



## Acknowledgement

The Aboriginal Education Centre, Federation University Australia acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters, where its campuses and centres are located. We pay our respects to the Elders both past and present:

- Berwick Campus - Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri
- Camp Street Campus - Wadawurrung
- Gippsland Campus – Gunai Kurnai
- Wimmera Campuses - Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk,
- Mt Helen Campus - Wadawurrung
- SMB Campus - Wadawurrung

We also acknowledge and pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across the nation, as the First Nations' peoples of the lands and waters.

## Introduction

**Welcome to our 4<sup>th</sup> Edition** of the Aboriginal Education Centre's Biannual Newsletter, since the newly established Federation University Australia (FedUni) was formed. Federation University Australia (formerly the University of Ballarat) is the result of an amalgamation of the University of Ballarat and the Monash University's Gippsland Campus. FedUni officially commenced operations as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014.

The Aboriginal Education Centre's Newsletter aims to provide all staff and students and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities with information regarding:

- Student progression and success
- Aboriginal education initiatives and achievements within the University
- Staffing updates
- Current and upcoming events



**Aboriginal staff supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students**

## The Aboriginal Education Centre

The Aboriginal Education Centre is the central location for the majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs within FedUni. We provide a range of cultural support services for FedUni staff and students, current and prospective Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and the local Aboriginal community.

We welcome all students, staff and community members to contact us and contribute to the life of the Aboriginal Education Centre.

*The symbolic circle component of the Aboriginal Education Centre logo was designed by Wayne Muir and first used in 1990. The logo incorporates the Aboriginal flag and symbolises a partnership in learning between Indigenous and non-Indigenous People.*





## Student Engagement Awards

The AEC had an amazing night at the Student Engagement Awards! The event was held at Housey-Housey in Ballarat. We had four of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students win awards at this event, which is a very proud moment for the AEC.

A massive **Congratulations** to Mitch Corrigan, Mellisa Millar, Jessica Hunter and Samuel Crane on being acknowledged for your efforts.

You should all be very proud of yourselves! A special thanks to the FedUni Student Connect team for creating such a memorable event. We look forward to this event next year.



Mellisa Millar & DVC  
Academic- Andy Smith

Jessica Hunter & DVC  
Academic- Andy Smith



Emma Giles,  
Mitch Corrigan &  
Rhianna Milliken



Nick Johnson and  
Jessica Hunter



## Wurreker Awards 2018



On Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> September, Jasmine Graham and Ashlee Rodgers attended the 2018 VAEAI Wurreker Awards held at the Aborigines Advancement League, as finalists in the category 'Training Provider – Innovative Koorie Learner Pathways'. We are excited and proud to announce that we came away with a win!

*"The presentation of this award is testimony to our commitment towards creating a whole of University approach for the success of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students."*

- Jasmine Graham, Manager AEC



## *Deadly Careers @ FedUni!*



My name is Katrina Beer, I am Wotjobaluk woman from the Wimmera/Mallee, Victoria. I work as the Coordinator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment at Federation University Australia and I am based in Human Resources at the Mt Helen campus.

*“2018 has been very busy and exciting in seeing a new strategic direction form for Federation University Australia. I am proud to be part of the change, in that we as FedUni are striving to be a preferred place for our mob to study and build a career.”*

*- Katrina Beer, Coordinator, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment.*

In July FedUni launched our new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples Workforce Strategy. If you would like to know more about the Workforce Strategy, please feel free to click or copy and paste the link below in an internet browser.

[https://federation.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/419096/ATSI-Workforce-Strategy-2018-2020.pdf](https://federation.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/419096/ATSI-Workforce-Strategy-2018-2020.pdf)

FedUni will be looking to recruit three trainees around March/April in 2019 in various areas. If you are interested in either a traineeship or would like to be considered for other positions at FedUni, please email me your resume at [k.beer@federation.edu.au](mailto:k.beer@federation.edu.au) or contact me on 03 5327 9244.

## *Trainee Profile: Luke Bosworth*



Hi my name is Luke Bosworth, I belong to the Gunditjmarra mob.

