

LATROBE UNIVERSITY
&
PARTNERSHIPS WITH INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITIES

1. Objectives

Latrobe University is committed to developing partnerships with Indigenous Australians and Indigenous Australian communities in the areas of education, research, employment, and economic, cultural and social development.

The University will endeavour to work with Indigenous Australian communities to ensure that Indigenous Australians are afforded opportunities to engage with the University in employment, education, training and broader community and economic development initiatives which support self-determination for Indigenous Australian peoples and strengthen mutual knowledge understanding and respect.

2. Guiding Principles

2.1 The University recognises the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Indigenous peoples of these lands and appreciates that respect for and involvement with, the heritage and cultural practices of Indigenous Australian peoples will enrich Australian society.

2.2 The University, always acting in consultation with its local Indigenous Australian communities, will make its best efforts, by education, scholarship and such other means to ensure that its members and those of the communities in which it operates;

2.2.1 acknowledgement and recognition of local traditional ownership of the land, the historical relationship and identity with the land and consequences of dispossession experienced by the Indigenous Australian peoples in these regions, and;

2.2.2 acknowledge and respect the aspirations and traditions, central to the well being of Indigenous Australian peoples, their knowledge, their communities and their cultures.

2.3 The University respects the diverse cultural, social and religious systems practised by Indigenous Australian peoples and will give consideration to these when engaging with Indigenous Australian communities and individuals.

2.4 The University recognises Indigenous Australian knowledge as a significant contribution to all other bodies of knowledge, and acknowledges the skills, knowledge and experience that Indigenous Australian peoples bring to the University.

2.5 The University will apply its best endeavours to promote and recognise Indigenous Australian cultural practices and identity giving due recognition to the diversity of Indigenous Australian culture.