

# **TRANSFORMATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS:** Creating Lasting Impact

## **ENGAGEMENT AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE 2025**

HOSTED BY: THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



**22-23 JULY, 2025**

The University of Queensland, St Lucia

# PROGRAM

## 2025 CONFERENCE

### Day 1 - Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

9.30am - 10.00am	<i>Registrations</i>
10.00am - 10.05am	Acknowledgement of Country
10.05am-10.10am	Welcome to Conference Professor Verity Firth, Vice-President Societal Impact, Equity and Engagement UNSW, Sydney / Director and Chair Engagement Australia
10.10am - 10.40am	Keynote Presentation <b>Social Licence and the Importance of Partnering with Communities</b> Professor Deborah Terry, Vice Chancellor and President, The University of Queensland  To succeed in our mission of delivering for the public good, universities must take an approach that reinforces and demonstrates our core purposes rather than focusing on our achievements and successes. In an era of growing public distrust in institutions, deep and genuine engagement is essential to maintaining our social licence to operate. In this talk, Professor Deborah Terry AC will explore how engagement is crucial to upholding the core values of higher education and is central to the future of the sector.
10.40am - 11.00am	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11.00am - 12.15pm	Panel Discussion <b>Universities and Social License: Global Forces, Local Voices</b>  <b>Facilitator:</b> John Ross, Times Higher Education  <b>Panellist:</b> Georgina Downer, CEO Robert Menzies Institute The Hon. Fiona Nash, Regional Education Commissioner
12.15pm - 1.00pm	<i>Lunch</i>

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### Day 1 Continued - Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

1.00pm - 2.00pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p><b>Community Engagement as a Driver for Social and Economic Development</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Professor Verity Firth</b>, Vice-President Societal Impact, Equity and Engagement UNSW, Sydney / Director and Chair Engagement Australia</p>
2.00pm - 3.00pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p><b>Olympics and Paralympics Legacy: Inspiring Community Connections</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Professor Bronwyn Harch</b>, Vice-President Industry and External Engagement Griffith University / Director Engagement Australia</p>
3.00pm - 3.15pm	<p><i>Afternoon Tea</i></p>
3.15pm - 4.45pm	<p>Paper Presentations - Concurrent Session</p>
4.45pm - 5.00pm	<p>Conference Close for Day 1</p>
5.30pm - 6.30pm	<p><i>Networking Session - Drinks and Canapes</i></p>



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### Day 2 - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

8.45am - 9.00am	<i>Tea and Coffee on Arrival</i>
9.00am - 10.00am	Launch of the 2026 Carnegie Elective Community Engagement Classification Round
10.00am - 11.00am	<p>Presentations and Q&amp;A</p> <p><b>Engaging for Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Rev Dr Rex Rigby</b>, Board member Excelsia University College, and a member of the Excelsia University Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group. Board of Director Inala Elders Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation and Member &amp; Elder Bigambul Native Title Aboriginal Corporation</p>
11.00am - 11.15am	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11.15am - 12.15pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p><b>Partnering for Social Impact</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Professor Alpha Possamai-Inesedy</b>, Pro Vice Chancellor, Student Success Western Sydney University / Director Engagement Australia</p> <p><b>Panellist:</b> Jennifer Karlson, Vice-President, Advancement and Community Engagement, The University of Queensland Neal Harvey, CEO The Tim Fairfax Family Foundation and Ningana Trust</p>
12.15pm - 1.00pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1.00pm - 2.30pm	Paper Presentations - Concurrent Session
2.30pm - 3.30pm	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p><b>Partnering in the Pacific</b></p> <p><b>Panellist:</b> Dr Mellita Jones, Australian Catholic University Solomon Island Community Project Professor Paul Iji, Pro-Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation Fiji National University</p>
3.30pm - 3.45pm	Conference Close

*The program is subject to change, and additional speakers will be announced upon confirmation*