We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Elders past and present of all the lands on which the Australian National University operates.

ANU Joint Colleges of Science (JCS) Reconciliation Action Plan 2017 - 2021

The University’s vision for reconciliation is to be a place of learning that respects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and diversity: a place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people come together to engage with their chosen discipline, contextualised by an understanding of our shared history. ANU will make an important contribution to reconciliation by furthering scholarly learning, research and public knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues.

ANU will be a supportive learning environment where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples can realise their potential and achieve their aspirations. It will make a significant contribution to improving higher education and employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This University community will have strong and mutually beneficial partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. These relationships will provide for the sharing of knowledge and ideas and the opportunity to listen and learn from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples about the past, their current circumstances and their vision for the future; and where their cultures are both respected and celebrated.

In advancing these University goals, the ANU Joint Colleges of Science (JCS) will provide a supportive learning environment where Indigenous Australians can realise their potential and achieve their aspirations. The Colleges will make a significant contribution to improving higher education and employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. They will have strong and mutually beneficial partnerships with local, national and international Indigenous communities, with a particularly strong focus on making a world-leading contribution in research and teaching in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Natural Resource Management. These relationships will provide for the sharing of knowledge and ideas and the opportunity to listen and learn from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians about the past, their current circumstances and their vision for the future.
### Relationships

One of the defining roles of the University is to contribute to the advancement of Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Building broader and deeper relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians will enable the Colleges to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander enrolments and graduates; undertake research in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and provide an environment for the discussion of issues which advance the status, recognition and lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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| 1) | Encourage engagement between ANU staff and Indigenous communities / organisations with the aim of creating opportunities for two-way learning. | a) Create and promote within the Joint Colleges a fund that allows ANU staff to travel and engage with Indigenous communities or organisations for research or educational purposes.  
  b) Publicly recognise all assistance provided by local Indigenous communities / organisations in the preparation for and running of events | a) Budget for 2017 – 2018 approved.  
  Partnerships with Indigenous Organisations and Communities Fund promotion and grant awards commenced in July 2017.  
  b) Ongoing (utilise Reconciliation web page) | a) Joint Colleges Executive Committee (JCEC)  
  b) JCS Reconciliation Action Plan Committee (JCS RAP Committee) |
| 2) | Celebrate and participate in National Reconciliation Week (NRW) by providing opportunities to build and maintain relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians. | Organise at least one internal event for NRW each year, showcasing Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander traditional STEMM knowledge. | 2018 NRW (between 27 May – 3 June) | JCS RAP Committee |
| 3) | Raise internal and external awareness of our RAP to promote reconciliation across our business and sector | Develop a Reconciliation section on the science.anu.edu.au website. | November 2017 launch | JCS RAP Committee |
Respect

The traditional knowledges, cultural expression and lived experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians are worthy of respect and should be acknowledged and celebrated by all in our community. The perspectives which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are able to bring to intellectual inquiry enable them to make valuable and unique contributions to the University’s research and educational programs and the generation of new knowledge. Respecting these knowledges, cultures and experiences is therefore fundamental to the business of the Joint Colleges and its goals in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, research and employment.

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| 4) | Engage employees in continuous cultural learning opportunities to increase understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, languages, histories and achievements | a) All JCS Administration staff to undertake Indigenous Cultural Awareness training  
   b) Encourage all Schools and Centres to provide Indigenous Cultural Training for all staff once a year  
   c) Encourage staff to include an Acknowledgement of Country at the commencement of all meetings at the commencement of the year / commencement of new meeting groups  
   d) Include an Acknowledgement of Country at all major College events.  
   e) Encourage the creation and installation of plaques, acknowledging the traditional owners of the land, for all buildings occupied by Schools/groups within the Joint Colleges of Science.  
   f) Purchase and install local Aboriginal community artwork in all JCS Administration team work areas.  
   g) Make all Joint Colleges staff and students aware of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Trail on the Acton campus. | a) 1st round complete by mid-2018  
   b) 2018  
   c) December 2017  
   d) December 2017  
   e) March 2018  
   f) March 2018  
   g) November 2017 (via Deans’ Bulletin / Reconciliation page) | a) JCS General Manager (CGM)  
   b) College Deans  
   c) College Deans  
   d) JCEC  
   e) JCS RAP Committee  
   f) Indigenous professional trainees in JCS Administration (supported by CGM)  
   g) JCEC |
Opportunities

The Colleges aspire to enrol Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and employ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff in proportion with the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians in the overall population (i.e. around 3%). This is a key element of our responsibility to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australia.

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| 5) | Provide a pathway approach to employment for both professional and academic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians | a) Establish an Indigenous Professional Staff Traineeship Program to fully fund three Traineeship positions in JCS Administration  
   b) Develop initial steps in an “Indigenous Researcher Pathway Program”:  
      i) Honours/Masters Scholarship Fund for Indigenous Students  
      ii) HDR Support Fund for Indigenous Students  
   | a) In progress (two trainees commenced in JCS Administration in May and June)  
   b) Commenced: funds approved May/June and guidelines created and shared in Oct 2017 | a) JCS RAP Committee  
   b) CGM & Deputy Dean Education |
| 6) | Foster interest in STEMM disciplines in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 10 & 11 students across the nation | a) Continue to fund the National Indigenous Science and Engineering Summer School.  
   b) Continue to actively support its organisation and running, including maintaining relationships with the previous years’ students.  
   c) Assist the University-level plan of developing a cross-discipline winter school targeting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from the ACT region | Budget for 2017 – 2019 programs approved. Organisation of the 2017 program underway (Oct 2017) | a) JCEC  
   b) Science Teaching & Learning Centre (STLC) in cooperation with the Tjabal Centre and CECS  
   c) STLC in cooperation with the Tjabal Centre and other Colleges |
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<td>7)</td>
<td>Reporting on deliverables</td>
<td>Deliver an Annual report on the JCS RAP to JCEC</td>
<td>Annually in November</td>
<td>JCS RAP Committee</td>
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<td>8)</td>
<td>Tracking progress</td>
<td>Progress during the year to be tracked via JCS RAP Committee meetings</td>
<td>Three times / year</td>
<td>JCS RAP Committee</td>
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| 9) | Review, refresh and update the JCS RAP     | a) At the final JCS RAP Committee meeting annually, identify any goals that need refreshing  
b) Renew/update the Plan for another 5 years in 2021 based on the updated University-level RAP | a) October meeting annually  
b) 2021, once the University-level plan has been updated | JCS RAP Committee               |