

Annual Report 2015

Edith Cowan University



Edith Cowan University

Edith Cowan University acknowledges and respects its continuing association with the Nyoongar people, the traditional custodians of the land upon which its campuses stand.

This report is available in Word and PDF formats from the ECU website: www.ecu.edu.au/about-ecu/reports-and-plans/annual-reports. To minimise download times and reduce printing, the report is available in sections, as well as a single document.

ECU encourages you to use recycled paper and to print in double-sided formats.

The Annual Report references other documents available on the ECU website. If you experience any difficulty accessing any of these documents, or you require the Annual Report in an alternative format, then please contact enquiries@ecu.edu.au.

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Section 1: Overview

Statement of Compliance

Hon Peter Collier MLC
Minister for Education; Aboriginal Affairs; Electoral Affairs

10th Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005

16 March 2016

Dear Minister

In accordance with section 61 of the *Financial Management Act 2006 (WA)*, we hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of Edith Cowan University for the year ending 31 December 2015.

The Annual Report was prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006 (WA)* and is made in accordance with a resolution of the University's Council.

Yours sincerely



The Hon Dr Hendy Cowan AO
Chancellor

On behalf of the University Council

Edith Cowan University
270 Joondalup Drive
JOONDALUP WA 6027

Chancellor's Foreword

In 2015, Council was delighted to welcome Professor Stephen Chapman CBE as Edith Cowan University's fifth Vice-Chancellor. Professor Chapman, formerly the Vice-Chancellor of Heriot Watt University (Scotland), has an outstanding record of leadership and achievement. When coupled with his strong personal and professional alignment with ECU's values, and his commitment to higher education, these attributes promise to make the next few years an exciting time for ECU. Importantly, Professor Chapman's appointment has positioned the University extremely well to build on the leadership and contributions of our previous Vice-Chancellor, Professor Cox.



During the year, Council noted or approved a number of key developments, including:

- the acquisition of a parcel of land adjacent to the Joondalup Campus which will provide outstanding facilities for teaching and research activities, in addition to making provision for future growth of the University;
- the appointment of two new Deputy Vice-Chancellors: the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Partnerships);
- the award by the Good Universities Guide for the 7th year running of 5 stars for teaching quality;
- achieving improved ranking in a number of international ranking systems including the Times Higher Education World's Top 100 Universities under 50 years old, and the QS World University Rankings, placing ECU in the top five per cent of universities worldwide;
- completion of the award-winning Ngoolark Building named in recognition and celebration of Joondalup's Aboriginal heritage. Ngoolark won the Best Commercial Construction category at the Australian Institute of Building Awards;
- an exciting new partnership agreement with the West Coast Eagles Football Club which will provide outstanding opportunities for students and researchers;
- participation in the Athena SWAN pilot program to promote gender equity in academia; and
- the re-design of our academic organisation to give academic leaders greater involvement in the University's direction setting and future development.

Notably, the University achieved its 2015 financial targets, despite what had promised to be a challenging year as the result of the reduced domestic student cohort. The budget for 2016 was approved at the December 2015 meeting of Council, and will provide a sound financial basis to support the strategic goals of the University for 2016.

Members of Council and of committees of Council continue to work with senior management to support the University in achieving its objectives. I am grateful for the work of my fellow Council members in providing a cohesive and effective governing body that interacts well with the senior management of the University.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hendy Cowan'.

The Hon Dr Hendy Cowan AO
Chancellor, March 2016

Vice-Chancellor's Executive Summary

I am enormously proud to introduce this report on the achievements of a very successful year for ECU; my first as Vice-Chancellor of this university.

A significant highlight was the recognition of ECU in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, where we were named in the top 100 universities under the age of 50, placing us in the top five per cent of universities worldwide. These international university rankings are arguably the most prestigious – and are certainly the most widely referenced – so are important for promoting our international profile and for attracting and retaining students and staff.



Feedback from our students and graduates is especially valuable and for the seventh consecutive year, we have received the maximum five star rating for teaching quality in the Good Universities Guide. This is based on what our own graduates said about us and confirms that the learning experience at ECU remains one of the best in Australia.

The quality of our research, as assessed by the latest Excellence in Research for Australia results, has increased dramatically in the last three years, with the number of fields of research rated 'above' or 'well above' world standard leaping from one to seven. Our research activity and research impact will be further strengthened by the global recruitment campaign initiated in 2015. This aims to bring at least twenty Professorial Research Fellows to ECU, and will see much stronger international and national research collaborations.

In order to remain globally competitive, we recognise that a specific focus is required on ECU's international activities. An ECU International Summit led by Professor Simon Ridings, our recently appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International), was held in December and international plans for each ECU school are in development, consistent with our University-wide vision for internationalisation of our curriculum and research.

ECU boasts excellent teaching, research and support facilities and 2015 saw the completion and commissioning of the award-winning \$72 million Ngoolark Building on the Joondalup Campus. The official opening was a wonderful experience permeated with Nyoongar ceremony and culture and for a number of us, provided an opportunity to participate in our first traditional Emu Dance!

An extensive re-design of our academic organisation was successfully completed in 2015. Appointments were made to all eight new school Dean positions and recruitment to other key roles progressed well, allowing the new structure to be in place from 1 January 2016, as planned.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the warm welcome and energetic support I have received from the University community as the new Vice-Chancellor. I thank everyone who has contributed to ECU's many successes in 2015. These include our hard working Chancellor, the Hon Dr Hendy Cowan AO, Council and committee members, current students, alumni and staff, visiting scholars and collaborators. Through our combined efforts, ECU's excellent reputation and reach continues to grow locally, nationally and internationally.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SAC', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Professor Stephen Chapman CBE
Vice-Chancellor, March 2016

About ECU

Edith Cowan University is a large, multi-campus institution serving communities in Western Australia and internationally. The University has two metropolitan campuses at Mount Lawley and Joondalup, and also serves Western Australia's South West Region from a campus at Bunbury, 200 km south of Perth.

Granted university status in 1991, ECU offers innovative and practical courses across a wide range of disciplines and has a vibrant research culture with high quality researchers and research partners.

ECU has more than 27,000 students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Approximately 4,300 of these are international students originating from over 100 countries. Over 300 courses are offered, across a broad range of disciplines and levels.

Strategic Direction

ECU's strategic direction ([*Engaging Minds, Engaging Communities: Towards 2020*](#)) includes a 'Purpose', 'Vision', 'Values', and five 'Strategic Priorities' as follows:

Purpose

To further develop valued citizens for the benefit of Western Australia and beyond, through teaching and research inspired by engagement and partnerships.

Vision

For our students, staff and graduates to be highly regarded internationally as ethical and engaged contributors to more inclusive, sustainable and prosperous communities.

Values

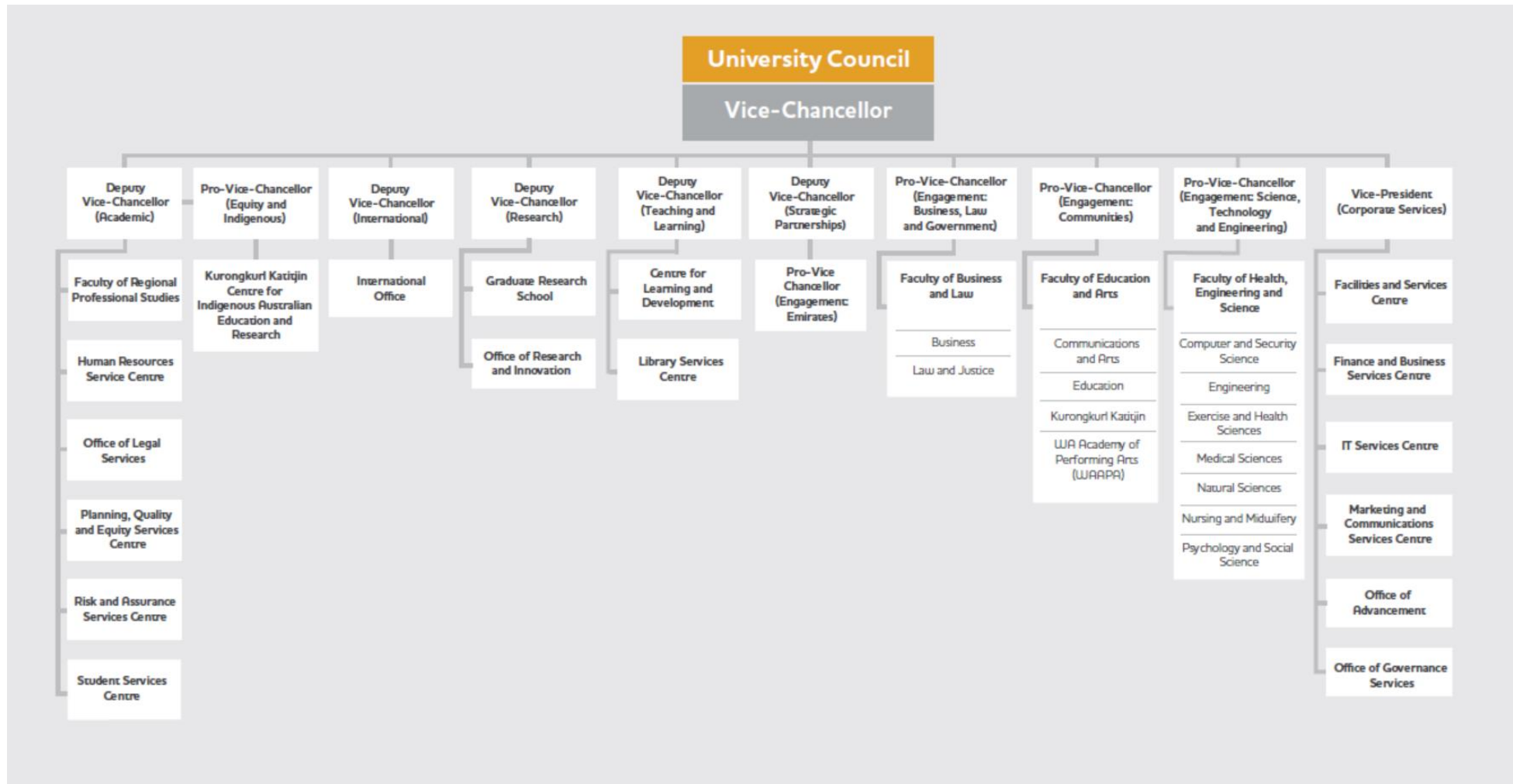
- Integrity – behaving ethically and pursuing rigorous intellectual positions
- Respect – valuing individual differences and diversity
- Rational Inquiry – motivated by evidence and reasoning
- Personal Excellence – striving to realise potential

Strategic Priorities

- To create positive outcomes in our communities through mutually beneficial engagement.
- To deliver accessible world-class education and an enriching student experience.
- To enhance the personal and professional outcomes of graduates.
- To strengthen research capability, capacity, translation and impact.
- To enhance organisational resilience, sustainability and reputation

