponsors for additional equity scholarships.
- Provide mentoring, peer support, tutoring and continued academic support to ECU students facing barriers to success in higher education.

ECU's strategic themes for 2017 to 2021, includes the following strategy:

- ECU will advance our vision for reconciliation, promote and progress equality of opportunity.

ECU's strategic targets for ensuring organisational sustainability, include:

- to increase the employment rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff to 3% of total ECU full-time equivalent staffing levels by 2021
- to achieve Athena SWAN Bronze Award accreditation in 2018
- to achieve an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality citation from the Workplace Gender Equality Agency by 2018, and then maintain the citation over the life of the plan
- to have ECU's Reconciliation Action Plan endorsed by *Reconciliation Australia* at Elevate level by 2021

SIGNED for and on behalf of

In the presence of:

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

by

Dom English
Full name (please print)

Group Manager
Position

of the Department of Education and Training as
delegate of the Minister for Education and
Training.

Dom English
Signature

18/12/2017
Date

Cate Hutchinson
Witness (please print)

Policy Officer
Position or profession of witness (please print)

CG Hutchinson
Signature

SIGNED for and on behalf of

In the presence of:

UNIVERSITY

PROFESSOR STEVE CHAPMAN
Full name (please print)

VICE-CHANCELLOR
Position

[Signature]
Signature

KAREN D'Costa
Witness (please print)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Position or profession of witness (please print)

K. D'Costa
Signature