



**LA TROBE**  
UNIVERSITY

# FIXING THE GAP IN PARTICIPATION AND ATTAINMENT IN REGIONAL VICTORIA

## Delivering skills to **support regional employment growth**

We have 6871 students across our four regional campuses in Albury-Wodonga, Bendigo, Mildura and Shepparton. As one of the leading providers of university education in regional Victoria we are training professionals to live and work in rural and remote areas. These four campuses have produced over 36 000 graduates with La Trobe degrees.

Higher education and skills are critical to a region's ability to adapt to transitioning economies. Not only are well-educated professionals vital to providing services for our regional cities, but higher incomes, greater investment and generation of business opportunities have significant flow-on benefits to other sectors within the community.

It's also important that every regional town and city is able to retain its talented young people and reverse the trend of many of the best and brightest leaving for metropolitan educational and employment opportunities.

Our regional centres of Albury-Wodonga, Bendigo, Mildura and Shepparton are already benefitting from La Trobe's investment in education and infrastructure, and we have ambitious plans to enhance our contribution to the prosperity of the communities we serve.



**DELIVERING SKILLS  
AND TRAINING**  
TO REGIONAL VICTORIA



**6 500+ REGIONAL  
STUDENTS AND  
36 000+ TOTAL  
GRADUATES**



**STRONG REGIONAL  
FOOTPRINT**  
ALBURY-WODONGA,  
BENDIGO, MILDURA,  
SHEPPARTON



**EVERY GRADUATE ADDS  
\$100 000 IN GRP  
EVERY YEAR**



## Albury-Wodonga

Our Albury-Wodonga campus has almost 800 students across nursing, social work, human services, psychology, teaching, business, science, arts, community services and other areas.

The campus has research expertise in areas such as freshwater ecology, resource management and ageing in rural communities.

It is home to **The Centre for Freshwater Ecosystems** that focuses its research on biodiversity, ecosystem function and resilience and **The John Richards Centre for Rural Ageing Research** that focuses on ageing, an issue crucial to rural and regional Victoria.

## Bendigo

Our Bendigo campus is home to 4 500 students and Australia's largest rural health school with allied health, nursing, midwifery, dentistry, social work and public health courses. In 2019 we're introducing our ground-breaking Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Medical) degree. This forms part of a new rural medical pathway program for regional and rural students, designed in partnership with the University of Melbourne to address chronic rural doctor shortages.

We have been recognised as a University Department of Rural Health (UDRH) for our regional and rural health delivery, that includes 330 partnerships and over 3 000 student clinical placements per year.

## Opportunities for Albury-Wodonga

### Discovery Way

We are working to create an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable campus. As part of our development plans, we will be adding new staff and laboratory facilities to support delivery of our innovative Rural Medical Pathway program as part of the new Murray Darling Medical Schools Network.

Step one of this masterplan will require construction of a safe pedestrian zone between La Trobe University, Wodonga TAFE and community assets and facilities, creating a pathway to learning. Called 'Discovery Way' a new heart of the campus will be created that opens the university to the community with a new road, pathways, lighting, security and Wi-Fi.

### LIFE Hub

LifeHub is proposed as a unique facility focused on the needs of an ageing population by connecting multiple institutions and community groups to provide inter-generational participation, research and education.

## Opportunities for Bendigo

### Digital Transformation

In partnership with the City of Greater Bendigo and local industry groups, we aim to establish the Bendigo Centre for Digital Transformation, an innovative approach to building on local capacity and creativity to meet the challenges and opportunities of the emerging knowledge economy.

Modelled on successful innovation delivered by the Fraunhofer Institute in Germany, we are working to establish a regional innovation ecosystem that supports the creation of high value jobs through translation and commercialisation of industry-led research and digital transformation.

### Rural Road Trauma Research Hub

We have a vision to create a world-class, inter-disciplinary rural road trauma research hub to address the specific challenges in preventing accidents on regional roads (more than half of all deaths on Victorian roads occur in regional Victoria). The Rural Road Trauma Research Hub will link to industry and government in Bendigo and surrounding areas, including Bendigo Health, Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, local primary and secondary schools, VicRoads, Bendigo Law Courts and the TAC.



## Mildura

We seek to position Mildura as a leading study destination, offering a unique regional experience to city and international students.

Through our partnership with SuniTAFE, local schools and the Mildura Rural City Council, we will work to deliver a highly targeted 'Study Mildura' campaign.

### Opportunities for Mildura

#### 'Study Mildura' campaign

Based on the successful Victorian Government 'Study Melbourne' campaign, we aim to encourage domestic and international students to see the value in learning in vibrant regional centres; with unique access to, and engagement with crucial industries such as horticulture and value-add agriculture.

#### Nursing Simulation Laboratory

We propose to build a state-of-the-art nursing simulation laboratory that helps support demand for nursing places and addresses serious workforce shortages in regional Victoria. The lab, to be located in the SuniTAFE building, will support training and expansion of a skilled regional workforce.

## Shepparton

We have almost 800 students at our Shepparton campus, including about 140 graduates each year – 80 per cent of whom stay in regional Victoria to work. The campus plays a vital economic, educational, social and cultural role in the community and region.

### Opportunities for Shepparton

#### Campus redevelopment and extension

Our thriving campus at Shepparton has reached capacity 10 years ahead of schedule. To continue to attract and retain students, and importantly address health sector workforce shortfalls in the region, our campus must grow. With strong support from the local community planning is well-advanced to create additional teaching space, parking and two further floors to accommodate more students, along with business, R&D and education partners.

The total project is \$21.4M, with \$5.3M already committed by La Trobe University, a further \$300 000 from the Greater Shepparton City Council, and a Commonwealth bid lodged for \$10.7M from the Regional Growth Fund.

## How can Government help La Trobe in Regional Victoria?

La Trobe and Government can work together for greater regional growth by supporting:

- Greater collaboration between La Trobe University and TAFE to enable the development of innovative, integrated pathways to create opportunity and retain the best and brightest
- Regional innovation to address social and economic challenges
- Investment in essential infrastructure to meet the growing need for student participation and attainment in regional Victoria

**Disclaimer:** Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate and current at the date of printing. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the La Trobe University website. Published by La Trobe University, December 2018. La Trobe University is a registered provider under the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS). CRICOS Provider 00115M.

## Contact Us

If you would like to know more about our regional plans or are interested in talking to us about how you can become involved, please reach out to us at.

**W** [future-city.latrobe](http://future-city.latrobe)

**E** [future.city@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:future.city@latrobe.edu.au)

**T** 03 9479 2017

(Mon-Fri: 8:00am to 5:00pm)