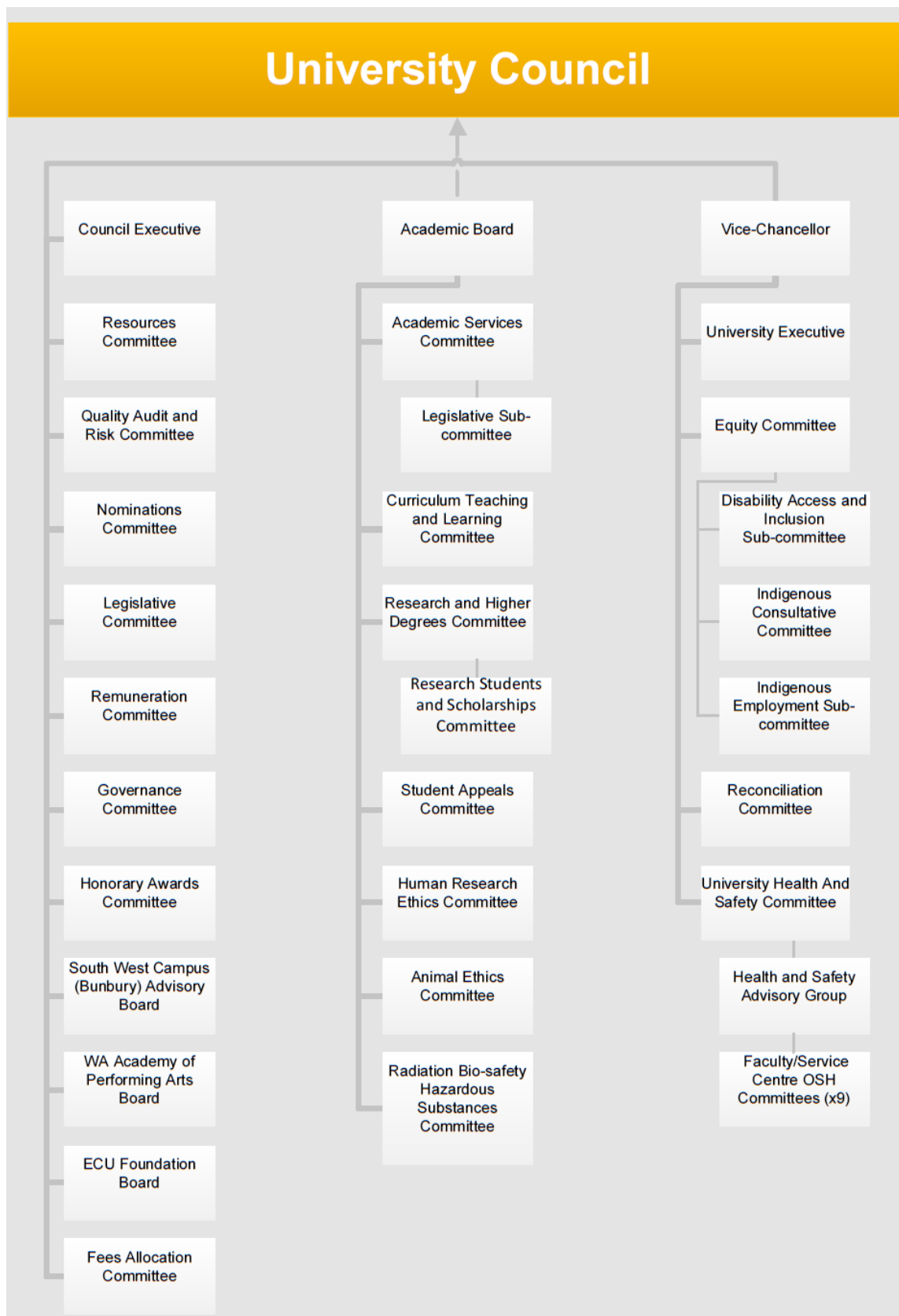
Organisational Structure

Figure 1: ECU Organisational Structure as at 31 December 2015



Committee Structure

Figure 2: ECU Committees as at 31 December 2015



Governance Structure

Table 1: Council Membership 2015

Member	Start Date	End Date	Meetings Attended*
Chancellor (ECU Act, section 12(1))			
Hon Dr Hendy Cowan AO	1 Jan 2005	31 Dec 2016	6
Members appointed by the Governor (ECU Act, section 9(1)(a))			
Mr Eddie Bartnik	12 Jun 2012	11 Jun 2018	6
Mr Simon Butterworth	27 Apr 2014	26 Apr 2017	5
Mr John Cahill	9 Aug 2011	8 Aug 2017	5
Mr Kempton Cowan	19 Dec 2006	18 Dec 2015	3(5)
Dr Pamela Garnett	20 Sept 2009	19 Sep 2018	5
Ms Denise Goldsworthy	30 Apr 2013	29 Apr 2016	4(5)
Member nominated by Minister charged with administration of the <i>School Education Act 1999 (WA)</i> (ECU Act, section 9(1)(aa))			
Ms Dorothy Collins	8 Jun 2015	7 Jun 2018	3(4)
Chief Executive Officer – ex-officio (ECU Act, section 9(1)(b))			
Professor Stephen Chapman	1 April 2015	Ex-officio	5(5)
Professor Arshad Omari	Ex-officio	31 Mar 2015	1(1)
Academic Staff – elected (ECU Act, section 9(1)(c))			
Associate Professor Mark McMahon	1 Oct 2015	30 Sep 2018	1(2)
Associate Professor Ute Mueller	16 May 2011	30 Sep 2018	6
Professor Mark Stoney	1 Oct 2012	30 Sep 2015	4(4)
Salaried Staff, Other than Academic Staff – elected (ECU Act, section 9(1)(d))			
Ms Valentina Bailey	1 Apr 2009	30 Sep 2015	3(4)
Ms Melanie Mola	1 Oct 2015	30 Sep 2018	2(2)
Enrolled Students – elected (ECU Act, section 9(1)(e))			
Ms Jacynth Cox	10 Oct 2014	10 Aug 2015	3(3)

Member	Start Date	End Date	Meetings Attended*
Mr Timothy Newhouse	10 Oct 2014	9 Oct 2015	2(4)
Ms Azlan Martin	10 Oct 2015	9 Oct 2016	2(2)
Mr Lewis Price	10 Oct 2015	9 Oct 2016	2(2)
Alumni – elected (ECU Act, section 9(1)(f))			
Mr Brad McManus	22 Dec 2011	21 Dec 2017	6
Ms Julien Proud	1 Apr 2009	19 Sep 2016	5
Members co-opted by Council (ECU Act, section 9(1)(i))			
Ms Janet Curran	20 Sept 2009	19 Sep 2018	5
Ms Kelly Hick	18 Mar 2012	17 Mar 2018	5
Mr Simon Holthouse	12 Sep 2007	11 Sep 2016	5
Ms Denise McComish (Pro-Chancellor since 25 Aug 2011)	22 Mar 2007	21 Mar 2016	3(5)
Dr Saliba Sassine	25 Aug 2011	16 Nov 2015	1(5)

* Council held six regular meetings during the year. The bracketed figures indicate the potential number of attendances for members whose term of office did not cover the full year, or who had leave of absence during the year.

Additional Council membership information can be viewed at [Members of Council](#).

Work of the Governing Council

ECU's enabling Act provides that the Council is the governing authority of the University. The fundamental responsibilities of the Council are to determine the strategic direction and governance framework of the University. The Council is chaired by the Chancellor, the Hon Dr Hendy Cowan AO, and consists of the Vice-Chancellor (ex-officio) and members drawn from the community and the University's alumni, students and staff. Council members fulfil an important duty for the University and the community and do so on an honorary basis.

The major activities of Council fall into five categories:

- determining the strategic direction of the University;
- management/oversight of the Vice-Chancellor;
- self-governance of the Council and its various sub-committees;
- providing governance of the University; and
- ensuring compliance with the ECU Act and all other relevant legislation and statutes.

In addition to the six regular meetings of Council held in 2015, members:

- participated in Graduations, including the Bunbury Graduation Street Parade and Graduation Ceremony;
- undertook a cultural immersion activity - an initiative from the University's Reconciliation Action Plan, 2015-2018; and
- made a site visit to newly acquired facilities adjacent to the Joondalup Campus.

Council is well supported by a number of committees. The committees comprise predominantly Council Members assisted in many cases by co-opted members of the external community. Each year Council reviews the Terms of Reference and composition of each of its committees. The committees are an essential part of the University's governance framework.

Strategic Direction of the University

Major strategic issues considered by Council in 2015 included:

- the incoming Vice-Chancellor's vision for the University;
- ECU Performance reports in the areas of Teaching and Learning and Research;
- faculty level performance reports;
- regular briefings on Occupational Safety and Health;
- an annual report against the Reconciliation Action Plan, 2012-2015;
- approval of a new Reconciliation Action Plan, 2015-2018;
- the 2015 Audit Operational Plan;

- updates on the Federal Government’s proposed changes for higher education;
- a report on the work of the ECU Student Guild;
- a report against the ECU Key Actions for 2015;
- a review of the Corporate Governance Statement;
- amendments to the *Edith Cowan University Act 1984* (WA);
- determining the Student Services and Amenities Fee allocations for 2015 and setting the Student Services and Amenities Fee for 2016;
- amendments to the ECU Student Guild Constitution; and
- the ECU Key Actions for 2016.

At its December 2015 meeting, Council considered and approved the ECU Budget for 2016.

Vice-Chancellor’s Reports

Professor Stephen Chapman CBE joined ECU as its fifth Vice-Chancellor on 1 April 2015. A key focus of Council was on working with the Vice-Chancellor as he articulated his vision for the University.

Council received a report from the Vice-Chancellor at each Council meeting. This report included strategic advice and matters for information. In addition, the Vice-Chancellor reported to Council on the University’s performance against its Key Performance Indicators and Targets.

As part of its governance responsibilities, Council established its Performance Agreement with the Vice-Chancellor and received a report on his performance against established targets.

Self-governance of the Council

ECU’s [Corporate Governance Statement](#) assists current and commencing members of Council, executive management and senior staff of the University in carrying out their roles. It also helps to inform students and staff of the broader University community about governance processes at the University, and serves a similar purpose for the external community, including stakeholders such as governments.

In addition, ECU’s governing Council has affirmed a commitment to monitor its performance against the Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Universities and the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency Threshold Provider Standards.

Council undertakes a self-evaluation in most years and the Council evaluation policy requires an external evaluation be conducted at least once every five years. The report of the external review undertaken in 2015 rated ECU’s demonstrated governance capabilities as “Strong”, across the majority of critical elements of board effectiveness. The strongest

areas of effectiveness in financial and risk and compliance were the range of skills and experience of Council members, a well-regarded Chair, excellent group dynamics and thorough decision-making processes.

Governance of the University

Key Council activities in 2015 relating to the governance of the University included:

- regular meetings of Council committees and reports from these committees to keep Council informed of activities across ECU's academic and operational areas;
- detailed mid-year and end-of-year reports on the performance of the University against its key performance indicators, provided by the Vice-Chancellor;
- the Vice-Chancellor's reports on progress against the Key Actions for 2015, as previously approved by Council;
- amendments, as required, to University Rules and Council-approved policies; and
- ongoing professional development opportunities, offered to all members of Council.

Membership

Council was delighted to welcome Ms Dorothy Collins as a new member during the year. Ms Collins brings extensive legal and governance experience to ECU and has previously served on the University's Foundation Board and Legislative Committee.

Council recorded its great appreciation for the work of valued out-going members: Dr Saliba Sassine, Mr Kempton Cowan, Ms Valentina Bailey and Professor Mark Stoney, noting the significant contributions they had made to Council and to its committees and boards.

Elections held in the latter part of the year resulted in the re-election of Associate Professor Ute Mueller and the election of Associate Professor Mark McMahon as academic staff members. Ms Melanie Mola was elected as the salaried staff member.

Ms Jacynth Cox and Mr Tim Newhouse concluded their terms as elected student members, and Mr Lewis Price and Ms Azlan Martin were elected to these positions.

Compliance

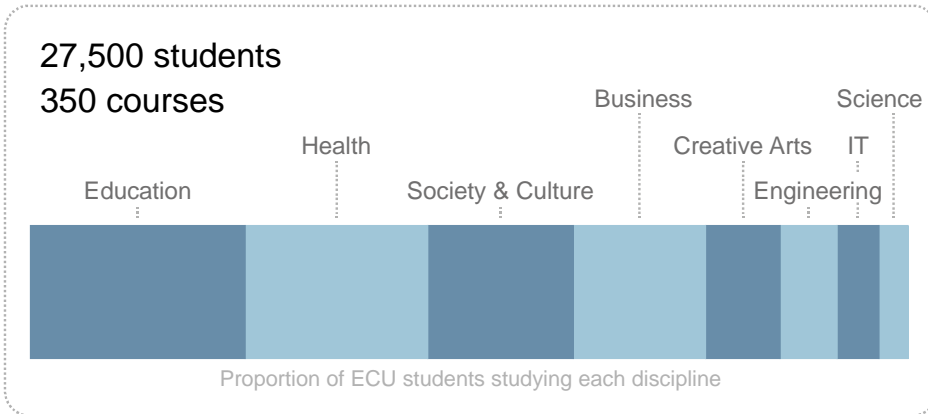
The 2014 Annual Report was approved by Council and submitted to the Western Australian Minister for Education in accordance with the required timelines.

The Council's monitoring of the University, particularly through the Resources Committee and the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee, provided assurance to Council that the University has in place appropriate risk management, financial and quality controls.

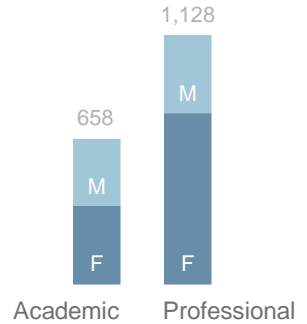
At its August 2015 meeting, Council reviewed TEQSA's Provider Threshold Standards as they pertained to governance and noted that the University complied with the Standards.

Section 2A: Performance – Report on Operations

2015 At a Glance



Staff



5-star teaching quality ★★★★★

2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

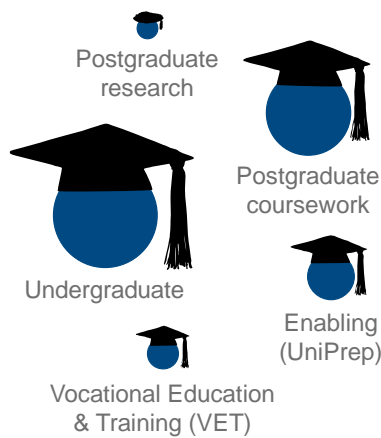
The Good Universities Guide

International outlook

4,370 international students from 101 countries

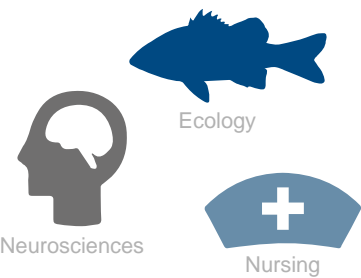


6,200 graduations



Research excellence

Well-above world-class:



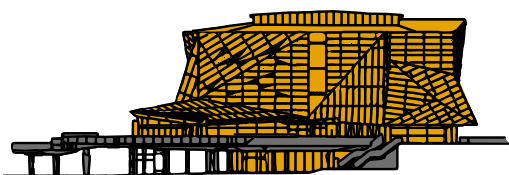
Above world-class:

Clinical Sciences
Environmental Science & Management
Materials Engineering
Oncology & Carcinogenesis

Excellence in Research for Australia 2015

Award-winning architecture

Ngoolark Building
Best Commercial Construction (\$10-\$50m)
Australian Institute of Building Awards



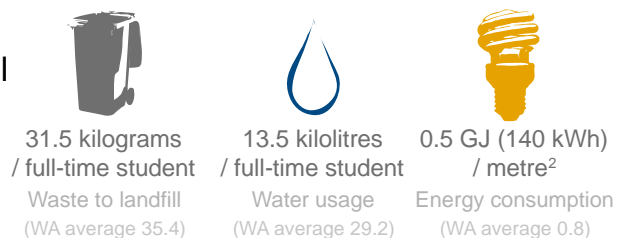
National and WA AIB Professional Excellence in Building Awards 2015

A top university under 50

90th in THE global rankings of the top universities under 50 years old

Times Higher Education 100 Under 50 Rankings 2015

Environmental impact



2015 Highlights

New Vice-Chancellor Welcomed

Professor Stephen Chapman CBE was invested as the University's new Vice-Chancellor and President at a ceremony on the Joondalup Campus on Friday, 1 May 2015. The Governor of Western Australia, Her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AO, and State Minister, the Hon. Albert Jacob MLA, were in attendance, together with other distinguished guests and students and staff of the University.

Top One Hundred Under Fifty

ECU was named as one of the top 100 universities in the world under 50 years of age. The Times Higher Education global ranking is based on an assessment of universities established less than 50 years ago and identifies excellent younger institutions with the greatest potential for the future.

Five Star Rated Teaching

For the seventh consecutive year ECU received the maximum five star rating for its teaching quality from the Good Universities Guide. Significantly, no other public university in Western Australia and very few across Australia have achieved such a consistently high endorsement of its teaching quality.

Top Five Per Cent in International Rankings

ECU's ranking in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings placed ECU in the top 5% of universities world-wide. This prestigious and widely referenced international ranking scheme assesses the performance of universities on a number of indicators covering research, teaching, international outlook and innovation.

Research Excellence

The quality of ECU's research, as assessed by Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA), has increased dramatically in the last three years. The number of fields of research rated 'above' or 'well above' world standard increased from one in 2012, the previous ERA results, to seven in 2015. Nursing, was rated 'well above world standard' in both the 2012 and 2015 ERA results, and ECU's ecology and neurosciences research was also assessed as 'well above world standard' in 2015.

