

Bendigo Campus Plan

Indigenous Acknowledgement

La Trobe University proudly acknowledges the people belonging to Djandak, the country our Bendigo campus is situated on; these people are the Djaara Djaara people of the Dja Dja Wurrung language group. The Djaara people are one of five Traditional Owner groups that make up the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge the living culture of the Djaara people, and we pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

About this plan

This plan should be read in conjunction with the *La Trobe University Strategic Plan 2020-2030* and *La Trobe University's Strategy for Regional Activity*, which together provide the overall strategic direction for the University and for the way we will operate as a multi campus university. These renewed strategies are necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent effects on our community, the way we work and the finances of the University. This plan is written in the context of becoming a smaller, more sharply focussed institution.

About the campus

Bendigo campus is the largest of our four regional campuses. In Bendigo, the University inherited a higher education presence, stretching back to 1873, building on legacy institutions focused in engineering, nursing, education, business and general education. Contributing to this legacy, a \$50M investment in infrastructure, completed in 2020, includes a new engineering building and an extension and upgrade to the library, ensuring students continue to have access to state-of-the-art facilities in a modern, vibrant campus. Residential accommodation for over 600 students includes programs to support academic excellence, social engagement, community living, sport, health and wellbeing.

The campus offers many of the University's most prestigious courses, including Dentistry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Biomed (Medical), Law, Computer Science and Information Technology, and Engineering.

Our partnerships with the City of Greater Bendigo is the University's largest in regional Victoria. Looking forward, we will work together to ensure our strategic and operational plans are symbiotic and allow each party to benefit from this partnership. We will support the City's aspirations in their [Economic Development Strategy 2020-2030](#)¹, in particular, the aim to have *University campuses with a total of at least 10,000 students by 2030 and 20,000 students by 2050 and a national – international profile in at least three to five program areas*. We will work with the City to significantly grow higher education participation in Bendigo and attract students to the region from across Australia and overseas.

Bendigo campus is the headquarters of La Trobe Rural Health School (LRHS), which is the largest rural health school in Australia. La Trobe receives Commonwealth funding as a University Department of Rural Health (UDRH). The UDRH has a strong research focus that is driven by the beneficial outcomes for each unique community. In partnership with University of Melbourne, La Trobe also provides a medical pathway in Bendigo to train regional doctors. Our strong partnership with Bendigo Health provides research opportunities, student placements and graduates for their workforce.

¹ <https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/About/Document-Library/A-stronger-Greater-Bendigo-2030>

The Engineering building provides world class facilities. In support of regional workforce need the focus of La Trobe's undergraduate Engineering program will be relocated to Bendigo campus. This program will attract domestic students and international students who are keen to benefit from the additional post study work rights allowed to students studying in regional Australia. The Central Victorian Advanced Manufacturing - a Bendigo Fraunhofer Initiative, which fosters collaboration between La Trobe's engineering school, the City of Greater Bendigo, and the Bendigo Manufacturing Group is enhancing opportunities for the city, academics and students alike.

A broad range of offerings in Education, Humanities, Social Sciences and Commerce will be available in Bendigo delivered face to face, mixed mode or online.

Ongoing development in Greater Bendigo, including the new Bendigo Law Court Development planned to be operational in 2023, offers educational and employment opportunities for both students and graduates. We will continue to partner with organisations like Bendigo Invention and Innovation Festival, Energy Breakthrough, Bendigo Writers Festival, Bendigo Academy of Sport and Bendigo Art Gallery to enrich the student experience and contribute to the cultural, environmental and social capital of the region.

TAFE and Schools

We will build on our close work with Bendigo TAFE to develop a comprehensive partnership that best serves the community through coordinated activity and the extension of pathways between vocational and higher education. A focus of our work with Bendigo TAFE will be to develop seamless pathways to careers in areas of student demand and workforce need.

