



## 2018 Mission Based Compact between the Commonwealth of Australia and Torrens University

### PURPOSE

This Compact is an agreement between the Commonwealth and Torrens University Australia (Torrens). 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 19-100(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

Torrens' four promises to its students (*Everyone is industry connected, Everyone is global, Everyone can change their world and Everything is designed for you*) continue to drive the University's strategic focus on significantly increasing graduate employability. This focus sits within Torrens' vision of *When our students and graduates succeed, countries prosper and societies benefit*.

Four Strategic Priorities, feeding into senior leadership Key Performance Objectives, drive the focus over the term of the compact:

- Engage our people
- Ensure student success
- Secure the future
- Simplify the business

Growing the University's research capability is also a key objective with a new 2018-2023 Strategic Research Plan implemented in June 2018.

The [2018 Strategic Priorities](#) which sit within the [Laureate Australia and New Zealand Strategic Overview](#) are accessible via the links.

### TEACHING AND LEARNING

Torrens' current student numbers are 12000 with a new student enrolment growth of 15%. Torrens' graduate employability (validated survey of 1332 graduates) was formally documented in September 2018 with 91% of those surveyed stating that they have begun their preferred career within 12 months.

Torrens had continued to develop and strengthen our Learning and Teaching framework within our continuing four promises to our students.

#### (1) EVERYONE IS INDUSTRY CONNECTED

In all Torrens programs academics utilise industry-connected courses and Work Integrated Learning, blending scholarship with practical application. Success coaches guide students individually to meet professional and academic goals

#### (2) EVERYONE IS GLOBAL

As a member of the Laureate International global network, Torrens students are encouraged to access international study and collaboration. Torrens student and academics actively utilize three global educational and academic platform tools: One Campus (international collateral for students), One Folio (resources), and One Faculty (international academic / professional community). Torrens contributes to Laureate Global Performance Matrix: LEAF, and as a consequence helps drive our internal quality assurance standards through international benchmarking.

### **(3) EVERYONE CAN CHANGE THEIR WORLD**

Curricula and academic/operational initiatives are geared to:

- *Here for Good* outcomes
- Laureate International global network awards & scholarships
- Blending professional with service outcomes
- Industry placements with nonprofit partnerships
- Social performance benchmarking (as a certified B Corp organisation).

### **(4) EVERYTHING IS DESIGNED FOR YOU**

Torrens programs are built with the a robust student focus and underpinned by two key principles:

- Flexible delivery: online, face-to-face, or hybrid
- Learning is designed according to student needs with a strengths-oriented approach

Torrens [Learning and Teaching Framework](#) is accessible via the link.

## **RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING AND INNOVATION**

In 2016, the inaugural TUA Research Plan was launched outlining the strategic direction for fostering a strong research culture at TUA. By 2018 the University launched a new [TUA Strategic Research Plan \(2018-2023\)](#) to mark the next phase in our evolution as a maturing University. The core strategic priorities under this strategy will be to create a critical mass of researchers within strategically identified areas of research strength; continued development of strategic relationships and partnerships at an institutional, regional and global level; engagement and support of research qualified staff and research leaders; provision of a quality research student experience; and promotion of research activity with strategic investment and resourcing by the University. Research staff and students in all our disciplines including, health, education, design, hospitality and business will focus on multidisciplinary and collaborative research within three (3) thematically driven University Research Centres.

[TUA Strategic Research Plan \(2018-2023\)](#) is accessible via the link.

## **EQUITY**

Torrens is developing a robust and broad strategy to increase the enrolment and graduation of students from diverse backgrounds. The key elements are outlined below.

*Strategies for improving Indigenous outcomes and related targets for the term of this compact:*

- Diversity & Inclusion Policy implemented
- ATSI Working Group formulated and working on Indigenous student initiatives
- Indigenous Liaison Officer position funded and recruited
- Business Intelligence dashboard created that allows for monitoring of indigenous sub-group
- Indigenous student page available on Student Hub
- Further growth of indigenous student scholarships

*Strategies for achieving equity for low socio economic students and students from other equity groups:*

- Disability policy, fact sheets for students and staff and action plan templates have been implemented
- Diversity & Inclusion Policy implemented
- Disability Liaison Officer position funded and recruited
- Business Intelligence dashboard created that allows for monitoring of sub-groups such as disability, first generation learners
- Student at Risk monitoring process of new students implemented – business case for a Case Management system in progress

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.

Cate Hutchinson

Witness (please print)

Policy Officer

Position or profession of witness (please print)

Dom English  
Signature

C Hutchinson  
Signature

9/12/14  
Date

SIGNED for and on behalf of

In the presence of:

UNIVERSITY  
JUSTIN BEILBY

Full name (please print)

VICE CHANCELLOR

Position

Justin Beilby

Signature

NATALIE HAYES

Witness (please print)

PROJECTS ADVISOR

Position or profession of witness (please print)

Natalie Hayes

Signature