Research Leaders

Professor Anne Aly, counter-terrorism and global security expert and Professor Pere Masqué, Chair of Environmental Radiochemistry were the first two appointments to be made as part of a global recruitment campaign to fill more than 20 Professorial Research Fellow positions at ECU. The recruitment of outstanding research leaders will drive

improvements in ECU’s research collaborations, research outputs and international reputation.

The West Australian-ECU Lecture Series

Launched in partnership with *The West Australian* newspaper in May, “*The West Australian-ECU Lecture Series*” showcased ECU’s research capabilities through monthly public lectures. Formal presentations, interactive question and answer sessions, and networking opportunities provided the platform for ECU’s research professors to share their research with colleagues and the community on subjects including “exercise as medicine”, “over-diagnosis” and “kids and the internet”.

New Phase in Reconciliation Journey

ECU launched its Reconciliation Action Plan, 2015-2018 during National Reconciliation Week. This third ECU Reconciliation Action Plan was approved by Council following consultation with key stakeholders, including staff, students, Elders and community members. The Plan received extremely positive feedback particularly from Reconciliation Australia, which endorsed it at “Stretch level”, the third in their four level national framework and commended the approach and document as an exemplar for the sector.

ECU Health Centre – One Year On

In its first full year of operation, the ECU Health Centre, incorporating the Wanneroo GP Super Clinic, improved access to much-needed community-based, primary health services in the Perth Northern Metropolitan Region. More than 80,000 health consultations took place in 2015, significantly exceeding forecast demand. The state-of-the-art, \$22 million facility integrates health service provision, clinical training and research opportunities for ECU students and academics in a ‘one-stop shop’ for patients, their families and carers.

Award Winning Ngoolark Building

The iconic Ngoolark Building on the Joondalup Campus was named winner in the Best Commercial Construction category at the Australian Institute of Building awards in September. Ngoolark, which was officially opened in May, also won the State award in the same month. The building houses the University’s student and research services under one roof with exterior areas creating a new hub for students, staff and visitors. The name of the building recognises and celebrates the Aboriginal heritage of the Joondalup area.

Jamie Oliver’s Ministry of Food

A three-year partnership between ECU and Jamie Oliver’s Ministry of Food was established. Beginning in March 2016, the innovative program will run in Western Australia for the first time, via a mobile kitchen, delivering a cooking-as-a-life-skill program for students, staff and members of the local community, initially from ECU’s Joondalup

Campus but expanding to other ECU campuses and Aboriginal communities. The partnership will also provide new cross-disciplinary research opportunities and student internships, graduate employment and industry experience for ECU students.

West Coast Eagles Partnership

ECU became the premier West Coast Eagles' coaches' partner in 2015, supporting Adam Simpson and his elite coaching team for the next three years. The agreement formalises a long history of collaboration, benefiting students and researchers in disciplines such as sports science, management, communications and events management.

Inaugural Membership of Australian Athena SWAN Charter

ECU is one of 32 Australian universities, medical research institutes and publicly-funded research agencies who are inaugural members of the Athena SWAN Charter in Australia. The Athena SWAN Charter was established to encourage and recognise commitment to advancing the careers of women in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM) subjects in the higher education and research sectors.

Edith Cowan Memorial Lecture

Her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AO, Western Australia's first female Governor, delivered the seventh annual Edith Cowan Memorial Lecture on 6 March at ECU's Mount Lawley Campus, marking International Women's Day. The speech drew on experiences from Mrs Sanderson's long and successful career in business and government to provide insights for aspiring leaders.

Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Orator

The Right Hon Alistair Darling delivered the Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Oration in October 2015. Mr Darling shared the lessons he learned in 2008, when as the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer, he faced the imminent collapse of the banking system, and led the £500 billion (\$1.07 trillion) government rescue package to avert the crisis and restore public confidence. Mr Darling also spent time with Journalism students from the School of Communications and Arts and students in the School of Business.

Strategic Priority 1: To create positive outcomes in our communities through mutually beneficial engagement

ECU's Strategic Focus on Engagement

Responsibility for overseeing the University's engagement activities is distributed across all portfolios of the Senior Leadership Team.

Engagement with communities is embedded within all core functions of the University, via functional plans for teaching and learning, research and research training, and the operational plans of faculties and service centres.

In 2015 ECU's approach to engagement included:

- activities, projects and events with local schools, and articulation agreements with registered training organisations to raise aspirations for higher education and to build transition pathways from the vocational education and training sector;
- continued involvement in over 100 mutually-beneficial partnerships, including those through the ECU Health Centre, the Bunbury Education Precinct, the Joondalup Learning Precinct and the Smith Family;
- strategies to support fundraising and alumni relationships; and
- outreach activities and projects with community stakeholders and partners.

ECU's Key Engagement Outcomes in 2015

Strategic Partnerships

A new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Partnerships) was established in 2015 to further support the enhancement of ECU's strategic partnerships and to develop new initiatives that build learning and teaching and research capacity across ECU. The creation of this role has already delivered a significant three-year partnership agreement with [Jamie Oliver's Ministry of Food](#).

Customer Value Creation Project

In June 2015, ECU commenced the Customer Value Creation Project to consider the appropriate levels and forms of engagement required to achieve enhanced outcomes and mutually-beneficial opportunities for students, the University and industry. The project is scheduled to deliver a more sophisticated and formal approach to two-way interaction, including a University Customer Value Creation Operating Model.

ECU Health Centre

The state-of-the-art, \$22 million ECU Health Centre, incorporating the Wanneroo GP Super Clinic, integrates health service provision, clinical training and research at one site.

It hosts a comprehensive range of community-based services including a pathology collection service, an After-Hours GP Clinic, pharmacy, BreastScreen WA, and the ECU Psychological Services Centre. Allied health services are also available, including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, exercise physiology, community paramedicine, podiatry and dietetics.

The Centre's clinical training and research activity includes exercise medicine in cancer patients and the mental health of older adults with chronic disease.

In the first twelve months of operation, over 80,000 health consultations took place across all health services at the Centre, significantly exceeding forecasts.

A Community Forum was held in October to foster greater community engagement and generated overwhelmingly positive feedback from stakeholders.

Engagement with Prospective Students

An increased number of student recruitment staff served increased numbers of participants at student recruitment events in 2015, with over 66,500 people attending more than 680 events.

Changes to the format and content of ECU's Open Days, combined with new approaches to advertising, resulted in almost 17,000 people attending across the three campuses (an 18% increase on 2014).

Engagement through Social Media

Growth continued across the social media channels: ECU's Future Students' Facebook page grew to over 76,000 likes by November 2015, a 38% increase on 2014, future student Twitter followers grew to 4435 (a 36% increase), YouTube video views grew to 689,106 (a 22% increase) and LinkedIn Company Page members grew to 7300 members (a 35% increase).

Engagement with Schools

A number of school engagement activities were undertaken in 2015. These included a wide variety of initiatives in partnership with primary and secondary schools, and with young people from disadvantaged communities. The initiatives are intended to support learning and raise aspirations for higher education, for all those with the ability and motivation to study. Some of these activities were supported by funding from the Australian Government's Higher Education Participation and Partnership Program.

Highlights from activities with schools included:

- Western Australian Certificate of Education revision sessions for over 200 Year 12 students **on the South West Campus**, extending the support already provided

through ECU's Joondalup Campus where 1000 students from 80 schools attended the seven sessions held over five days;

- the relaunch of the **New North Education Initiative**; a collaborative partnership between ECU and five high schools in the Perth North Metropolitan Region (Balga, Eastern Hills, Girrawheen, Mirrabooka and Morley). The partnership provides additional opportunities for high school students to access broader curriculum choices with specialist teachers, while remaining attached to their home school campus;
- the delivery of the **Cultural Sky Stories** program; with professional development for school teachers and a ten week program for high school students focused on the sharing of contemporary and traditional Aboriginal knowledge of astronomy;
- ECU's hosting of the Western Australian Department of Education's **Primary Extension and Challenge (PEAC) Induction Program** over three days in December. Approximately 450 students and 8 PEAC teachers took part in hands-on activities such as Robotics, Reflective Writing, Exercise and Sports Science and Medical Science facilitated by ECU staff and students; and
- in conjunction with the Australian Association for Environmental Education, ECU hosted the annual **Earth Day** event on the Joondalup Campus, engaging 350 primary school students from low socio-economic areas in a number of hands-on environmental and science-based activities.

School Students Participate in ECU Anti-Poverty Competition

ECU supported Anti-Poverty Week by hosting a competition to harness the ideas of young minds in tackling poverty and homelessness and asked Year 10 to 12 students "What is one simple thing that would reduce poverty?" Forty entries from across the State were assessed by a judging panel and the winning student, Corey Benson from Denmark Senior High School, received an iPad and chose the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation as his charity of choice to receive a \$500 donation from ECU.

The award, as well as prizes for three highly commended entries, were presented by ECU's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stephen Chapman.

Engaging specifically with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, in 2015 the University:

- partnered with the Edmund Rice Centre in Mirrabooka and funded the provision of IT classes for Aboriginal community members;

- provided a number of culturally-focused activities through Moorditj Koolangka, a Nyoongar after school club in conjunction with Kurongkurl Katitjin, ECU's Centre for Indigenous¹ Education and Research; and
- secured external funding of \$6,000 to facilitate the Commissioner for Children and Young People's consultation with Aboriginal youth in Balga.

National Recognition for Engaged Science

The 'Old Ways New Ways' project was developed by ECU to inspire Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students in WA high schools to study science at a tertiary level and received a best practice award from the Association of Tertiary Education Management (ATEM).

Dr Magdalena Wajrak (School of Natural Sciences), Jason Barrow (Kurongkurl Katitjin) and Caroline Bishop (Engagement Unit) were awarded the prestigious Tribal Award for Excellence in Community Engagement at the 2015 ATEM/Campus Review Best Practice Awards, for this innovative community outreach project.

Visiting Scholar

In November, ECU hosted visiting scholar Tim Harrison, Director of Outreach and Science Communicator in Residence and ChemLabS School Teacher Fellow at Bristol University, UK. Mr Harrison, a renowned science communicator, presented several demonstrations at Butler Senior High School, delivered a science showcase to 360 primary and high school students on the ECU Joondalup Campus and led two professional development workshops for school teachers.

Articulation Agreements with Registered Training Providers

ECU continued the valued partnerships that have been built with State Training Providers and selected private VET providers. ECU is committed to establishing clearly defined and seamless pathways for students transitioning to higher education, through formal recognition of prior study completed at these training providers. International students continued to benefit from established English Language and Diploma pathways. The University has current articulation agreements with: Perth Institute of Business and Technology; Canning College; Central Institute of Technology; Challenger Institute of Technology; C.Y. O'Connor Institute; Durack Institute of Technology; Great Southern Institute of Technology; International Institute of Business and Technology; Kimberley Training Institute; Phoenix Academy; Perth International College of English; International Institute of Business and Technology; Polytechnic West; South West Institute of

¹ Edith Cowan University uses the preferred term Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander in its publications. Indigenous is used consistent with historic or external naming conventions.

Technology and West Coast Institute of Training. ECU also has a number of offshore articulation agreements that are reviewed annually.

Alumni and Fundraising Engagement

The Office of Advancement continued to develop alumni and community partner relationships through a series of 16 events attended by over 3000 alumni. Events in 2015 included careers workshops, speaker events, movie nights, comedy nights, and the flagship outdoor concert 'Music under the Stars'.

Almost 60,000 ECU alumni were in contact with the University in 2015, with an overwhelming number indicating through an alumni survey, their pride at being a graduate of ECU.

In October, over 100 former ECU staff reconnected with the University at an inaugural morning tea event with the Vice-Chancellor. A program of further activities in 2016 is planned.

Fundraising in 2015 included WAAPA's Bravo Donor Circle, launched in August to raise funds for Visiting Artists (\$16,000 to date) and the Staff Giving program which contributed to the award of 10 new Inspiring Minds Equity Scholarships. The 2015 Alumni Annual Appeal gained bequests from over 300 new donors during a six-week period in July and August.

Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) Performances

Over 600 public concerts and performances were held during the year, and a particular highlight of the WAAPA events calendar was the free WAAPA in the Park community event in partnership with the City of Stirling, with performances by the WAAPA Big Band and by students studying Contemporary Music.

WAAPA's connection to ECU's communities is extensive, with WAAPA Facebook followers exceeding 17,000 and The [Friends of the Academy](#) continued its fundraising efforts, providing direct support for WAAPA students through individual grants assistance for the purchase of equipment and musical instruments.

Strategic Priority 2: To deliver accessible world-class education and an enriching student experience

ECU's Strategic Focus on Teaching and Learning

ECU's Teaching and Learning Functional Plan, 2014-2016 articulates ECU's learning and teaching strategies, aligned with ECU's Purpose and Vision. Strategies include further developing internationalisation within the curriculum and developing staff capacity and capability to use technology to provide flexible and enhanced learning opportunities.

ECU's Key Teaching and Learning Outcomes in 2015

Assuring Quality Learning Outcomes

The development of the Higher Education Standards Framework has provided an additional imperative for all universities to ensure that their courses and programs are compliant with national standards and requirements.

To ensure that ECU's courses meet the requirements and standards of the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) ECU undertook a range of activities in 2015, including:

- support to faculties from the AQF Project Team to review the structure of all courses to ensure the volume of learning course content were in line with AQF requirements;
- the development of course-level learning outcomes for each course. All ECU courses are described in terms of the knowledge, understandings and capabilities of the graduates and the outcomes are mapped to the AQF statements pertaining to the level of the course, for example, Bachelor, Honours, Masters; and
- a workshop to explore how the assessment of the demonstration of course learning outcomes can best be undertaken and recorded. The outcomes from this work will inform and guide an overall University strategy to assess and record learning outcomes for all courses.

Comprehensive school reviews were conducted in 2015 for the School of Engineering and the School of Exercise and Health Science.

ECU successfully secured professional accreditation of courses in Psychology, Dietetics and Nutrition, Exercise Science (Strength and Conditioning), Environmental Health, Speech Pathology, Nursing, Occupational Safety and Health, Engineering, Public Relations, Accounting, Project Management, Advertising, Information Technology and Tourism.

New Course Offerings in 2015

ECU regularly renews its course offerings to maintain an academic profile that is contemporary and continues to reflect the changing needs of the communities it serves.