Our deep partnerships with both primary and secondary schools will become even more important as we work to mitigate the potential long-term impact of COVID-19 on the education of a generation of primary and secondary students. Students and staff from our School of Education will support early learning centres and primary and secondary schools in their foundational work to enable all members of the community to reach their full potential.

Bendigo Tech School

Bendigo Tech School is a significant partner for the University, and we will continue to develop opportunities work with Bendigo Tech School through education and industry programs.

Co-located on level three of the new engineering building and funded by the Victorian Government, the Tech School provides a high-tech learning environment, with innovative education programs linked with local industry and delivers real world learning to secondary students. Students from 14 Secondary schools in the area access the Tech School for specialised STEM programs.

Course portfolio

Expanding the range of delivery modes will enable us to offer greater choice in our course portfolio. Delivery of courses will be on campus, mixed mode or online, with some place-based and intensive subjects. We will focus on areas of proven student demand and offer more qualification types to support first time university students, along with those who are reskilling and ongoing professional development. *See appendix A – Campus course portfolio*

Online courses

The full suite of La Trobe online courses will be actively promoted. This provides a significant opportunity for Bendigo students, who can choose how and when they study. Studying online provides greater flexibility and students can engage when they want (daytime, evenings, weekends), where they want (home, the office or on the move), and how they want (accelerated or part-time). For example, in the UNESCO designated creative city and region of Gastronomy,

Bendigo students can study relevant programs such as the Bachelor of Food and Nutrition and Master of Management (Project Management).

Short courses

Guided by the Colleges and Schools, and in consultation with our industry partners regarding local need, we will offer short courses. Courses at Certificate or Diploma level maybe embedded in existing larger qualifications. We will also offer non-award courses to address workforce skill need. This will include Executive Education and Continuing Professional Development courses such as *Using Social Media for Business*, *Data Visualisation with Tableau* and *Advanced Pain Management*.

International

Bendigo is a very attractive campus for international students due to the very close proximity to Melbourne, local industry links, job opportunities and the potential to apply for 4-year post study work rights. Opportunities for students to secure work in the region on graduation will be key to fulfilling the expectations of students and securing extended post study work rights.

The University will initiate an active partnership with City of Greater Bendigo, and other community leaders, to attract a large number of international students to Bendigo. International students enrich both the campus and the wider community and benefit from being located in a thriving regional city.

Regional Connect – to enhance student experience & employability

Regional Connect will deliver unique set of on campus and virtual activities for students relevant to the local context and linked to place, designed to enrich their experience, enhance their employability and connect them with local industry. *Regional Connect* is available for students studying online, mixed mode or on campus, and living within travelling distance of the Bendigo campus. *Regional Connect* activities will be contributed to by all parts of the University and curated and delivered at campus level. We will introduce our students to each other, to local business and industry partners and enhance academic engagement, social connection and employability. The *Collaboration Hub* will play a key role in identifying opportunities for students to link with industry.

Collaboration Hub – to link community and industry and the University

Collaboration Hubs will connect staff and students to local communities, employers, industry and alumni. In turn, the hubs will connect local industries and community with the campus and the wider University to facilitate mutually beneficial opportunities for learning and research. *Collaboration Hubs* will play a key role in identifying opportunities for *Regional Connect* activities as well as Research and Industry Engagement.

Research

- Established and productive campus-based areas of research focus and capability
 - Biomedical and health sciences
 - Health and Wellbeing

- Key industry /community partnerships
 - Biomedical and health sciences
 - Health and wellbeing – *Rural health*
 - Digital innovation and transformation – *Engineering, Industry 4.0, AI and IoT*
 - Society, education and social change – *Traditional Owner Organisations, Schools, Arts, Government and Community*

At Bendigo Campus we will maintain and develop a campus-based research capability with an emphasis on the areas of Biomedical and Health Sciences through the La Trobe Institute for

Molecular Science, and Health and Wellbeing led by the La Trobe Rural Health School. The Rural Health School maintains significant research presence in Bendigo, underpinned by national and international partnerships with industry, communities and other universities as we work together to improve the health and wellbeing of rural communities.

