

THE ROLE OF THE CIVIC UNIVERSITY IN AUSTRALIA



The making of a City Region Conference 29 - 30 August 2019 Australian Catholic University, Brisbane

Location: ACU Leadership Centre, 229 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane



Partners and supporters:



engagementaustralia.org.au

Thursday 29 August 2019

8:30-9:00am **Registration and coffee**

9.00-9:15am **Welcome**

Professor Jim Nyland, Chair Engagement Australia, and Associate Vice Chancellor, Australian Catholic University

9:15-10.00am **Keynote**

Re-framing the University as an anchor institution in a 'post-truth' world

Professor Sharon Bell, Deputy Vice Chancellor Strategy and Planning, Western Sydney University

The critically engaged university of the future is challenged by the need to re-shape engagement in a 'post-truth' world and re-framing the university as an anchor institution in the making of a City Region.

10.00-10.45am **Keynote**

Building a University city OF THE Future: Griffith University on the Gold Coast

Professor Martin Betts, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Griffith University

10.45-11.15am **Morning tea**

11.15-12.30pm **Strategies to re-purpose the university as a 'civic' institution (1)**

This case-study session will provide attendees insight into developing and implementing university level engagement strategies and how these strategies can help re-purposing the university as a 'civic' institution.

Case study 1

Engaging and re-engaging with our older and newer communities

Professor Joanne Scott, Pro Vice Chancellor Engagement, University of the Sunshine Coast

Delve into USC's strategy as an 'engaged university' with the aim of advancing the social, environmental and economic well-being of its immediate and extended communities. USC's engagement strategy is shaping and being shaped by the institution's determination to expand its geographic footprint and its transition from a single campus to a multi-campus university. The session examines some of the 'on the ground' challenges of attempting to embed an inclusive engagement strategy.

Case study 2

Hands up if you're not a 'civic university': defining what it means to be truly civic?

Belinda Robinson, Vice President University Relations and Strategy, University of Canberra

The Civic University movement is the hottest trend in university positioning right now. But what does it take to be a 'truly civic university' as distinct from a university that embraces civic values and is there a difference?

11.15-12.30pm

Case study 3

City of the Future - working with government and community

Sue Davies, Director, Community & Industry Engagement, La Trobe University

The focus of this session will set out the unique areas by which La Trobe University is working positively with government (in particular state and local) and community, to create impactful partnerships which contribute to the economic and social growth and wellbeing of the communities in the regions the University's campuses are located in – as well as to La Trobe's own students and staff.

Case study QandA

12.30-1.15pm

Lunch

1.15-3.00pm

Strategies to re-purpose the university as a 'civic' institution (2)

Long term thinking in a world of short attention spans:

The Medical Device Partnering Program

Carmela Sergi, Director Health Partnerships, Flinders University

The Medical Device Partnering Program supports development of innovative medical devices and assistive technologies in partnership between university, industry and clinicians. Now in its 11th year of operations it is a proven and successful model for driving economic benefits through collaboration with committed University and industry partners across Australia, including CSIRO, RMIT, Swinburne University, Monash University, the Baker Institute, BioMedical Research Victoria.

Southern Cross University - 'Live Ideas'

Dr Kristin den Exter, Director, Academic Partnerships, Southern Cross University

'Live Ideas' is a portal opening up opportunities for SCU students and staff to work with community partners for mutual benefit. Part of the Live Ideas program is an online noticeboard where partners can submit opportunities for real-world research, projects, placement or volunteering collaborations with SCI. But it is more than just a portal, below the web interface is a whole new culture of academic engagement with the community, that takes time and a new way of approaching opportunities. Hear about the SCI lived experience.

1.15-3.00pm

Strategies to re-purpose the university as a 'civic' institution (2)

'Shopfront'

Lisa Andersen, Program Manager, University Technology Sydney

Take a deep-dive into the UTS Shopfront – arguably Australia's longest running, cross-faculty community engagement program. This session will inform practitioners about this key program that champions social justice and social change as well as a range of research and community-based projects through student coursework projects and internships.

Civic and social engagement and universities transformative role in the community

Professor Jim Nyland, Associate Vice Chancellor, ACU

This session will look at three aspects: first the purpose or re-purposing of the university as a 'civic' institution with crucial connections to its local and regional communities and perhaps its 'value constituents' in the case of faith-based universities. Second the crucial meaning of critical thinking and the curriculum in the universities in its context of the question-what is the university really for? And finally the need to learn and teach the question of academic and scholarly freedom as part of what we term the critical curriculum for universities. All three aspects have implications for learning and teaching precisely in relation to social and civic engagement.

3.00-3.30pm

Afternoon tea

3.30-4.30pm

Key note and panel discussion

Industry and Business Engagement – developing and strengthening partnerships for economic and civic benefit

Dr Stephen Rodda, Executive Director: Innovation & Commercial Partnerships at University of Adelaide

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Panel and Q&A

Professor Andrew Griffiths, Executive Dean of The University of Queensland's Faculty of Business, Economics and Law.