I work in the Federation Business School as an Administrative Assistant (Traineeship). I am very grateful for the opportunity to be completing a traineeship at FedUni. I have an amazing team that I work in and right from the start I have been made very welcome and seen as an equal not as a trainee. From the short time in my traineeship, I already want to build a career within FedUni, the reason for this is the amazing people I get to work with and limitless amount of opportunities to learn and develop if you put yourself out there.

### **FUN FACT!**

*“If I could have one superpower, I would want to be able to control the elements because you end up with more than one ability. You could control earth, fire, water and air. I am also a fan of Tony Robbins.”*

*– Luke Bosworth*



## *Trainee Profile: Christopher Britten*



Hi my name is Chris Britten and I am a Torres Strait Islander man. I work at Federation University Australia, I work as a Student Engagement Assistant (Trainee) in Student Connect. I wish I could say I put my feet up and drink coffee all day, but my team keeps me on my feet and gives me plenty of challenges, which is better than any caffeinated hit. My team gives me the opportunity to be a part of something larger than just a job at the office behind a computer. We give students every motivation of enjoyment to stay in University while they complete their studies by offering events, activities, sports and clubs fulfil their personal interests...  
And the best thing about my job is I don't have to miss out on any events, because it's part of my work!

One of my hopes for the future is that I get a bigger pay check so I can spend it on the important things in life, like an air conditioner before my house turns into an oven or a normal day in Alice Springs during the summer. But overall, I hope to continue progressing my skills and knowledge of the business world, and hopefully influence the direction of the University as positively as I can for students to enjoy their time here with us. What I really hope is to create more of a fun vibe here on campus.

FedUni is a great place to work and I guarantee if you're ambitious enough to even think about applying for a job role here at FedUni, before you know it, it will be the best decision you've ever made. Any position here at FedUni is a massive foot in the door of life, and on the other side of that door gives you the ability to be seen for your individuality. You will be 100% backed by our Indigenous team around the University.

### **FUN FACT!**

*"A movie title that describes the story of my life  
Would be Dumb and Dumber.  
The strangest talent I have is to be extremely  
dumb and smart at the same time without even  
trying.  
I am a major fan of Kevin Hart; that man  
makes me laugh so hard I gave up sit-ups.  
If I could have one superpower I would want to  
be able to change into Kevin Hart whenever I  
want".*

- Chris Britten

### **PAID TUTORING WORK**

**The AEC are seeking Aboriginal  
and/or Torres Strait Islander  
peoples to become paid casual  
tutors to assist our Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait Islander students in  
2019.**

**Please call Erinne to discuss:  
PH: (03) 5327 9883**



## Inspire Me STEM Workshops



(Pictured- Mikayla Jade, Jessica Hunter, Cassandra Rowe, Cathy Freeman, Ros Moriarty, Julianne Krusche, Jasmine Graham, Geraldine Lewis).

The Inspire Me workshops were held across the Horsham, Mt. Helen and Churchill Campuses. The event was designed to inspire female Aboriginal High School students to engage in science-related subjects, and progress into STEM-related careers and entrepreneurship and, thus become future leaders in their communities.

The AEC's very own Rhianna Milliken and Churchill Campus student Jessica Hunter co-facilitated/presented, along with other inspiring women, who are noted leaders within Indigenous communities and STEM professions.

These women were:

- Cathy Freeman - an internationally acclaimed athlete and head of the Cathy Freeman Foundation.
- Mikayla Jade – the founder and CEO of Indigital Media.
- Cassandra Rowe – a nationally recognised primatologist.

- Ros Moriarty – founder of IndiKindi and creator of the Colouring Country: Australian Dreamtime Colouring Books.

A big thank you to the AIME mentors and KESOs who assisted with the facilitation of group discussions throughout the workshops and, of course, all the students, teachers and other supporters that participated and made these workshops the success that they were.