The campus will serve as a collaboration hub in driving digital innovation and transformation in regional Victoria, engaging with and assisting industry to enhance their manufacturing capability through implementation of Industry 4.0. The Engineering building will become a cross-discipline and cross-school home for researchers, forming a critical mass of research activity and facilities, and serving as an institution-wide portal for industry engagement in digital innovation.

Bendigo has a rich and varied history and a vibrant community and cultural life, providing opportunities for La Trobe research to work with organisations across a wide range of sectors and communities. As a Collaboration Hub, the campus will support existing strong partnerships with Aboriginal Victoria and the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, working on aspects of cultural heritage, traditional burning practices and land management, along with organisations such as the Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services, the Bendigo Community Health Service and the Bendigo Art Gallery.

How we will develop the research capability of academic staff

A program of capability development will have four key pillars:

- Ensuring that academic staff based at regional campuses are connected with the research development activities of the university as a whole, including the Research Education and Development (RED) Program and Grants Pipeline. The recent shift of these programs to online platforms has demonstrated that we can serve our multi-campus community with quality online development offerings.
- Supporting researchers in developing skills to engage with industry for research translation, to support entrepreneurs and start-ups in the community to translate ideas into thriving businesses and provides students with hands on entrepreneurial experiences. Engagement training for researchers will be developed and run in partnership with RED to support building researcher capacity to engage with industry.
- Ensuring that Research Themes, in their role of driving a problem-based and externally engaged approach to delivering research with impact, have a whole-of-university remit and regionally-based research leaders are accountable for mentoring early- and mid-career researchers on campus.
- Developing a dedicated and focused plan for infrastructure investment which incorporates the research infrastructure needs of regional research that is aligned to the Research Themes.

Industry Engagement

The Bendigo campus will serve as a collaboration hub to drive engagement with health organisations, industry and community and government within the region. Industry engagement opportunities include development of the Central Victorian Advanced Manufacturing - Bendigo Fraunhofer Initiative and other emerging opportunities for local industry.

The strategic partnership with Cisco and the Cisco Chair of AI & IoT, with a focus on the Bendigo campus, also provides opportunities for regional research and education. The Collaboration Hub will provide a physical and virtual front door for businesses to access our research, and education to support their digital transformation.

The *Innovation & Entrepreneurship Program's* close connection with the Bendigo community provides a strong platform to connect with regional industry and promote and support the development of start-ups and small businesses across regional Victoria. This program is a mechanism for engaging with SMEs upon which we can build broader engagement.

La Trobe Art Institute

Supporting La Trobe's presence in Bendigo

La Trobe Art Institute (LAI) can be imagined as the University's public-facing hub of arts practices, engagement and cultural collections. LAI is situated in the Bendigo CBD arts precinct, opposite Bendigo Art Gallery in View Street. Neighbouring restaurants and cafes bring locals and tourists to the area during the day, in the evenings and on weekends.

LAI's vision is to support La Trobe's Bendigo presence by showcasing links between University research, student experience, industry, geographical area and community. As both a physical site and a growing network, La Trobe, industry and community partnerships are key. LAI supports the University's partnership goals through alliances with major cultural institutions including Bendigo Art Gallery, Murray Art Museum Albury (MAMA), Shepparton Art Museum, National Gallery of Victoria and Islamic Museum of Australia.

LAI is a civic gathering place that fosters artistic and intellectual exchange through collaboration. The View Street premises include two galleries, an auditorium, meeting room and outdoor courtyards. Open Tuesday to Sunday with free admission, it offers social spaces, arts experiences (exhibitions, films), education (regional schools' programs, internships) and cultural events that support community advocacy and debate (talks, symposiums, reading groups). LAI will strategically develop its future programs with the aim of increasing La Trobe's Bendigo reputation and profile, enhancing student life and growing audiences.

