

1. Equity outcomes and strategies

- **Outcomes for improving performance for equity groups from 2015-2017. Programs will contribute to:**
- Positive attitudinal changes in aspirations, achievement and awareness by individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds of opportunities to undertake tertiary studies as measured through survey data
- Increase enrolments of students from low SES backgrounds by 0.3% each year from 2015-2017
- Increase enrolments of students from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) backgrounds by 0.03% each year to 2017
- Retention of students from Low SES (LSES) and ATII backgrounds to equal overall UOW Domestic student retention and benchmark against Australian University retention as reported in Institutional Performance Portfolio (IPP)
- Achievement of students from LSES and ATSI backgrounds as reported in the IPP to be over 90% and continue to be higher than the Benchmark, NSW, and Sector measures.
- Increased completion rates of LSES and ATSI students to equal overall UOW Domestic student completion rates and benchmark against Australian University completion rates
- Decrease the gap between Graduate Employment Outcomes of LSES graduates and all domestic graduates by 5% each year to 2017
- **Strategies for achieving the outcomes**
- Deliver UOW's In2Uni program. This program whole of university approach to schools outreach (Year 6-11) is designed to raise the achievement, awareness and aspirations of core equity groups, targeting students from Low SES and ATSI backgrounds in schools.
- Provide sustained support for targeted Year 12 students to raise achievement and build understanding of their potential at University through the University Preparation Program. This 20 week, on-campus, tutorial based program combines assistance with HSC related work, skills workshops, online modules and super study days.
- Provide embedded capacity building programs in vocational education (VET) Certificate IV and Diploma courses designed to make explicit the pathway to higher education and employment offered through undertaking VET study. These programs will be offered through strategic partnerships with a range of Registered Training Organisations and Government agencies and provide all participants with on-campus University experiences that will contribute to an understanding of the requirements of studying at university and the confidence to pursue this education pathway.
- Provide a whole of university approach to targeted support for commencing equity groups.
- Enhance the delivery of dedicated support to ASTI students through the Woolyungah Indigenous Centre that is focused on student success.
- Enrich the student experience and develop best practice design through supporting the implementation of the University wide Curriculum Transformation Project which includes the adoption of inclusive teaching practices and learning about cultural awareness and diversity in all courses.
- Optimising learning through the capture, analysis and reporting of data about learners and the learning contexts, with particular focus on supporting student performance through learning analytics.
- Case management approach to the employability and career development of targeted students across UOW's Regional Campuses.
- Embedded careers focus into UOW's Transition & Support Programs to first year students to facilitate success early.
- Building Indigenous research capacity by strengthening pathways for ASTI students to Higher Degree Research.

2. Evaluation Plan

All programs funded through HEPP will be required to prepare a report, using agreed outcome measure, including details about how the program has contributed to University outcomes listed in part 1 of this Plan an evaluation of the program and recommendations for future improvements or modifications. Evaluation includes collection of qualitative and quantitative data, with particular focus on near real-time provision of analytics, including supporting student performance through learning analytics.

3. Partnerships and collaboration

- Schools programs are underpinned by strategic partnerships with NSW Department of Education and local Catholic Education Offices. Schools participating in the program can become Education Partners with UOW.
- For VET Programs, partners include: TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute, Kiama Community college, Eurobodalla Adult Education, Illawarra Retirement Trust, Southern Pathology, Private Registered Training Organisations in the Illawarra and South Coast, UTAS (Benchmarking). Partnerships are supported by formal agreements.
- Planning is underway with other Community Colleges and with TAFE NSW South West Sydney Institute to take part in 2015 programs, pending outcomes of government funding.
- The University of Wollongong engages with Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, NSW Department of Premier & Cabinet, NSW State Training, and other government agencies to: strengthen collaboration; identify other sources of funding; ensure that the goals of the University continue to align with Government policies; and that our programs target skills shortage.