## *Games Connect Asia Pacific – by Wimmera student, David Parkin.*

On the 23rd of October, 2018, I had the pleasure in attending Games Connect Asia Pacific (GCAP). GCAP is Australia's premier game development conference held over the Melbourne International Games Week (MIGW). This year's theme was "the walls we build ourselves" and it was for game developers to question if they as individuals or companies are making the right decisions in relation to a number of areas involving their games and to remember to tear down, move or re-imagine the walls they create at times to respond to necessary change.

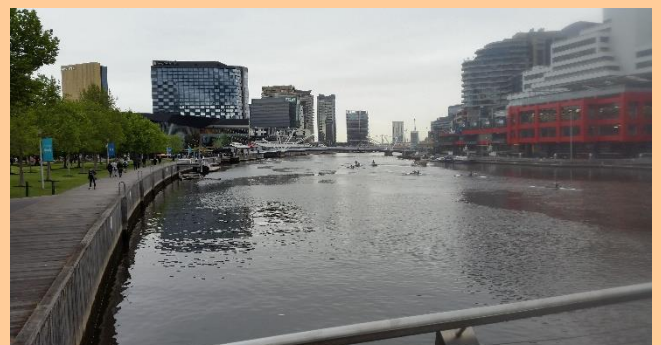
What a great day it was and I will definitely return for the whole two days next year. The ability to network and learn from those within the industry was amazing.

The inspirations in this industry are those who challenge the social norm and develop something unique that inspires others and paves the way for future 'game devs' (game developers).

From attending this event it has helped me as a current student in Screen & Media to organise an event which focuses on career and academic pathways for students in years 10, 11 and 12 into the gaming industry or related fields, with industry representatives presenting in a regional location like Horsham.

*-David Parkin*

*(The Aboriginal Education Centre is proud of David's achievements thus far and is excited to see David's progression in the game development industry. David was sponsored by the AEC to attend the GCAP conference)*





## *Toorong Marnong Tertiary Information Services*

The annual Toorong Marnong TIS sessions event was once again held across Victoria. Toorong Marnong TIS sessions create an opportunity for high school students and their families to meet and connect with Indigenous staff from Victorian Universities. Students are able to ask questions, find out about pathways and the support networks available at Victorian Universities.

The Toorong Marnong Higher Education Accord is jointly auspiced by VAEAI and the Victorian Vice-Chancellors Committee (VVCC). The core principles of the accord are to:

- Ensure that Indigenous Education forms part of the core business of Universities
- Identify and take opportunities for collaborations among universities
- Work towards continuous improvements in Indigenous Education Outcomes and
- Commit to anticipating and responding to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, organizations and communities.



## *Changes for 2019*

From 2019, every student who has identified as Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander must provide a Confirmation of Aboriginality to be able to receive support from our services for either TAFE or Higher Ed support.

If you do not have a Confirmation, you are able to follow this up by visiting your nearest local Aboriginal controlled organisation or a state wide Link-up worker.

To make sure we are supporting all of our students who have identified as Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander, please contact one of your Liaison Officers either by coming into the centre, by phone or email.

We understand how busy many of our students are, and some students will never visit the University as the study mode may be completely online. However just by having an initial discussion with one of your Liaison Officers will allow you to take advantage of any support services you may need/require.

The services we offer can take some of the stress away from being a student. If something is worrying you, or making it tough for you to complete your studies, please contact us so we can help you work through the concern.

We look forward to seeing you all next year and meeting many new students.



## End of Year Student Lunch

On Tuesday 30th October, we celebrated our End of Year lunch with TAFE and Higher Education students. A beautiful lunch and amazing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander designed cupcakes!

The AEC would like to congratulate students on a busy and productive year, and we thank you for all of your efforts contributing to the life of FedUni as well as making the AEC feel like home.



## Intercultural Ambassador Program – City of Ballarat

Ashlee Rodgers was inducted into the Intercultural Ambassador Program with the City of Ballarat on Friday 21st October during the Launch of the City of Ballarat Intercultural Strategic Plan Launch.

Ashlee is embracing the program and is thoroughly enjoying the training she is currently undertaking provided by the Ambassador Program.