New courses offered for the first time in 2015 were:

- Certificate III in Dance
- Certificate IV in Musical Theatre
- Master of Research Practice
- Integrated PhD

Office of Learning and Teaching Citations

Associate Professor Robert Powell, from ECU's School of Business, was the recipient of a 2015 Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning for the application of innovative and effective research-based approaches to learning and teaching in banking and finance.

Professor Lelia Green, School of Communication and Arts, received a citation for leadership, commitment and success in learning and teaching through PhD supervision.

Associate Professor Mary Boyce was cited for sustained excellence in motivating, inspiring and influencing science students' learning.

These national awards funded by the Commonwealth Government recognise significant contributions to the quality of student learning in a specific area of responsibility over a sustained period.

Enrolments

Full-year total student load for 2015 was 17,603 Equivalent Full Time Student Load (EFTSL), which is a decrease compared to 2014 (17,680 EFTSL).

Table 2 shows ECU's student load for the period 2011-2015 by course award level.

Table 2: Student Load (EFTSL) by Course Award Level, 2011-2015

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Higher Degree Research	457	457	427	415	405
Higher Degree Coursework	1,597	1,426	1,430	1,637	2,046
Other Postgraduate	1,108	1,139	1,082	1,119	1,110
Bachelor	14,116	13,951	13,600	13,338	12,814
Sub-Bachelor	85	69	41	27	21
Enabling and Other	562	606	622	744	900
Vocational Education and Training	477	483	446	400	307
Total	18,400	18,131	17,648	17,680	17,603

Note: 2015 data is provisional as at 08/02/2016.

Retention

The 2015 retention rate (for ECU students who commenced in 2014) decreased slightly compared with the previous year's results (see Report on Key Performance Indicators beginning on page 50).

In 2015, a Retention Working Party was established by ECU's Curriculum Learning and Teaching Committee, to develop a University-wide strategy for improved retention outcomes.

The Retention Strategy was endorsed by the University Executive and provides a framework that highlights the roles and responsibilities and guides future activities for student retention. Key activities planned and being implemented for 2016 will include:

- development of a Retention Plan by each school as part of their operational planning;
- implementation of a student feedback system for students who withdraw, to better enable ECU to understand factors that influence attrition;
- improved information dissemination to assist teaching staff to address student needs; and
- increased monitoring of students' performance to identify and address students at risk.

Orientation events were redesigned to encourage new students' involvement in activities that showcased student support services and provided for peer networking in a fun environment.

Provision of peer support to postgraduate research students continued through the Graduate Research School's Support–Opportunities–Advice–Resources Centre (SOAR). Since 2009, over 3600 client interactions have been recorded, providing cultural, academic and campus transition support to Higher Degree by Research and Bachelor Honours students and high levels of satisfaction with the service have been recorded.

Participation in the Peer Mentoring Program for undergraduate students increased in 2015, with 25% more mentors and 171% additional mentees.

Additional focus was given to improving on-campus events and activities to support the positive student experience. The Student Guild, ECU's Corporate Events and Campus Services Offices, collaborated on joint event planning and pooling of resources to maximise the impact of student activities.

International

Internationalisation of the curriculum and the development of ECU's graduates as global citizens is a key element of ECU's Teaching and Learning strategy.

ECU has secured Commonwealth Government student mobility funding of \$410,400 for 18 study tours and student exchange opportunities in 2016. In addition, four ECU students will receive New Columbo Plan Scholarships of up to \$67,000 each. The planned mobility projects will be incorporated into school operational plans to ensure that they are sustained and built upon.

New strategic partnerships were under development in 2015, including a study tour partnership with Tokyo City University (TCU). The first intake of TCU students is scheduled for February 2016 and approximately 200 students per annum will come to ECU on semester-long study tours.

ECU worked closely with partners in Sri Lanka, Singapore, China and the United Arab Emirates, delivering offshore, transnational programs, and is committed to extending its offshore footprint, consistent with strategic priorities and academic quality.

Online Learning and Technology

ECU uses a range of technologies to enhance learning and learning outcomes across its courses.

The ECU Online Courses Project (EOCP) was initiated in 2012 and completed in 2015, delivering a range of important improvements, including:

- the creation of 21 new online courses and/or majors comprising 157 units, with 80 staff involved and trained for online delivery in the process;
- workshops for course teaching teams to ensure a common understanding of effective practice in online learning and teaching;
- training sessions customised for teaching team needs, including initial group training, just-in-time training specific Blackboard tools (e.g. assessment management); and
- provision of a full suite of online support resources for staff and for students.

The development of online courses will continue into 2016 and will focus on ensuring a full complement of quality online offerings across all ECU schools.

Measuring Student and Graduate Satisfaction

ECU monitors the satisfaction of its students and graduates through a number of surveys. ECU's own online Unit and Teaching Evaluation Instrument (UTEI), mid-course CEQ survey and Student Services and Facilities Feedback Evaluation (SSAFE) gauge the satisfaction of current ECU students.

The national Course Experience Questionnaire (CEQ) of graduates and the Student Experience Survey (SES) provide comparative data for all Australian universities. These form part of a suite of Commonwealth Government surveys developed under the banner 'QILT' (Quality Indicators in Learning and Teaching).

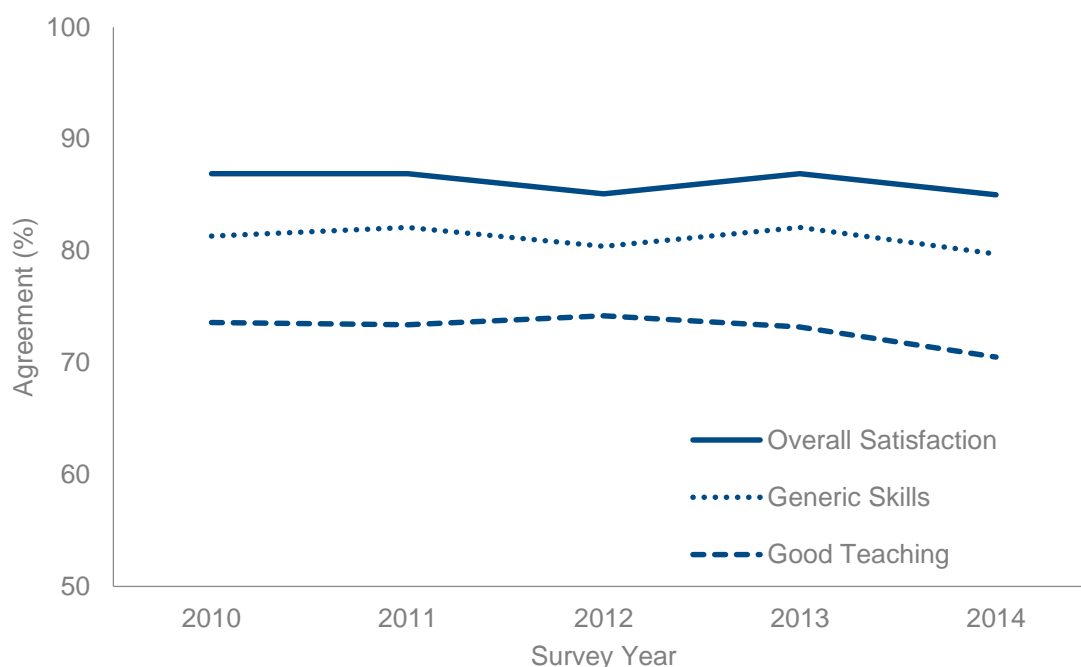
ECU continues to perform extremely well on all key indicators of teaching excellence and the learning environment.

Student satisfaction with teaching quality and with unit content (as measured by the UTEI) remained steady in 2015, and continued the trend of high results over the time-series.

Graduate Satisfaction

In the latest CEQ survey results, ECU was ranked 11th nationally for Overall Course satisfaction. On Good Teaching satisfaction ECU was ranked 11th nationally. On Generic Skills satisfaction ECU was ranked 17th nationally. ECU was also above the State and national averages for each of these indicators. ECU's performance over the period 2010-2014 is shown in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3: Graduate Satisfaction, 2010-2014



Notes: The three measures record the percentage of ECU Bachelor level graduates who, in responding to the relevant Course Experience Questionnaire survey items 'agree' with those statements. The percentage agreement is the percentage of responses that are 4 (agree) and 5 (strongly agree) on the five-point Likert scale. This is a departure from previous years, which reported 'broad agreement' for these measures. This change is in keeping with the usual method of measurement across the Higher Education sector.

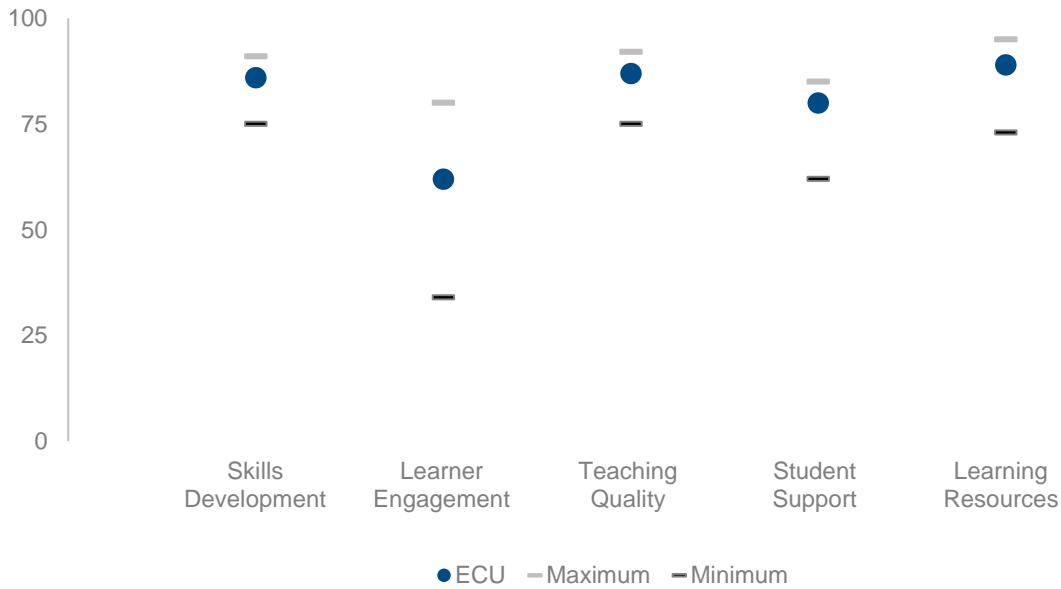
Additional data on course satisfaction and quality of teaching, including comparison with State and national benchmarks, can be found in the Report on Key Performance Indicators beginning on page 50.

Student Experiences

The latest University Experience Survey (UES) was administered to commencing and final year undergraduates at all Australian universities in the latter half of 2014.

ECU students reported satisfaction levels within the top quartile of Australian universities for four of the five UES focus areas: Skills Development, Teaching Quality, Student Support and Learning Resources. Results for Learner Engagement were equivalent to the median for Australian universities.

Figure 4: Student Satisfaction, 2014 ECU Results Compared With Sector



Teaching Performance Recognition

ECU received the maximum five star rating for teaching quality in the Good Universities Guide for the seventh consecutive year.

The QS World University Rankings by Subject named ECU in the [top 200](#) for both Education and Communication and Media Studies for the third consecutive year.

National Recognition for WAAPA Lecturer

Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) percussion Senior Lecturer Tim White was named one of the 14 best university teachers in Australia.

Mr White received his Australian Award for University Teaching for excellence in the humanities and arts category from the Federal Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham, at a gala awards ceremony at Parliament House on 8 December 2015.

The award recognises Mr White for having created a “generation of outstanding young percussionists who have gone on to challenge the world.”

“His inclusive and nurturing teaching approaches have enabled him to achieve outstanding success in graduate employment outcomes, and his students have established stellar careers in the percussion world due to their exceptional abilities and musicianship,” the Office for Learning and Teaching citation said.

ECU’s School of Business was the [gold medal winner](#) of the Tourism Education and Training category in the 2015 WA Tourism Awards.

Strategic Priority 3: To enhance the personal and professional outcomes of graduates

ECU's Strategic Focus on Graduate Outcomes

The ECU Teaching and Learning Functional Plan, 2014-2016 articulates the University's teaching and learning goals aligned with ECU's Purpose and Vision. Employability has been a strong focus of schools and centres as the University has sought to address previous, less than favourable, graduate employment outcomes.

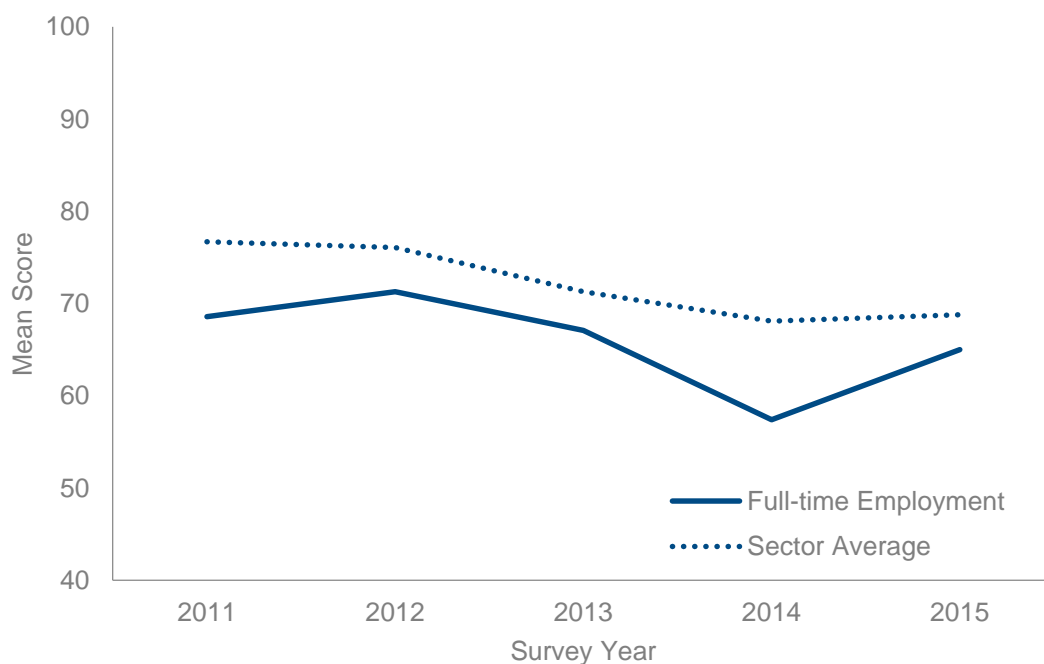
ECU's Graduate Employment Outcomes in 2015

ECU's graduate full-time employment outcomes, as measured by the Australian Graduate Survey, four months post-graduation, have persistently tracked below national averages as shown in Figure 5 below.