Alison Angleton, Director Strategic Partnerships and Research Precinct, Latrobe University

Dr Stephen Rodda, Executive Director: Innovation & Commercial Partnerships, University of Adelaide

4.30-5.00pm **Closing session key insights from the day and Launch of *Transform: The Journal of Engaged Scholarship***
JES Editor, Professor Jim Nyland

6.30-for 7.00pm **Networking drinks**
Location TBC

7.00-9.30pm **Conference Dinner and presentation of the 2019 BHERT Awards**
Keynote speaker Professor Tom Calma AO

Professor Calma is an Aboriginal elder of the Kungarakan tribal group, a member of the Iwaidja tribal group and a champion for the rights, responsibilities and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. On 1 July 2016, he received the Martin Luther King Jr Memorial Flag Award on the 240th anniversary of the United States of America's independence. In October 2018 he was appointed the inaugural Chair of the Atlantic Fellows for Social Equity program. Professor Calma the first Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander man to become Chancellor of an Australian university.



Presentation of the BHERT awards - Dr Peter Binks, CEO

Friday 30 August 2019

8.30-8.45am **Morning coffee and networking**

8.45-9.00am **Recap and scene-setting – the day ahead**

9:00-9.45am **Keynote**

Town, Gown and Crown: the Role of the Civic University in Britain; the making of a City Region

Professor George E. Holmes DL, President and Vice Chancellor, The University of Bolton, Greater Manchester, U.K. (via video conference)

Friday 30 August 2019

- 9.45-10.30am** **Keynote and panel discussion**
Work Integrated Learning-Plus and Service Learning
Adjunct Professor Carol-Joy Patrick, WIL-Plus and Service-Learning Academic Manager, Griffith University

Professor Sandra Jones, Pro Vice Chancellor Engagement, Australian Catholic University

Explore the development of students as future professionals and their development as future members of the local/global using innovative approaches by a range of universities.
- 10.30-10.50am** **Morning tea**
- 10.50-11.30am** **In the spotlight**
Students as 'Partners'
Professor Jessica Vanderlelie, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Student Success, La Trobe University

Engaging 'Students as Partners' is a hot topic in higher education and provides an important opportunity to extend beyond gathering feedback to the creation of authentic relationships that hold mutual value. This session will explore how to create space where students become active participants in the transformation of learning, teaching and the operations of an institution.
- 11.30-12.15pm** **In the spotlight**
The importance of being 'earnest' - in partnerships.
Alison Angleton, Director Strategic Partnerships and Research Precinct, La Trobe University

Engaging partners to ensure quality place making and connectivity through amenity, regional strength and research excellence. This session will focus on the role of the civic university and importance of respectful industry and community partnerships.
- 12.15-1.00pm** **Lunch and the Engagement Australia AGM**
- 1.00-1.45pm** **Keynote**
Transforming Engagement: Re-thinking STEM and Research Engagement
Kylie Ahern, STEM Matters, co-founder Cosmos Magazine and Board member of Science & Technology Australia

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Competition for research grants, philanthropic funds, industry collaborations and top students and academics is becoming increasingly harder. Universities are expected to engage across all sectors of society – government, public, industry – as well as demonstrate their impact, value and collaborations.

Modern STEM engagement is about more than PR and a media profile. In this session we look at how you can position your organisation and people so as to build audience, influence and revenue. Who is doing it well globally and what are the learnings you can apply within your institute.

1.45-2.30pm

Key panel session

Taking the lead – an update on the progress of the Australian Carnegie pilot project

The Hon. Verity Firth, Executive Director, Social Justice, University of Technology Sydney

Senior Officers from the lead city-based and lead regional based universities will join a panel of experts to report on progress of the Australian Carnegie pilot project.

2.30-2.45pm

Afternoon tea

2.45-3.30pm

In the spotlight

Kerry O'Neill, Associate Director Engagement, Victoria University

3.30-4.00pm

In the spotlight

From WIL-to-work: embedding the University in the local community

Callista Thillou, Executive Director, Office of Communication and Engagement, Flinders University

Harnessing the power of local government: from little and uncoordinated contact with local councils (Flinders is located in four local council regions) to an actively engaged Local Government Roundtable established by Flinders that has become a regional quarterly dialogue, with real world outcomes including active WIL placements, developing a graduate employment services, and an emerging model of co-locating professional development program in Council with alumni and graduates.

4.00-4.15pm

Wrap-up and conference closing

4.15-4.45pm

Drinks and networking

Engagement Australia

- Leading The Engagement Agenda

Engagement Australia champions the unique role universities have with society to address contemporary global challenges and trends through teaching, learning, research and partnerships.

We do this by:

- Providing and inspiring leadership;
- Developing capacity and future leaders;
- Enabling peer-learning;
- Providing practical tools and tips; and
- Providing a platform for collaboration and knowledge creation.

Engagement Australia supports the wider contextual standard definition of community engagement, previously developed by the US-based Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, which has succeeded in codifying the core characteristics and principles of community engagement.

It defines Community engagement as a method of teaching, learning and research that describes interactions between universities and their communities (business, industry, government, NGOs, and other groups) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity.

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