

Social Inclusion Plan 2014-2015

The Social Inclusion Committee has reviewed the progress of FedUni's Social Inclusion Plan 2014-2015 (as at April 2014).

The Plan aims to assist FedUni to further fulfil its commitment to equity and social justice and provides a coordinated framework for on-going improvement, with respect to equity, diversity and social inclusion in all aspects of University operations.

Below are some of the highlights and achievements from the April 2014 progress report -

- The Regional Schools Outreach Program successfully delivered the Year 10/11 program in 49 schools in 2013 and Year 5/6 and 8/9 programs were delivered in 8 partnership schools. A new Year 12 program was piloted in 20 schools.
- The work of SEA's Higher Education Regional Aspiration Program (HERAP) with Indigenous students was recognised by nomination for a VAEAI Wurreker Award.
- Gippsland's School of Applied Sciences and Engineering is taking the lead in the Science stream of the Victoria-wide consortium project 'LEAP' – which aims to demystify the links between school, university and professions.
- 14 projects were awarded Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP) Participation funding in 2014.
- The AEC secured funding to roll out the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME) program in Gippsland in 2014. AIME have a full-time staff member working on the FedUni/AIME program across Ballarat and Gippsland.
- Federation College developed new programs including Kiskstart for disengaged youth.
- BA@Phoenix commenced in 2013 and continues in 2014. Over 30 students have engaged with the program to date.
- A 4-week paid work experience program was implemented through the Reconciliation Action Plan 2012-2014 to increase employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- An increased number of equity scholarships were made available for students in 2013 and 2014.
- The book bursary scheme has continued in 2014, assisting students to purchase text books during Oweek.
- 89 students successfully completed the Student Leadership Program in 2013. The program funded 22 low SES students to attend leadership conferences across Australia.
- 83 Academic, TAFE and Professional Staff participated in the Women in Leadership program in 2013.
- The Rainbow Connection student club was established and supported through Student Connect and a GLBTI Safety and Support Showcase was held.

The updated Social Inclusion Plan can be viewed on the <u>Equity and Equal Opportunity website</u>. Additional actions and performance indicators are welcome at any time during the life of the Plan.

Darren Holland
Chair – Social Inclusion Committee
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