A follow up employability survey of 800 ECU domestic Bachelor graduates who completed the Australian Graduate Survey was undertaken 16 months after their course completion and found that employment levels had increased from 52% to 77%, meaning that sector average employment rates were achieved over the longer time period after graduation.

The latest results are more encouraging with a four percentage point gap between national average results (68.9%) and ECU's graduate results (64.9%). Moreover, ECU's graduate employment rate is now tracking close to the Western Australian average (66.5%).

Figure 5: ECU Full-time Graduate Employment, 2011-2015



Notes: The measure reported is the Bachelor-level domestic graduates who are working full-time, as a proportion of those in, or available for, full-time work. 'Available' includes, in addition to those already in

full-time work, those seeking full-time work who are either not working or are working part-time. 'Bachelor-level' includes Pass Bachelor, Honours, and Graduate Entry degrees.

Significantly, in 2015 ECU's Curriculum Learning and Teaching Committee established a **Graduate Employment Working Party** to develop a University-wide employment strategy to guide and inform consistent and effective practices across and within ECU's schools, centres and courses. A framework was developed, identifying all stakeholders and their respective roles and responsibilities in improving graduate employment levels.

Activities in 2015 to address graduate employment issues through curriculum change included:

- the inclusion of work-integrated learning (WIL) and workplace learning opportunities in all undergraduate programs. New WIL policies and procedures were established to streamline the process of facilitating WIL and industry placements;
- increased engagement between ECU schools and industry through Course Consultative Committees and unit-based engagement;
- a series of workshops to develop academic staff capabilities in embedding career development into undergraduate courses;
- ECU school-level benchmarking activities to better understand how ECU compares with other universities; and
- embedding curriculum elements such as graduate attributes, industry visits, portfolio development and capstone units to facilitate the collection of evidence supporting capabilities.

Examples of WIL and industry engagement include:

- Design units in the School of Communications and Arts that include opportunities for ECU students to undertake client briefs for not-for-profit organisations such as the Cancer Council and Keep Australia Beautiful, Happiness Project with the City of Fremantle;
- a collaboration between ECU and the WA Police allowing ECU journalism students to work with detectives to develop job-relevant interviewing and media skills; and
- agreements with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Astron Environmental and LandGate to facilitate work-related projects or practicum placements for students in ECU's School of Natural Sciences.

ECU's Student Services Centre continued to contribute to improving student employment outcomes and activities in 2015 included:

- the promotion of ECU's Career and Leadership Services to students at all relevant events e.g. Get Set Saturday, My International Day, Welcome Days, ECU Open Days and course inductions;
- faculty-based careers advice, with more than 1000 Career Advisor appointments and the provision of 97 'Pit Stop' workshops on topics such as interview skills, writing resumés, addressing job selection criteria and career planning;

- an annual [Careers Fair](#) for ECU's Faculty of Business and Law. The March 2015 event provided 450 students with the opportunity to engage with representatives from over 25 employer organisations from the private, public and not for profit sectors;
- the inaugural [Employment Seminar hosted by ECU's School of Business](#) in May and a second event in September, aimed at connecting students with workplaces and industries and promoting the importance of Work Integrated Learning (placements and internships), strategic networking and developing labour market awareness whilst studying.
- workshops and presentations delivered by recent ECU engineering graduates and industry representatives to improve the job seeking skills and employability of students in ECU's School of Engineering;
- ongoing promotion of ECU's [CareerHub](#), with 3079 student registrations, 438 organisations and 1638 job opportunities recorded in 2015.
- an increase in [Volunteering](#) activities with VolunteerHub receiving over 1540 student registrations and 140 organisations registering on the website, making over 780 volunteering opportunities available; and
- outreach events were held across two campuses during National Student Volunteering Week (3-8 August, 2015) and the Tokyo City University (TCU) Volunteer Program, assisted in securing 75 volunteers.

National Recognition for ECU Enactus Volunteers

The Enactus ECU team were runners-up at the National Championships in Melbourne for their entrepreneurial community projects, which included 'Net University'.

This project, delivered in City of Joondalup Libraries, educated over 200 seniors in the use of iPad technology.

The 18 strong team is part of the global Enactus organisation. Their activities are designed to apply the knowledge and skills gained in their academic studies to engage, develop and empower the community. It also provides students with important opportunities to network, develop their leadership and communication skills and engage with industry and community partners.

As well as being national runners-up, the team also won the Spirit of Enactus award for their passion. The team's Faculty Advisor, Janet Simmons, won the best Faculty Advisor Award.

As a team, they worked more than 5000 volunteer hours in a 12 month period.

Several team members secured jobs as a result of being members of the Enactus ECU team.

ECU continued to implement the extensive **English Language Proficiency** framework, as part of the *ECU Course and Unit Planning and Development* policy. The Post-Entry Language Assessment (PELA) provides a post-enrolment test of commencing students' English language proficiency and was completed by over 6700 students in 2015. ECU staff use the PELA results to tailor English language support for commencing students to enhance learning outcomes and employment prospects.

The **Top-Up Project** was established in 2015 to meet the varied and complex needs of students of African origin at ECU including English language, conceptual learning, self-esteem, managing academic, family and work commitments and adjusting to the Australian way of life. First year students are mentored by past and current ECU research students of African origin and undertake weekly language and learning and skills-based sessions, as well as exploring career pathways. The project generated so much interest in 2015 that it will expand to include engagement with high school students from African ethnic groups in 2016.

The **Office of Advancement** implemented a number of successful programs in 2015 focused on improving graduate outcomes, including:

- an Alumni Mentoring Program, with 45 pairings of alumni with current students, growing from 14 in 2014;
- the launch of a *LinkedIn* e-mentoring group, providing current students and recent graduates with access to a panel of senior alumni;

- a new Professional Development newsletter specifically aimed at new graduates;
- professional development events in the Schools of Education and Nursing and the Faculty of Business and Law;
- leadership roundtable events, where the leadership expertise of senior alumni was shared with current students and recent graduates;
- careers workshops tailored to new graduates; and
- early stage development of a series of online webinars focused on career support for alumni.

ECU's course in Broadcasting is an exemplar of engagement with industry and employment success. Seven students from the 2015 Graduate Diploma of Broadcasting course secured [paid internships](#) with the Seven Network, ABC News 24, Fox Sports News, Radio 6PR and WA Today, significantly improving their employment prospects. The 2014 graduating cohort in this course had a 100 per cent success rate in securing employment in the industry within three months. The course is delivered in an intensive and practical learning environment, where students gain highly sought after industry skills.

Australian Students to Benefit from Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) Fellowship

Associate Professor Trevor Cullen, from ECU's School of Communications and Arts was the recipient of a \$90,000 Office for Learning and Teaching National Fellowship to develop new guidelines for the design and implementation of a final year capstone unit for all 29 Australian universities currently offering journalism courses. This work will benefit journalism students across Australia, by ensuring that they graduate with the research, writing, analytical and digital capabilities sought after by news organisations and that lead to successful careers in the changing media landscape.

Strategic Priority 4: To strengthen research capability, capacity, translation and impact

ECU's Strategic Focus on Research and Research Training

Research Profile

ECU seeks to be recognised for high impact research providing social, economic, environmental and cultural benefits, with eleven identified research themes:

- Aboriginal Culture, Education and Health.
- Communication, Media and Cultural Studies.
- Cyber Security.
- Ecology, Environmental Science and Management.
- Education.
- Engineering.
- Business Innovation Management and Services.
- Law.
- Medical and Health Sciences, including Nursing, Neurosciences, Sports Science and Exercise Medicine.
- Performing Arts and Creative Writing.
- Visual Arts and Design.

ECU's Key Research and Research Training Outcomes in 2015

Research Quality

Excellence in Research for Australia

Facilitated by the Australian Research Council (ARC), Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) is an initiative of the Commonwealth Government to comprehensively evaluate the quality of the research undertaken in Australian universities against national and international benchmarks.

Results announced in December 2015 show that ECU has increased the quality and number of specialised fields of research performing at world-class levels and above. In the previous ERA round in 2012, nursing was rated 'well above world standard' and has been joined by ecology and neurosciences in this band in 2015. Fields rated 'above world standard' for the first time included disciplines within the biological and environmental sciences, engineering and medical and health sciences.

- **Well Above World Standard:** Nursing, Neurosciences and Ecology.

- **Above World Standard:** Clinical Sciences, Environmental Science and Management, Materials Engineering and Oncology and Carcinogenesis.
- **World Standard:** Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Business and Management, Communication and Media Studies, Human Movement and Sports Science, and Nutrition and Dietetics.

These results are attributable to the refocusing of ECU's research activities to deliver quality outcomes and make ever more positive contributions to industry and communities.

Research Leadership

Competitive research funding provided by the Australian Government, is becoming increasingly difficult to secure (2015 National Health and Medical Research Council success rates 13.7%; only 9.8% in WA). Given this policy environment, ECU has focused attention on new and existing initiatives to support its researchers to be successful, and to increase engagement activities with industry and government. A broad range of activities in 2015 is included the following highlights.

Developing research capability

In 2015 ECU began work on a range of significant initiatives to increase the research performance of the University and its academic staff.

- Under the leadership of the ECU's incoming Vice-Chancellor, a strategy of recruiting internationally for an additional 20 high-performing research professors commenced.
- A Grants Mentoring Program was established to support researchers to improve their grant submissions through a process of internal and external reviews.
- An Early-Mid Career Researcher Network was established to empower and support new researchers in driving their own professional development.
- The Academic Staff Performance Expectations and Outcomes (ASPEO) framework was adjusted to include more guidance by discipline, academic level and role (e.g. Research Scholar). This will improve the assessment of research performance by line managers and applications for promotion by the Academic Promotions Committee.
- An updated analysis of the academic workforce was undertaken in 2015 using ERA results, national benchmarks and ECU's ASPIRE (Acknowledging Successful Performance in Research Excellence) outcomes to determine performance expectations of researchers in each field of research. This will inform individual plans to increase the research activity of academic staff.

Throughout 2015, communication with researchers was maintained through the distribution of the electronic Research Weekly, an update on research-related activities,

including upcoming funding opportunities and Research Orientation sessions (You, Your Research and ECU) to inform researchers about the many support services available.

Research engagement with industry and government

In partnership with the City of Joondalup, the Innovation Precinct was developed to provide a conduit between ECU researchers, students and facilities, the City and businesses.

Eight 'Enterprise Tuesday' sessions and two industry-focused Master classes were held in 2015, to facilitate researcher and potential industry and government partner connections, and the pursuit of entrepreneurial ambitions. The series was sponsored by Watermark, an Intellectual Asset Management company that also provided \$2,000 in prize money to the winner of an entrepreneur's 'pitch'.

ECU is the founding partner of the new Australian Cyber Security Research Institute, located on Joondalup Campus, which co-ordinates a strategic research and education effort between national cyber security agencies, industry and researchers.

The University led two inter-university rounds of iPREP WA, an industry and PhD research engagement program involving all WA universities. In 2015, 38 final stage PhD candidates have completed projects with 10 companies.

Five industry engagement scholarships were established in 2015 to increase both the number of PhD students and projects engaged with industry. Funding of \$55,000 in scholarship top-ups and \$29,000 in research support funds with \$53,000 in-kind support was provided.

Research engagement with communities

Two *Inspirational Leaders* seminars were delivered in 2015, to provide ECU students, staff, and members of the community with the opportunity to listen to, and engage with, inspiring leaders in our community: human rights lawyer, Rabia Siddique, and Robyn Williams, host of ABC Radio National's Science Show. Robyn Williams' visit resulted in six ECU research presentations broadcast on the Science Show.

ECU's seventh annual Research Week took place in September at the Joondalup, Mount Lawley and South West (Bunbury) campuses, showcasing ECU's world class research to the University and to the wider community. ECU researchers at all levels, shared their knowledge, insights and inspiration on health, sciences, and arts and humanities topics with students, staff and the wider community to foster research collaboration and industry engagement.

Research Week was launched with a research showcase and panel discussion on *Advancing Innovation through Research Engagement* that attracted staff, student and industry participation. The program of 47 events included Master classes, research

presentations, interactive sessions, public lectures, research competitions and exhibitions enjoyed by 2100 attendees.

ECU's [Faces of Research](#) exhibition and booklet was also launched in September, featuring photographs of ECU's ground-breaking research students and staff with a short biography on their experience and areas of research.

The West Australian-ECU Lecture Series, began in 2015 and welcomed almost 1000 students, staff and community members to ECU for lectures by ECU's leading researchers on topics as diverse as "exercise as medicine", "over-diagnosis" and "kids and the internet".

Research Funding and Publications

Total research income in 2015 is likely to be above that received in 2014 (\$16.03 million), based on unaudited figures as at 31 December 2015 (\$16.3 million), see Table 3 below. The Australian Government's total research block grant allocation for 2015 was \$8.61 million, slightly higher than for 2014 (\$8.53 million).

Table 3: Research Funding by Category, 2011-2015 (\$M)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
National Competitive Research Grants	2.80	2.99	3.37	5.56	2.37
Other Public Sector Research Funding	8.40	6.32	5.82	5.66	6.71
Industry and Other Funding	4.55	4.92	5.37	3.12	5.49
Co-operative Research Centre Funding	0	1.19	1.96	1.69	1.76
Total	15.75	15.43	16.51	16.03	16.32

Notes: The 2015 income figures are as at 31 December 2015 and unaudited. Further analysis will be done based on the latest Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC) guidelines, which might alter research income by HERDC category for 2015. The 2014 income figures are final (audited and submitted) and differ from the provisional figures reported in the Annual Report for 2014.

Information on ECU's research publications can be found in the Report on Key Performance Indicators beginning on page 50.

Collaborative Research

Research networks within the Australian Government funded Collaborative Research Networks (CRN) sub-projects expanded both internally and externally, creating new opportunities for the development of greater understanding and knowledge depth.

