



**2018 Mission Based Compact
Between the Commonwealth of Australia and La Trobe 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 that 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 that includes that year.

MISSION

The purpose of La Trobe University is outlined in the [La Trobe University Act, 2009](#):

'To serve the community of Victoria for the purposes of higher education, for the education, economic, social and cultural benefit of Victorians and for wider Australian and international communities... providing access to quality higher education to those from disadvantaged communities.'

Our mission: Advancing knowledge and learning to shape the future of our students and communities.

Our vision: To promote positive change and address the major issues of our time through being connected, inclusive and excellent.

The [La Trobe University Strategic Plan 2018 - 2022](#) was released in November 2017. This Plan identifies four core objectives :

1. To deliver a consistently high quality experience for all students;
2. To continually improve graduate employability outcomes;
3. To achieve continual and sustainable increases in research income, productivity, impact and recognition, and
4. To become recognised as the 'unrivalled Partner of Choice'.

These objectives are supported by three enablers: One University, many communities; operational excellence; and revenue growth. A key performance indicator and target has been identified for each objective and enabler.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The quality of La Trobe's learning and teaching is operationalised through the Learning and Teaching Plan 2018-2022. Key goals set out in this plan include:

1. Ensuring a consistent approach to quality across all aspects of the student lifecycle, regardless of campus or location;
2. Designing an innovative academic program, including an online program, that is relevant and responsive to the needs of students, industry and the community and that prioritises academic support to improve the progression and completion rates of all students;
3. Establishing a staff engagement and development strategy to promote good practice and scholarly evidence-based course improvements, recognition and rewards, regardless of campus or location, and
4. Embedding principles of respect, safety and security across the La Trobe learning community.

The actions which will help us reach these goals are set out in detail in the [Learning and Teaching Plan 2018-2022](#). Further strategies and actions relative to the success of our students are included in the [Student Success and Retention Strategy](#) and the [Globalisation Plan](#).

RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING AND INNOVATION

The University's Research Plan 2018-2022 outlines the key goals and strategies to implement the research-related objectives set out in the La Trobe's Strategic Plan. These include:

1. Achieving continual and sustainable increases in research income, productivity, impact and recognition, including improvement in the number of international and industry collaborations and graduate research completions;
2. Pro-actively identifying desirable partners for La Trobe based on our existing and potential research foci, capabilities and resources;
3. Delivering a consistently high-quality experience for all graduate researchers regardless of campus location, and
4. Continuing to improve Graduate Researcher employability outcomes.

Further detail is available in the University's [Research Plan 2018-2022](#).

EQUITY

La Trobe was founded half a century ago to broaden participation in higher education in Melbourne's north and, later, in regional Victoria. We have succeeded for many thousands of students who would otherwise have been excluded from the opportunities provided by a university education. Strategies for achieving outcomes for people from low SES backgrounds included in our Access and Participation Plan 2018 include:

- Maintaining the University's outreach programs and School Partnerships Program;
- Maintaining and enhancing the university-wide approach to peer mentoring and academic advising;
- Continuing the University's commitment to core first year curricula;
- Ensuring that equity is embedded within the La Trobe Essentials, including 'innovation and enterprise', and
- Continuing to raise participation through expansion of alternative entry pathways, including the 'Aspire' program.

These strategies are realised through our outreach programs to low SES schools; student mentoring and academic support programs; bursaries for outbound mobility and employability experiences; equity scholarships, and support for students from refugee and out-of-home care backgrounds.

These and other activities are outlined in our [Access and Participation Plan 2018](#).

La Trobe University is committed to providing opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, both as individuals and communities, through teaching & learning, research and community partnerships across all of our campuses. Through its Indigenous Academic Enrichment Program (IAEP), La Trobe provides one-to-one tuition, group tuition and exam preparation support for Indigenous Australian students.

Further information about our support for Indigenous Australian students is available in [our Indigenous Support Strategy](#) and at our Indigenous Students Services [page](#).

SIGNED for and on behalf of

In the presence of:

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

by

Full name (please print)

Dom English

Position

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

Signature

Dom English

Date

9/12/13

SIGNED for and on behalf of

UNIVERSITY

JOHN DEWAR

Full name (please print)

Position

Vice Chancellor

Signature

John Dewar

Witness (please print)

Cate Hutchings

Position or profession of witness (please print)

Policy Officer

Signature

C G Hutchings

In the presence of:

CATHY BESLIEV

Witness (please print)

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Position or profession of witness (please print)

Signature

[Signature]