Community Connections

La Trobe's community connections in Bendigo, and the surrounding region, are one of our biggest assets and enable us to deeply enrich our students' university experience. We are connected to industry and the community on many levels.

Our staff serve on boards and committees and participate in events, organisations and festivals across the region and through these connections, and our more formal partnerships, arise opportunities for work-integrated learning, place-based subjects, internships, placements, volunteering, mentoring and industry PhDs and more. We will continue to encourage staff engagement on boards and committees and seek to map our community and industry networks to fully utilise these connections.

Alumni are another significant connection and resource for students. In Bendigo, over twelve thousand alumni² live within 50kms of the campus. We will foster their continued connection to the University and leverage their knowledge and networks to enrich our students' experience.

Regional Advisory Board (RAB)

The Board comprises members of the Bendigo community who have an interest in higher education, and its relationship with the region, and bring skills relevant to the strategic direction of the Campus and University. Membership of the Bendigo Regional Advisory Board is by invitation of the Vice-Chancellor. We will continue to work with the Bendigo Regional Advisory Board to seek advice, and advocacy.

Members:

Name	Position
Damian Wells (Chair)	Managing Director, Coliban Water
Marnie Baker	Managing Director, Bendigo & Adelaide Bank

² Alumni located within 50km of the campus, including non-contactable, as at 17 Sept 2020

Jessica Bridgfoot
Peter Faulkner
Darren McGregor
Craig Niemann
Dale Pearce

Director, Bendigo Art Gallery
CEO, Bendigo Health
Principal, Marist College
CEO, City of Greater Bendigo
Principal, Bendigo Senior Secondary College

Appendix A

This list of courses below is correct as of 11 November 2020, noting that decisions around course portfolio are standard and regularly occurring.

As set out in our Strategic Plan, Strategy for Regional Victoria and change proposals, the financial impact of COVID-19 means that regrettably some courses and subjects that are not financially sustainable will be suspended.

Bendigo ASSC Course Portfolio 2021

School	Course Title	Mode of Delivery 2021
LBS	Bachelor of Business	Mixed Mode
LBS	Bachelor of Business (Accounting)	Mixed Mode
LBS	Bachelor of Business (Event Management/Marketing)	Mixed Mode
LBS	Bachelor of Business (Sport Development and Management)	Mixed Mode
LBS	Bachelor of Business/Bachelor of Arts	Mixed Mode
LBS	Diploma in Business	Mixed Mode
LBS	Master of Professional Accounting	On Campus
LBS	Master of Financial Analysis	On Campus
LBS	Master of Management (Project Management)	On Campus
LBS	Master of Business Administration	Mixed Mode
LBS	Bachelor of Business (Agribusiness)	Mixed Mode
LBS	Bachelor of Business/Bachelor of Psychological Science	Mixed Mode
LLS	Bachelor of Criminology	Mixed Mode
LLS	Bachelor of Criminology/Bachelor of Laws	Mixed Mode
LLS	Bachelor of Criminology/Bachelor of Psychological Science	Mixed Mode
LLS	Bachelor of Laws	Mixed Mode (StudyFlex)
LLS	Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Arts	Mixed Mode
LLS	Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Business	Mixed Mode
LLS	Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Psychological Science	Mixed Mode
LLS	Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Science	Mixed Mode
LLS	Bachelor of Laws (Graduate Entry)	Mixed Mode (StudyFlex)
SoE	Bachelor of Early Childhood and Primary Education	On Campus
SoE	Bachelor of Education (Primary)	On Campus
SoE	Bachelor of Education (Secondary)	On Campus
SoE	Bachelor of Educational Studies	On Campus
SoE	Bachelor of Outdoor Education	On Campus
SoE	Master of Inclusion and Diversity	On Campus
SoE	Master of Teaching (Primary)	On Campus
SoE	Master of Teaching (Secondary)	On Campus
SoE	Master of Teaching (Secondary)	On Campus
HUSS	Bachelor of Arts	Mixed Mode
HUSS	Bachelor of Urban, Rural and Environmental Planning	On Campus
HUSS	Diploma of Arts	Mixed Mode
HUSS	Graduate Certificate in Community Planning and Development	On Campus
HUSS	Graduate Diploma in Community Planning and Development	On Campus
HUSS	Master of Community Planning and Development	On Campus
HUSS	Bachelor of Creative Arts	Mixed Mode
HUSS	Bachelor of Creative Arts with Honours	Mixed Mode