All CRN sub-projects progressed well in 2015, resulting in 192 journal articles and 25 book/ book chapters submitted or published. Fifty-nine Visiting Fellows visited ECU to

work on research projects and collaborations; resulting in 183 joint grant applications being submitted, of which 60 grants have been funded. In addition, there were three CRN-based PhD completions and sub-project workshops and extensive media exposure achieved.

Several CRN sub-projects and their partners are developing arrangements for long-term partnerships as they transition from CRN core funding. The final report of the CRN project is due in May 2016.

In 2015, ECU increased its strategic research investment by 2 per cent to \$10.6 million, with a focus on increasing external research collaborations and building research capacity. These funds were applied to key State, national and international initiatives, fellowships, scholarships and infrastructure, in order to foster industry linkages and commercialisation in areas of research priority.

ECU Researchers awarded almost \$450,000 as part the Cancer Council Western Australia's 2015 Research Program

Dr Carolyn McIntyre from ECU's Health and Wellness Institute was awarded \$225,000 to investigate whether exercise can improve the health of people suffering from mesothelioma.

Institute Co-Director Professor Rob Newton was awarded \$100,000 to run a national trial to develop a cost effective, supervised exercise program for cancer patients.

Dr Prue Cormie was awarded \$10,000 and named the Cancer Council WA early career researcher of the year (see below).

ECU's Melanoma Research Group Head Professor Mel Ziman, received \$71,519 to develop a blood test to detect patient response to treatment for late stage melanoma patients, allowing patients to be switched to more effective therapy earlier and reducing the need for invasive biopsies.

Dr Muhammad Adnan Khattak was awarded \$35,000 to develop a method to predict how well a patient will respond to drugs which target their immune system.

Mr Aaron Beasley and Mr Tim Rankin from the Melanoma Research Group were both awarded \$3000 research scholarships to study melanoma.

Dr Prue Cormie Early Career Cancer Researcher of the Year

Dr Prue Cormie has been awarded the Cancer Council WA Early Career Cancer Researcher of the Year Award for 2015.

Established in 2013, this annual Award recognises an emerging cancer researcher who has made a significant advance in cancer research within the previous 18 months. The winner is judged in terms of impact of one or more peer-reviewed publications that advances understanding of cancer biology, causes, policy, prevention, early detection, diagnosis, management and treatment, health services, and improvement of quality of life for cancer patients or palliative care.

Dr Cormie secured \$10,000 towards the cancer research program or initiative of her choice.

This is an outstanding achievement recognising Dr Cormie's research work that found exercise to be very effective in diminishing the sexual dysfunction experienced by prostate cancer patients.

Research Grant Success in 2015

A Department of Fisheries WA grant in excess of \$2.1 million was awarded to Associate Professor Ute Mueller, Associate Professor Glenn Hyndes and Dr Johnny Lo to conduct State-wide research into recreational fishing.

More than \$1 million was awarded to Professors Rob Newton and Daniel Galvão from Spinal Cord Injuries Australia for a collaborative research program.

Dr Lorraine Hammond will examine flexible literacy for remote primary schools with four-year funding of \$381,817 from Good to Great Schools Australia.

Associate Professor Simon Laws received \$395,000 through the CRC for Mental Health for a neurogenerative study.

Professor Ralph Martins AO received \$230,341 from the Medical and Health Research Infrastructure Fund.

Associate Professor Christopher Abbiss was awarded a Cycling Australia grant of \$180,000 to examine the physiological factors influencing high performance sprint cycling.

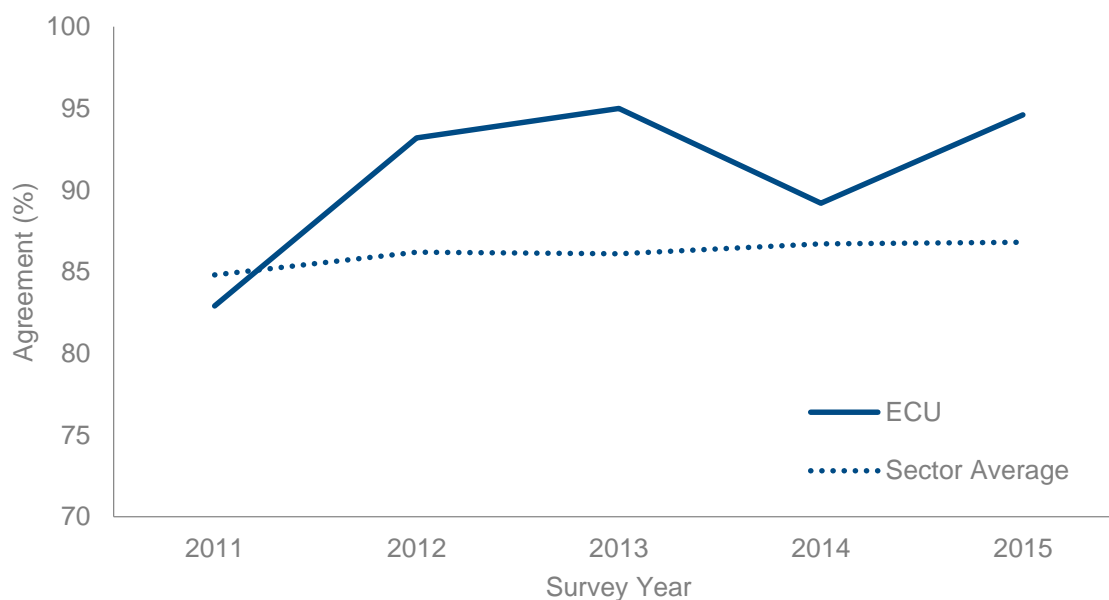
Research Training

Timely completions for Masters by Research and Doctorates by Research fell in 2015. This resulted from the introduction of a candidature management policy which required “over-time students” to complete or terminate their studies.

Enrolments in the new Integrated PhD program commenced in Semester 2, 2015. This new pathway to a PhD provides a structured first year followed by a three year thesis.

Results from the Postgraduate Research Experience Questionnaire (for both domestic and international students) as shown in Figure 6 below, shows high levels of student satisfaction with ECU. In each of the last five years, ECU was rated higher than the national average.

Figure 6: Higher Degree by Research Graduate Satisfaction, 2011-2015



Notes: This measures the percentage of ECU Higher Degree by Research graduates who, in responding to the overall satisfaction item from the national Postgraduate Research Experience Questionnaire “agree” with the statement “Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my higher degree research experience”. The percentage agreement is the percentage of responses that are 4 (agree) and 5 (strongly agree) on the five-point Likert scale.

The 2015 International Student Barometer (a benchmark survey of international students) shows that satisfaction levels are extremely high for ECU’s research and higher degree international students and graduates, ranking ECU third from 18 Australian institutions and placed 15th from 97 globally.

Information on ECU’s PhD completions can be found in the Report on Key Performance Indicators beginning on page 50.

Strategic Priority 5: To enhance organisational resilience, sustainability and reputation

ECU's Key Organisational Sustainability Outcomes in 2015

This Strategic Priority comprises the University's financial positioning, potential for growth and sustainability, and the key resources supporting ECU's core functions - staffing, information technology and infrastructure.

Financial Positioning

During 2015 ECU's budget was realigned, within the parameters approved by Council, to fund further investment in emerging new initiatives, innovation, teaching and learning and international activities. Reforecast revenue for 2015 increased by \$14 million (4%) to \$375 million, compared to the original Budget revenue of \$361 million.

The reforecast budget provided additional funding for academic initiatives; \$3 million for potential costs associated with the Academic Organisational Re-design project; and additional funding for information technology and infrastructure projects.

Throughout 2015, ECU operated within the key budget parameters approved by Council. In a year of increased risk to revenue due to the "half-cohort", a 2015 operating surplus of \$28.9 million represents a very positive outcome for the University. This result exceeded the original budget (\$15.1 million) by \$13.8 million. Total revenue for the University in 2015 was \$389.1 million, which exceeded the original budget (\$360.5 million) by \$28.6 million.

The University once again received an unqualified external audit opinion for 2015.

The Financial Statements begin on page 64 of this Annual Report.

Growth Vision

The Strategic Business Development Unit worked with faculties, schools and service centres in 2015 to identify, quantify and implement new revenue generating initiatives, and outcomes relating to the achievement of ECU's growth vision and fundraising objectives included:

- an improved Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) Enquiry Process to identify and make offers to greater numbers of prospective postgraduate students, whose research interests align with ECU's research priorities and capacity;
- Lead Nurturing Campaigns to convert enquiries from domestic and international students through to enrolment past Census;
- innovative demand generation activities focused on increasing the participation rate of West Australians in Higher Education; and
- in-country recruiters have been appointed to represent ECU in China, Vietnam, Malaysia and Nigeria, following the success of a similar program in India.

Student Recruitment

In 2015, ECU continued the “*That’s How University Should Be*” advertising campaign across a variety of media including television, radio, print and digital advertising. Digital marketing and social media engagement continued to grow as a proportion of total marketing activity.

Tracking of online applications showed that digital marketing campaigns generated over 1000 enrolments for Semester 2, 2015 alone.

Overall, ECU continued to generate increased interest with over 73,000 prospective student enquiries (a growth of 21 per cent on the same time in 2014). There were almost two million visitors to the future students’ website (a growth of 25 per cent on 2014) in 2015 and a simplified future students’ website was launched in November 2015 to improve the website experience.

Strong international marketing and recruitment campaigns continued to yield positive results, with a 37% increase in applications from fee paying onshore student recorded for 2015. South East Asia, South Asia and North Asia remain key areas of focus for the University’s international recruitment efforts.

International

ECU’s International vision and strategy is being developed under the guidance of the recently appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International). Consultations and capacity mapping across the University have identified academic strengths, and opportunities for development in international education. Identified areas are: transnational education, student mobility, International higher degree (research), partner and pathway development, quality and governance and International external relations.

An interim International Functional Plan is in development and International plans and objectives will be a key operational element of all ECU’s schools from 2016.

Audits of Transnational Programs and International Partnerships were completed in May and November 2015 respectively. The audits affirmed ECU’s processes for the establishment and management of agreements (Transnational, Articulation, Exchange Partnerships and Study Tour agreements). Both audits also recommended further support for international academic partnership and student mobility activities that will be addressed in 2016.

Staffing

The *ECU Staffing Plan 2012-15* was revised in 2015 and key outcomes for the plan during 2015 are listed below.

- Academic staff qualifications have improved over the timespan of the staffing plan to 61% of staff in 2015 with a PhD qualification, against a sector average of 70%.

- ECU funded a three-year post-doctoral research fellowship where Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background was a position requirement. In May 2015 an appointment was made at senior research fellow level to the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet.
- An academic performance and development framework was developed and implemented to guide selection, development and promotion of academic staff to strengthen the University's teaching and research capability.

Resilience in the Workplace

In 2015 there was an increase in mental health initiatives for staff linked to the four key pillars of resilience - cognitive, social, emotional and physical. ECU has an externally recognised staff health and wellness program *Live Life Longer* with Gold status from Healthier Workplace WA.

The Re-design of the Academic Organisation

A major initiative in 2015 was the Academic Organisation Re-Design project to replace the existing ECU faculties, with a new school structure. Through the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor, ECU sought to develop a more effective academic organisational model that enhances academic performance, through clear accountabilities and more responsive and effective decision-making. Greater levels of decision-making at ECU have now been focused in the schools where the core academic work of the University is carried out and outcomes delivered. Teaching and learning and research activities at the South West Campus will be more strongly aligned with those at ECU's metropolitan campuses, while retaining a distinct, community-relevant and responsive regional focus.

This process of significant change involved University-wide consultations, and design and implementation activities from May 2015. The new academic organisation commenced on 1 January 2016.

The new School Deans have been appointed and will report directly to the Vice-Chancellor:

- School of Business and Law: Interim Dean, Associate Professor Maryam Omari
- School of Arts and Humanities: Dean, Professor Clive Barstow
- School of Education: Dean, Professor Lynne Cohen
- School of Engineering: Dean, Professor Daryoush Habibi
- School of Medical and Health Sciences: Dean, Professor Moira Sim
- School of Nursing and Midwifery: Dean, Professor Di Twigg
- School of Science: Dean, Associate Professor Andrew Woodward
- Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts: Dean, Professor Julie Warn
- South West Campus: Dean, Ms Lyn Farrell

By late 2015, the appointment of Associate Deans (Research), Associate Deans (Teaching and Learning) and Discipline specific Associate Deans for each of the eight new schools was almost complete, and will be finalised in early 2016.

Strengthening ECU's Leadership Capacity

A number of other significant appointments were made in 2015. These included:

- Professor Stephen Chapman CBE, Vice-Chancellor and President
- Professor Simon Ridings, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International)
- Professor Cobie Rudd, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategic Partnerships)
- Associate Professor Helen Vella Bonavita, Dean, International Office
- Professor Pere Masqué, Professorial Chair in Environmental Radiochemistry, School of Natural Sciences
- Professor Anne Aly, Counter Terrorism, School of Communications and Arts
- Associate Professor Erin Godecke, Associate Professor, School of Psychology and Social Sciences
- Associate Professor Mark McMahon, Acting Head, Centre for Learning and Development
- Dr Mick Adams, Senior Research Fellow, Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet
- Mrs Oriel Green, Elder-in-Residence, Joondalup Campus
- Mrs Lera Bennell, Elder-in-Residence, South West Campus
- Ms Constance Wiebrands, University Librarian, Library Services Centre

Academic Promotions in 2015

The 2015 Academic Promotions round resulted in **21** promotions, **eleven** of which were to Senior Lecturer, **eight** to Associate Professor and **two** to Professor.

Vice-Chancellor's Staff Excellence Awards

Three high achieving teams and 22 individual staff were recognised for their commitment to personal excellence in the annual Vice-Chancellor's Staff Awards. Excellence was acknowledged in the categories of research, teaching, community engagement and service to students and communities.

Information Technology

The IT@ECU for the Future program continued in 2015 with significant improvements made to the University's IT infrastructure directly benefiting students and staff.

These improvements included the implementation of the University's new network (including wireless), with completion expected in January 2016 and the outsourcing of ECU's data infrastructure (see below).

In addition, there was a review of the technology governance framework and streamlining of processes to align with the new academic structure; and systems architecture strategies and roadmaps were completed, with commencement of two projects to deliver the first stage of the roadmap.

ECU Moves into the Cloud

ECU became the first Australian university to move all of its data centre infrastructure to the cloud – a secured managed hybrid cloud. This new cost-effective arrangement will allow ECU to respond with more agility to the changing needs of students and staff as new technologies are introduced, allowing infrastructure to be scaled to meet demand.