*'It is an honour working alongside other amazing and interesting cultures, learning new things and participating in multicultural events throughout this beautiful town we call Ballarat. I am proud to represent my mob in this program, and to celebrate and showcase our beautiful culture.'*

– Ashlee Rodgers, Aboriginal Liaison Officer, SMB Campus.

Ashlee was recently voted onto the Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-operative Board of Directors- Congratulations Ashlee and thank you for contributing to our community!







## AIME Update



AIME has gone from strength to strength this year across both sites (Ballarat and Gippsland). Working with over 250 kids across 17 schools running 14 program days and 100 tutor squads! Wow!

We had over 50 mentors get involved with the program this year and look to deepen our engagement with the students next year and get these numbers to grow in 2019.

Day 5 Ballarat we had the biggest student turn out ever with over 80 kids participate in a wonderful day to wrap up the year. We were blessed with some incredible student performances and very moving speakers.

A huge thanks goes out to the AEC crew as they are huge supporters of AIME and get involved when they can. Moving into the back end of 2018 we are very grateful for the year that's been and already looking forward to an even brighter 2019 at Fed Uni.

*-Yours thankfully,  
Jessica Daniel, AIME VIC CM*

## 5 Reasons to choose FedUni

- #1. in Australia for graduate employability skills\*
- #2. in Australia for adaptive skills\*
- #3. in Australia for graduate technical skills\*
- #4. in Victoria for overall employment^
- #5. Established industry links and programs



\* 2017 Employer Satisfaction Survey; ^ 2017 Victorian Institution Survey; Australian Federal Government's Quality Indicators Learning & Teaching (QILT) [qilt.edu.au](http://qilt.edu.au).

## Scholarship Information

**Scholarships:** There are a range of scholarships offered for those considering studying at FedUni in the future and for current students both international and domestic. FedUni scholarships recognise academic excellence, overcoming adversity, community engagement and/or leadership performance.

**Bursaries:** Bursaries are offered each semester to assist eligible students who face significant financial challenges to attend university. By completing a Kickstart application you will automatically be considered for a bursary and if successful will be notified before census date

**Grants:** A grant is a one-time supply of goods or equipment to assist those with the most needs with their studies or placement. A number of different grants are e.g. books, uniforms, computers and placement.



## *Canoe Documentary Launch – Ballarat Tech School in collaboration with the AEC*

Earlier this year the first stringy bark canoe to be built in Ballarat in over 150 years, was built by Worimi, Djab Wurrung and Wadawurrung plus others which was then filmed to create a documentary 'Restoring the Koorong Tradition'. This was supported by the Aboriginal Education Centre and a range of other partners including the Ballarat Tech School.

The canoe and documentary has now informed a two day education program at The Ballarat Tech School. Students from the region came together during Design and Technology Week to be inspired and challenged and to discover how Aboriginal Cultures can influence innovation and design in Australia today.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students attending this program made a variety of sustainable art and when the students were asked why immersing themselves in this design experience was important to them they said, **"it allows us to wake up culture together, it allows us to collaborate in the passing down of knowledge and connecting this knowledge to modern society and innovation so that Aboriginal culture can thrive in the modern day and age."** The depth of conversion held over the two days was reflected in the designs produced. Well done to all!



The above audible artwork designed by our students, was recently awarded first prize in the City of Ballarat SmArt competition 2018 as part of National Recycling Week 2018.



The above wooden chandelier made with fire technology to harden and shape the bark was a highlight of the works made by the students.



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stakeholder mail list please call Erinne:  
(03) 5327 9883 or

Email: [e.milliken@federation.edu.au](mailto:e.milliken@federation.edu.au)

## Alumni Registration

Are you a graduate of Federation University or previously known University of Ballarat, or any other predecessor Universities?

Follow the instructions below to update your details so that we can plan our **FIRST EVER** 2019 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alumni Gathering!

For more information contact the Aboriginal Education Centre.

### Instructions for updating details;

- Access Federation University Webpage
- Click on the Connect tab
- Click on Alumni
- Click on Alumni details and involvement opportunities
- Proceed to updating you details





**Aboriginal  
Education  
Centre**

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