- Bachelor of Business (with nested Diploma of Business) will continue to be offered in mixed mode at Bendigo with sufficient face-to-face delivery to accommodate international students
- Accounting will be offered in mixed mode at Bendigo with sufficient face-to-face delivery to accommodate international students

ASSC Online 2021

School	Course Title	Mode of Delivery 2021
LBS	Master of Business Administration	Online
LBS	Master of Management	Online
LBS	Master of Management (Entrepreneurship and Innovation)	Online
LBS	Master of Management (Human Resource Management)	Online
LBS	Master of Management (Project Management)	Online
SoE	Bachelor of Early Childhood Education	Online

Bendigo SHE Course Portfolio 2021

School	Course Title	Mode of Delivery 2021
SHE	Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours)	On Campus
SHE	Bachelor of Science	On Campus
SHE	Bachelor of Science (Honours)	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours)	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Exercise Science	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Health Sciences	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Nursing	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Midwifery	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Oral Health Science	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Paramedic Practice with Honours	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours)	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Social Work (Honours)	On Campus
LRHS	Bachelor of Speech Pathology (Honours)	On Campus
LRHS	Diploma of Health Sciences	Mixed Mode
LRHS	Graduate Diploma in Midwifery	On Campus
LRHS	Master of Exercise Physiology	On Campus
LRHS	Master of Occupational Therapy Practice	On Campus
LRHS	Master of Physiotherapy Practice	On Campus
LRHS	Master of Social Work	On Campus
LRHS	Master of Speech Pathology	On Campus
SEMS	Bachelor of Civil Engineering (Honours)	On Campus
SEMS	Bachelor of Engineering Honours (Industrial)	On Campus
SEMS	Bachelor of Information Technology	On Campus
SEMS	Master of Information and Communication Technology	On Campus
SEMS	Master of Information Technology	On Campus
SEMS	Master of Internet of Things	On Campus
SNM	Bachelor of Nursing (Honours)	On Campus
SoMS	Bachelor of Biomedical Science	On Campus
SoMS	Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Medical)	On Campus
SoMS	Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours)	On Campus
SPPH	Bachelor of Psychological Science	On Campus (StudyFlex)
SPPH	Bachelor of Psychological Science with Honours	On Campus (StudyFlex)
SPPH	Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)	On Campus (StudyFlex)
SPPH	Master of Professional Psychology	Mixed Mode

SHE online 2021

School	Course Title	Mode of Delivery 2021
LRHS	Graduate Certificate in Mental Health	Online
LRHS	Master of Mental Health	Online
LRHS	Master of Mental Health Nursing	Online
SAH	Bachelor of Food and Nutrition	Online
SAH	Master of Disability Practice	Online
SEMS	Bachelor of Applied Cloud Technology	Online
SEMS	Bachelor of Applied Information Technology	Online
SNM	Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner)	Online
SNM	Master of Nursing Science	Online
SPPH	Bachelor of Psychological Science	Online (StudyFlex)
SPPH	Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)	Online (StudyFlex)
SPPH	Graduate Certificate in Occupational Health, Safety and Ergonomics	Online
SPPH	Master of Business Administration and Master of Health Administration	Online (StudyFlex)
SPPH	Master of Ergonomics, Safety and Health	Online
SPPH	Master of Health Administration	Online (StudyFlex)
SPPH	Master of Public Health	Online (StudyFlex)
SPPH	Master of Public Health and Master of Health Administration	Online (StudyFlex)