Building Infrastructure

ECU's Strategic Asset Management Framework and Buildings Asset Management Plan deliver a structured and consistent approach to the management of the University's estate in support of ECU's core functions of teaching, learning and research.

During the year, the University purchased Campus West from the Motor Trades Association. The majority of the facility is on lease until the end of 2016 with ECU using one of the workshops.

Major building projects completed in 2015 included construction of Ngoolark (Building 34 at the Joondalup Campus), which has received a number of industry awards and the ECU Health Centre (incorporating the Wanneroo GP Super Clinic).

Major upgrades and refurbishments are listed below.

- Upgrade of Lecture Theatre (JO 7.101).
- Modifications to building to accommodate additional freezers (JO 17).
- Entrances to the Joondalup Library (JO 31).
- Mechanical Infrastructure Upgrade at the Mount Lawley Campus (ML B19).
- Upgrade to the lighting system in the Mount Lawley Library (ML 8).
- Upgrade of a Mount Lawley Lecture Theatre (ML 3.101) and Case Study Room (ML 17.103).

More information about these major capital projects is at page 121 of this report.

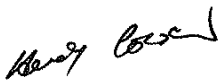
Environmental Sustainability

ECU operates under an environmental management system accredited to ISO 14001, Environmental Management Systems. This system includes programs around energy, water, waste and travel to drive improved environmental outcomes.

Section 2B: Performance – Report on Key Performance Indicators

Report Certification

We hereby certify that the key performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess ECU's performance, and fairly represent the performance of ECU for the financial year ended 31 December 2015.



The Hon Dr Hendy Cowan AO
Chancellor

3 March 2016



Professor Stephen Chapman CBE
Vice-Chancellor

3 March 2016

Key Performance Indicators

Introduction

ECU's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) focus on the University's core activities (teaching, learning and research) and key stakeholders (students). The KPIs are informed by the functions of the University as set out in Section 7 of the *Edith Cowan University Act 1984* (WA) (ECU Act), particularly:

- S7(a) “to provide...courses of study appropriate to a university to meet the needs of the community in this State.”
- S7(c) “to support and pursue research and scholarship and aid the advancement, development, and practical applications to education, industry, commerce and the community, of knowledge or any techniques.”

A revised version of the University's strategic directions document: *Edith Cowan University: Engaging Minds; Engaging Communities. Towards 2020* was approved by Council in December 2012. The revised document specifies ECU's Purpose and five Strategic Priorities that articulate the University's commitment to the communities it serves.

ECU's Purpose is: *To further develop valued citizens for the benefit of Western Australia and beyond, through teaching and research inspired by engagement and partnerships.*

ECU's five Strategic Priorities are:

1. *To create positive outcomes in our communities through mutually beneficial engagement;*
2. *To deliver accessible world-class education and an enriching student experience;*
3. *To enhance the personal and professional outcomes of graduates;*
4. *To strengthen research capability, capacity, translation and impact; and*
5. *To enhance organisational resilience, sustainability and reputation.*

The Annual Report's Report on Operations is structured around these Strategic Priorities, reflecting their importance in setting direction for the University's operations.

In this Key Performance Indicator Report, the functions specified in the ECU Act and reflected in ECU's current Strategic Priorities, provide the basis for the following outcomes, against which the University's performance is measured:

- **Outcome 1:** ECU's courses of study meet the needs of the Western Australian community and are provided in a supportive and stimulating learning environment.
- **Outcome 2:** ECU's research and scholarship advance and develop education, industry, commerce and the community, through the practical application of knowledge.

For each KPI, the Key Performance Indicator Report provides, where possible:

- ECU’s performance over the last five years;
- a comparison to Target for the most recent year; and
- comparisons to the overall performance of universities in Australia (“National Average”) and to public universities in Western Australia (“State Average”).

Summary of KPIs to be audited by the Office of the Auditor General

Outcome 1:

ECU’s courses of study meet the needs of the Western Australian community and are provided in a supportive and stimulating learning environment

Course Satisfaction
(effectiveness indicator)

Quality of Teaching
(effectiveness indicator)

Graduate Employment
(effectiveness indicator)

Retention
(effectiveness indicator)

Outcome 2:

ECU’s research and scholarship advance and develop education, industry, commerce and the community, through the practical application of knowledge.

Research Publications (by Category and per 10 Academic Staff FTE)
(effectiveness and efficiency indicator)

Higher Degree Research Completions (per 10 Academic Staff FTE)
(effectiveness and efficiency indicator)

Operating Margin
(effectiveness and efficiency indicator)

Course Satisfaction

Graduates are more likely to rate their course highly, in terms of overall satisfaction, if the course was relevant to their needs, provided in a supportive learning environment and has proven useful and relevant in an employment context following graduation. Graduate satisfaction with the quality of their course is therefore an indicator of the extent to which ECU's courses of study meet the needs of the Western Australian community and are provided in a supportive and stimulating learning environment.

Comparative data on how ECU's graduates rate the quality of their courses is available from responses to the Course Experience Questionnaire (CEQ), a national survey of graduates conducted four to six months after course completion.

Course Satisfaction is defined as the percentage of all domestic and international Bachelor level (Bachelor Pass, Bachelor Honours and Bachelor Graduate Entry) graduates who 'agree' with the statement: "Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of this course" from the Course Experience Questionnaire. The percentage agreement is the percentage of responses that are 4 (agree) or 5 (strongly agree) on the five-point Likert scale.

Table 4: Bachelor Course Level Graduates' CEQ Course Satisfaction

Year of Survey:	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ECU	86.9%	85.1%	86.9%	85.0%	
Target	-	-	-	86.0%	87.0%
National Average	82.2%	83.2%	83.0%	82.7%	
State Average	83.4%	84.1%	83.0%	81.6%	

Notes: 1. National data sets for 2015 were not made available in sufficient time to allow inclusion in this Report. 2. The performance results are shown here by "Year of Survey" as is common practice across the sector. 3. For the 2014 survey 3,317 ECU Bachelor graduates were surveyed, of whom 1,913 responded to the CEQ, equating to a response rate of 57.7%. 4. ECU adopted an amended KPI definition for the 2014 survey year meaning that targets set in previous years are not applicable.

ECU graduates' Course Satisfaction level in the 2014 survey declined (by 1.9 percentage points), compared with the 2013 survey. The results over the time series (between 2011 and 2014) have been stable.

ECU's Course Satisfaction results are consistently above both the National and State averages.

Quality of Teaching

Graduates are more likely to rate highly the quality of the teaching in their course, if the content and teaching style was relevant to their needs and the course was provided in a supportive learning environment. Graduate satisfaction with the teaching they experienced during their course is therefore an indicator of the extent to which ECU's courses of study

meet the needs of the Western Australian community and are provided in a supportive and stimulating learning environment.

Comparative data on how ECU's graduates rate the quality of the teaching they experienced is available from responses to the Course Experience Questionnaire (CEQ), a national survey of graduates conducted four to six months after course completion. Six items in the CEQ make up the Quality of Teaching Scale which is used to indicate how satisfied graduates were with the teaching experience during their course.

The Quality of Teaching Scale is defined as the proportion of domestic and international Bachelor level (Bachelor Pass, Bachelor Honours and Bachelor Graduate Entry) graduates who 'agree' on average with the six items comprising this scale. The percentage agreement is the proportion of a respondent's scores on the six items which are 4 (agree) or 5 (strongly agree) on the five-point Likert scale.

Table 5: Bachelor Course Level Graduates' CEQ Quality of Teaching Scale

Year of Survey:	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ECU	73.4%	74.2%	73.2%	70.5%	
Target	-	-	-	74.0%	74.0%
National Average	64.6%	66.3%	66.9%	67.2%	
State Average	66.1%	67.1%	66.2%	65.7%	

Notes: 1. National data sets for 2015 were not available in sufficient time to allow inclusion in this Report.
 2. The performance results are shown here by "Year of Survey", as is common practice across the sector.
 3. For the 2014 survey 3,317 ECU Bachelor graduates were surveyed, of whom 1,913 responded to the CEQ, equating to a response rate of 57.7%. 4. ECU adopted an amended KPI definition for the 2014 survey year meaning that targets set in previous years are not applicable.

ECU graduates' level of satisfaction with the quality of teaching for the 2014 survey decreased (by 2.7 percentage point), compared with the 2013 survey. The results over the time series (between 2011 and 2014) have declined.

ECU's Good Teaching Scale results are consistently above both the National Average and the State Average.

Graduate Employment

There is strong evidence that many students undertake higher education for employment-related reasons (i.e. to gain employment, or to advance their career). The employers, on whom the job prospects of graduates largely depend, seek employees who have the skills and attributes needed in their professions and occupations. Graduate employment is therefore an indicator of the extent to which ECU's courses of study meet the needs of the Western Australian community and are provided in a supportive and stimulating learning environment.

Comparative data on employment outcomes for ECU graduates is available from the Graduate Destination Survey (GDS), a national survey of graduates, conducted four to six months after course completion.

The Graduate Employment measure is defined as domestic Bachelor-level graduates who are working full-time, as a percentage of those available for full-time work. 'Available' includes, in addition to those already in full-time work, those seeking full-time work who are either not working or are working part-time. 'Bachelor-level' includes Pass Bachelor, Honours, and Graduate Entry degrees.

Table 6: Domestic Bachelor Course Level Graduates in Full-time Employment

Year of Survey:	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ECU	68.6%	71.3%	67.1%	57.4%	
Target	-	-	-	75.0%	73.0%
National Average	76.7%	76.1%	71.3%	68.1%	
State Average	76.6%	79.2%	72.9%	65.4%	

Notes: 1. National data sets for 2015 were not available in sufficient time to allow inclusion in this Report. 2. The performance results are shown here by "Year of Survey", as is common practice across the sector. 3. For the 2014 survey 2,765 ECU Domestic Bachelor graduates were surveyed, of whom 1,623 responded to the GDS, equating to a response rate of 58.7%. 4. ECU adopted an amended KPI definition for the 2014 survey year meaning that targets set in previous years are not applicable.

The proportion of ECU graduates in full-time employment at the time of the 2014 survey decreased by 9.7 percentage points, compared with those surveyed in 2013. The 2014 survey result is below both the National and State averages.

An additional Strategic Priority (SP3), added in December 2012, reinforces ECU's commitment to improved graduate employment outcomes. This continues to be progressed through a range of strategies embedded in the curriculum and provided through support and services structures that are responding to this strategic priority.

Retention

Many factors influence whether students decide to remain in their studies (retention), including the relevance of those studies to their needs, and the learning environment in which that study takes place. Student retention is therefore an indicator of the extent to which ECU's courses meet the needs of the Western Australian community and are provided in a supportive and stimulating learning environment.

Retention is here defined as the percentage of all domestic and international onshore students who commence a course in a given year (Year of Commencement) and remain enrolled, including deferrals, in the same course or another ECU course in the following year.

Table 7: Retention Commencing Students

Year of Commencement:	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ECU	75.4%	74.7%	72.4%	73.8%	
Target	-	-	80.0%	78.0%	80.0%

Notes: 1. Retention data for students commencing in 2015 will not be available until mid-2016. 2. ECU adopted an amended KPI definition in 2013 meaning that targets set for 2011 to 2012 are not applicable.

The retention rate for ECU students commencing in 2014 increased (by 1.4 percentage points) compared with the retention rate for those who commenced in 2013. The results over the time series (between 2011 and 2014) have been stable.

Research Publications

The number of recognised research and development publications produced in a year, as reported to the Department of Education and Training, is a direct measure of research output.

The number of weighted research and development publications per 10 Academic Staff FTE is a measure of the efficiency of research output and an indicator of how efficiently ECU's research and scholarship advance and develop education, industry, commerce and the community.

Research and Development "Weighted Publications" is defined as the number of publications in the Department-defined categories A1, B, C1 and E1 in a year, with Authored Research Books (A1) being weighted 5:1. Weighted publications are expressed per 10 full-time equivalent (FTE) academic staff, where academic staff are those at Level B and above.

Table 8: Research and Development Publications by Category and per 10 Academic FTE

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
A1 – Authored Research Books	11.5	8.0	9.3	6.5	
B1 - Book Chapter	40.6	38.5	35.6	43.8	
C1 - Articles in Scholarly Refereed Journal	296.0	309.1	343.4	332.3	
E1 - Full Written Paper - Refereed Proceedings	201.3	154.2	128.3	95.6	
Total Unweighted Publications	549.4	509.7	516.6	478.2	
Total Weighted Publications	595.4	541.7	553.8	504.1	
Academic Staff FTE	517	528	512	486	

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Weighted Publications per 10 FTE	11.6	10.3	10.8	10.4	
Target	12.8	12.0	12.0	11.0	11.5

Note: Research publications figures for 2015 are unavailable until June 2016.

Total Unweighted Publications decreased by 38.4 publications between 2013 and 2014. Total Weighted Publications also decreased between 2013 and 2014, by 49.7 publications. Weighted Publications per 10 Academic Staff FTE decreased between 2013 and 2014, from 10.8 to 10.4, and was below the 2014 target of 11 publications per 10 Academic Staff FTE.

Higher Degree Research Completions

Doctorate and Masters by Research completions is a measure of ECU's success in training new researchers who will undertake research activity and scholarship, to advance and develop education, industry, commerce and the community.

Higher Degree Research Completions per 10 Academic FTE is a measure of the efficiency of ECU's higher degree research programs in providing new researchers to education, industry, commerce and the community.

Higher Degree by Research Completions is defined here as the number of Research Doctorates and Masters by Research theses passed in a year. Completions are also expressed per 10 full-time equivalent (FTE) academic staff, where academic staff are those at Level B and above.

Table 9: Higher Degree Research Completions by Level, Total Number and Per 10 Academic FTE

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Doctorate by Research	56	61	85	86	
Masters by Research	22	29	22	37	
Total Completions	78	90	107	123	
Total State Completions	696	797	830	762	
Total National Completions	7,961	8,230	9,209	9,579	
Academic Staff FTE	517	528	513	486	
Completions per 10 FTE	1.5	1.7	2.1	2.5	
Target	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.1

Notes: 1. Research completions for 2015 are unavailable until June 2016. 2. State and National Higher Degree by Research completions for 2014 are from Table 8 of the 2013 Award Course Completions listings on the Department of Education website at: <http://education.gov.au/selected-higher-education-statistics-2014-student-data>.

