A Reflection on Educational Equity and Outreach

1989: Introduction of the Higher Education Loan Program

1990: Introduction of the Australian Equity Framework

Identified **six key equity groups** under-represented in Higher Education:

1. people from a low socio-economic background,
2. people with a disability,
3. people from rural or isolated areas,
4. people from a non-English-speaking background,
5. Indigenous people, and
6. women, particularly in non-traditional areas of study and postgraduate degrees.
Demand Driven System (DDS)

2008: Bradley Review of Higher Education

Recommended national targets by 2020 of:

- at least 40% of 25-34 year olds having attained a qualification at bachelor level or above;

-20% of higher education enrolments at undergraduate level are people from low socio-economic status backgrounds.
National participation of key equity groups

Domestic Undergraduate Enrolments, Higher Education, 2011-2013

- Low SES
- Students with Disability
- Indigenous
- Women in Non-Traditional Areas
- Regional
- Remote
- NESB

2011
2012
2013
Western Sydney University

- **Domestic Students**: 89.4% and 10.6% international students
- **Female Students**: 54.9% and 45.1% male students
- **Undergraduate Students**: 80.6% with 16% postgraduate students and 3.4% studying other type of courses
- **Low SES**: 24.5% out of the total Western domestic students (ASES2011)
- **Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander**: 1.4% out of the total Western domestic students
- **First in Family**: 64.3% out of the Western commencing domestic students, percentage of students whose parents do not have a tertiary qualification
## WSU Demographics

### Low SES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016 (prelim)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sector Total</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Western Sydney (incl The College)</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Sydney - The College</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
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### Non-English Speaking Background

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<th>2016 (prelim)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sector Total</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Western Sydney (incl The College)</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Sydney - The College</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
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### Indigenous

<table>
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<th>2016 (prelim)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sector Total</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New South Wales Total</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Western Sydney (incl The College)</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Educational Outreach Engagement

All focused on increasing participation in higher education through:

- Increased engagement
- Raising aspirations
- Developing skills and knowledge
- Supporting values
- Admissions that recognise capacity and achievement
Office of Widening Participation.

Addresses underrepresentation of key equity groups.

Through:

• On and off campus activities to raise aspirations and contribute towards achievement.

• Information, support activities and resources for teachers, lecturers, career and guidance staff, training providers, community workers and parents/carers.

But it’s everybody’s business!!
Widening participation initiatives

- Online homework centre (YourTutor) & Pango
- Fast Forward program
- HSC Preparation Courses
- Career Mapping Sessions
- In-school mentoring sessions and workshops
- Parent information sessions
- Student Ambassadors in high schools
- Western Sydney U Day
- Steps
- Lodestar program
- First foot forward
- Pasifika Achievement To Higher Education (PATHE)
- Western Sydney Advantage Entry Programs
- Western Sydney Open Fora
- NDCO Program

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alternative Entry Program
- Rural Indigenous Student visits to campus
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Future Students Information Evenings
Fast Forward outcomes

### Schools in Fast Forward

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2013</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100</td>
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</table>

### Students in Fast Forward

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
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<td>2013</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>8000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>9000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Higher Education Institution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total other institutes</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Sydney University</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL OFFERS MADE</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Alternative Pathways

- Academy Global Leaders
- Academy Access (Most Outstanding Year 11)
- Educational Access Scheme
- Schools Recommendation Scheme
- Exceptional Merit Pathways
- Elite Athletes and Performers
- WSU College pathways
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alternate Entry
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Initiatives

Targeted programs:

• Schools & community engagement – a wide range of programs aimed at primary school, secondary school, VET sector, and community

• 20 major programs >3,700 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander high school participants >237 schools

• Alternative entry programs
  • Badanami Tertiary Entry Program (BTEP)
  • Designated places in the Medical program
  • Pathway options

Securing Success Measure:

Number of students from Greater Western Sydney enrolling at Western Sydney
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pathways projects 2013 – 2016 (HEPP funded)

- Badanami Tertiary Entry Program (BTEP)
- Books in Schools
- Fields of Dreams
- Community Sites
- From First Aid to Medicine
- Graham Polly Farmer Foundation Homework Centre
- Teachers in Training
- Transition to Employment
- Walking Tall Together
The Academy

- Membership is open to all current undergraduate students who meet the required academic standards:
  - Entry to an advanced degree program, or
  - Achieving a GPA of 5

Co-curricular activities including leadership (projects), service e.g. Books in Homes program
The Academy Access Program

- 320 secondary schools across Greater Western Sydney
- $500 study support grant → Academic Excellence Scholarship of up to $20,000
- Guaranteed offer to a Western degree program
- Access to special Academy programming
- Western library access
- Discipline specific on campus ‘VIP Experience Days’
- VIP information session and lunch at Open Day