Total completions for research masters and research doctorates increased between 2013 and 2014. Completions per 10 Academic Staff FTE increased (from 2.1 to 2.5) and exceeded target by 0.6 completions per 10 Academic Staff FTE.

Operating Margin

Operating Margin is a direct measure of the underlying financial efficiency of the University. It also provides an indication of ECU's capacity to effectively provide research, together with courses of study that meet the needs of the Western Australian community in a supportive and stimulating learning environment, in support of Outcome 1 and Outcome 2.

Operating Margin is the net operating result calculated as a percentage of total revenue. The target for this indicator is approved through ECU's budget processes.

Table 10: ECU Operating Margin

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ECU	9%	7%	8%	7%	7%
Target	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%

ECU's Operating Margin has been above the minimum target throughout the time series.

Section 3: Significant Issues

Australian Government Changes

The change of Prime Minister in September 2015 brought a halt to attempted legislative reforms for higher education, including the deregulation of student fees. A new Ministerial team was appointed, with Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham as Minister for Education and Training, and the Hon Christopher Pyne MP as Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science. The Hon Wyatt Roy MP was appointed as Assistant Innovation Minister, and Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck was appointed Minister for Tourism and International Education.

Minister Birmingham has publicly stated his commitment to working collaboratively with education stakeholders to develop policy and to build broad consensus for higher education reform that is now not expected to be implemented before 2017.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has articulated an *Innovation for Australia* strategy, with universities playing a key role in its realisation.

Simplified Student Visa Framework

On 16 June 2015 the Australian Government announced the introduction of a simplified student visa framework (SSVF), replacing the existing Streamlined Visa Processing (SVP) arrangements and the Assessment Level framework for all international students.

The Simplified Student Visa Framework (SSVF) will come into operation in July 2016 and will result in a reduction in the number of student visa sub-classes from eight to two; and the introduction of a simplified single immigration risk framework for all international students studying in Australia.

To assist in implementation of the SSVF, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection has issued all education providers with details about their current immigration risk rating and intends that education providers will be able to access their immigration risk rating on a regular basis through an online reporting tool. ECU's SVP rating remains within the acceptable limits and the University will implement an SSVF transition plan that mitigates risk and ensures ongoing and sustainable participation in the new visa regime.

Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT)

[Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching](#) (QILT) is the new suite of national, government-endorsed, higher education surveys that are intended to provide prospective students with information on teaching performance measures, such as the experiences of students, employer satisfaction with graduate skills, and graduate labour market outcomes. The QILT surveys consist of:

- the Student Experience Survey (formerly the University Experience Survey);

- the Graduate Outcomes Survey (GOS) and GOS-L (Longitudinal) (formerly the Australian Graduate Survey); and
- the Employer Satisfaction Survey (ESS) (a newly developed survey).

QILT surveys will be administered by the Social Research Centre (SRC) under contract to the Commonwealth Department of Education. Results from QILT surveys will be presented on the new website, which replaced the *MyUniversity* website in August 2015.

Section 4: Disclosures and Legal Compliance

Auditor General's Statement



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Parliament of Western Australia

EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY

Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accounts and financial statements of the Edith Cowan University.

The financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2015, the Income Statement, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

University Council's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The University Council is responsible for keeping proper accounts, and the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions, and for such internal control as the University Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the University's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the University Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Edith Cowan University at 31 December 2015 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Report on Controls

I have audited the controls exercised by the Edith Cowan University during the year ended 31 December 2015.

Controls exercised by the Edith Cowan University are those policies and procedures established by the University Council to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions.

University Council's Responsibility for Controls

The University Council is responsible for maintaining an adequate system of internal control to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of public and other property, and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions, and other relevant written law.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the controls exercised by the Edith Cowan University based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the adequacy of controls to ensure that the University complies with the legislative provisions. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement and include an evaluation of the design and implementation of relevant controls.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the controls exercised by the Edith Cowan University are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions during the year ended 31 December 2015.

Report on the Key Performance Indicators

I have audited the key performance indicators of the Edith Cowan University for the year ended 31 December 2015.

The key performance indicators are the key effectiveness indicators and the key efficiency indicators that provide information on outcome achievement and service provision.

University Council's Responsibility for the Key Performance Indicators

The University Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such controls as the University Council determines necessary to ensure that the key performance indicators fairly represent indicated performance.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the key performance indicators. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments the auditor considers internal control relevant to the University Council's preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and service provision.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the key performance indicators of the Edith Cowan University are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the University's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 31 December 2015.

Independence

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Auditor General Act 2006 and Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards, and other relevant ethical requirements.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Edith Cowan University for the year ended 31 December 2015 included on the University's website. The University's management is responsible for the integrity of the University's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the University's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these financial statements or key performance indicators. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators to confirm the information contained in this website version of the financial statements and key performance indicators.

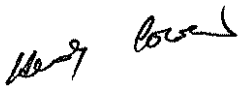


COLIN MURPHY
AUDITOR GENERAL
FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Perth, Western Australia
11 March 2016

Certification of Financial Statements

The accompanying financial statements of ECU and the accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* (WA) from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ended 31 December 2015 and the financial position as at 31 December 2015.

At the date of signing we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



The Hon Dr Hendy Cowan AO
Chancellor

3 March 2016



Professor Stephen Chapman CBE
Vice-Chancellor

3 March 2016



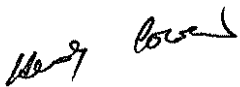
Mr Brad Francis
Chief Financial Officer

7 March 2016

Certification of financial statements required by Commonwealth Department of Education

I declare that:

- at the time of this certification there are reasonable grounds to believe that ECU will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due; and
- the amount of Commonwealth financial assistance expended during the financial year ended 31 December 2015 was for the purpose(s) for which it was provided.



The Hon Dr Hendy Cowan AO
Chancellor

3 March 2016



Professor Stephen Chapman CBE
Vice-Chancellor

3 March 2016

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This financial report covers Edith Cowan University as an individual entity. The financial report is presented in the Australian currency.

The financial report was authorised for issue by the University Council on the 3rd day of March 2016. The University has the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

Income Statement

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Income from continuing operations			
Australian Government financial assistance			
Australian Government grants	2	156,730	162,839
HELP - Australian Government payments	2	91,023	92,408
State and Local Government financial assistance	3	11,339	13,318
HECS-HELP - Student payments		10,005	10,098
Fees and charges	4	81,604	70,683
Investment revenue	5	11,029	11,860
Royalties	6	6,418	6,336
Consultancy and contracts	7	5,815	5,549
Other revenue	8	9,534	11,834
Total revenue from continuing operations		383,497	384,925
Gains on disposal of assets	9	483	138
Other investment income	5	3,330	1,930
Other income	8	2,246	4,576
Total income from continuing operations		389,556	391,569
Expenses from continuing operations			
Employee related expenses	10	221,419	221,678
Depreciation and amortisation	11	21,859	20,581
Repairs and maintenance	12	7,388	10,035
Borrowing costs	13	3,425	1,488
Impairment of assets	14	-	156
Other expenses	15	106,568	110,136
Total expenses from continuing operations		360,659	364,074
Net result for the period		28,897	27,495

The above income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Net result for the period		28,897	27,495
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss			
Gain/(loss) on value of available-for-sale financial assets	28	6,504	(361)
Cash flow hedges	28	(10)	(2)
Total		6,494	(363)
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss			
Loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	28	(21,095)	(3,637)
Other comprehensive income		(14,601)	(4,000)
Total comprehensive income attributable to the University		14,296	23,495

The above statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2015

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	16	47,239	54,530
Receivables	17	9,390	11,831
Derivative financial instruments	18	9	19
Other financial assets	19	115,568	141,025
Other non-financial assets	20	10,814	10,364
Total current assets		183,020	217,769
Non-current assets			
Receivables	17	21,808	22,833
Other financial assets	19	124,368	85,582
Investment properties	21	22,636	21,354
Property, plant and equipment	22	815,887	806,807
Intangible assets	23	5,690	6,465
Other non-financial assets	20	1,658	1,758
Total non-current assets		992,047	944,799
Total assets		1,175,067	1,162,568
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	24	11,146	7,319
Borrowings	25	18,941	125
Provisions	26	46,260	42,140
Other liabilities	27	33,928	39,509
Total current liabilities		110,275	89,093
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	25	80,608	99,520
Provisions	26	71,933	76,000
Total non-current liabilities		152,541	175,520
Total liabilities		262,816	264,613
Net Assets		912,251	897,955
Equity			
Reserves	28	318,440	350,046
Retained earnings	28	593,811	547,909
Parent entity interest		912,251	897,955
Total equity		912,251	897,955

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

2015

	Retained Earnings \$000's	General Reserves \$000's	Total \$000's
Balance at 1 January 2015	547,909	350,046	897,955
Net result	28,897	-	28,897
Loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	-	(21,095)	(21,095)
Gain on available-for-sale financial assets	-	6,504	6,504
Cash flow hedges	-	(10)	(10)
Transfer from revaluation reserves to retained surplus	17,005	(17,005)	-
Other comprehensive income	17,005	(31,606)	(14,601)
Total comprehensive income	45,902	(31,606)	14,296
Balance at 31 December 2015	593,811	318,440	912,251

2014

	Retained Earnings \$000's	General Reserves \$000's	Total \$000's
Balance at 1 January 2014	519,615	354,845	874,460
Net result	27,495	-	27,495
Loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment, net of tax	-	(3,637)	(3,637)
Loss on available-for-sale financial assets	-	(361)	(361)
Cash flow hedges	-	(2)	(2)
Transfer from revaluation reserves to retained surplus	799	(799)	-
Other comprehensive income	799	(4,799)	(4,000)
Total comprehensive income	28,294	(4,799)	23,495
Balance at 31 December 2014	547,909	350,046	897,955

The above Statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Cash flows from operating activities			
Australian Government grants received	2(g)	249,019	249,395
OS-HELP (net)	2(g)	(1,194)	1,723
Superannuation Supplementation	2(g)	2,665	3,252
State Government Grants received		11,138	13,082
Local Government Grants received		201	236
HECS-HELP - Student payments		10,005	10,098
Receipts from student fees and other customers		102,405	104,416
Dividends and distributions received		3,008	1,520
Interest received		11,530	8,692
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(332,365)	(327,824)
Interest and other cost of finance		(4,206)	(3,804)
Net cash provided by operating activities	35	52,206	60,786
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		156	2,097
Payments for property, plant and equipment and investment properties		(52,731)	(46,176)
Proceeds from redemption of financial assets		-	10
Payments for financial assets		(6,826)	(37,967)
Net cash used in investing activities		(59,401)	(82,036)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from borrowings		-	9,500
Repayment of borrowings		(96)	(172)
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		(96)	9,328
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(7,291)	(11,922)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		54,530	66,452
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	16	47,239	54,530
Financing arrangements	25		
Non-cash financing and investing activities	36		

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to Financial Statements - Contents

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

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Notes to Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

1 Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the annual financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated. The annual financial statements are for Edith Cowan University as an individual entity.

The principal address of Edith Cowan University is: 270 Joondalup Drive, Joondalup, Western Australia, 6027.

(a) Basis of preparation

The annual financial statements represent the audited general purpose financial statements of Edith Cowan University ("University"). They have been prepared on an accrual basis and comply with the Australian Accounting Standards.

The University applies Tier 1 reporting requirements.

Additionally the statements have been prepared in accordance with the following statutory requirements:

- Higher Education Support Act 2003 (Financial Statement Guidelines)
- Financial Management Act 2006

Edith Cowan University is a not-for-profit entity and these statements have been prepared on that basis. Some of the requirements for not-for-profit entities are inconsistent with the IFRS requirements.

Date of authorisation for issue

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the University Council on 3rd March 2016.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of available-for-sale financial assets, financial assets and liabilities (including derivative instruments) at fair value through profit or loss, certain classes of property, plant and equipment and investment property.

Critical accounting estimates and judgments

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the University's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed below:

- Estimating the useful life of key assets;
- Impairment of assets;
- Classification of financial assets;
- Discount rates and payback periods used in estimating provisions;
- Estimating liabilities for defined benefit superannuation plans

(b) Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Amounts disclosed as revenue are net of returns, trade allowances rebates and amounts collected on behalf of third parties.

The University recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the University and specific criteria have been met for each of the University's activities as described below. In some cases this may not be probable until consideration is received or an uncertainty is removed. The University bases its estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement.

Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

(i) Government Grants

Grants from the government are recognised at their fair value where the University obtains control of the right to receive a grant, it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the University and it can be reliably measured.

(ii) HELP payments

Revenue from HELP is categorised into those received from the Australian Government and those received directly from students. Revenue is recognised and measured in accordance with the above disclosure.

(iii) Student fees and charges

Fees and charges are recognised as income in the year of receipt, except to the extent that fees and charges relate to courses to be held in future periods. Such receipts (or portion thereof) are treated as income in advance in liabilities. Conversely, fees and charges relating to debtors are recognised as revenue in the year to which the prescribed course relates.

(iv) Royalties

Revenue from royalties is recognised as income when earned.

(v) Consultancy and contracts/ Fee for service

Revenue is recognised on delivery of the service to the client or by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction. The stage of completion is measured by reference to cost incurred to date as a percentage of estimated total cost for each contract.

(vi) Investment revenue

Dividend and distribution revenue from investments is recognised when the University's right to receive payment has been established. Interest revenue is recognised on an accrual basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

(vii) Gains

Gains may be realised or unrealised. Realised gains are determined on a net basis as the difference between the sale proceeds received or receivable and the carrying amount of the non-current asset. Unrealised gains are determined on a net basis as the difference between the fair value and the carrying amount of an asset.

The policies adopted for the recognition of significant categories of gains are as follows:

Realised gains on disposal of non-current assets

Gains arising on the disposal or retirement of a non-current asset are recognised when control of the asset and the significant risks and rewards of ownership transfer to the purchaser. Net gains are included in income for the period in which they arise.

Unrealised gains associated with investment property at fair value

Gains arising from changes in the fair value of an investment property are included in income for the period in which they arise.

Gains associated with financial assets

Gains arising on the derecognition of financial assets are recognised when control of the asset and the significant risks and rewards of ownership transfer from the University. Net gains are included in income for the period in which they arise.

(viii) Lease income

Lease income from operating leases is recognised in income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

(ix) Service concession income

Service concession income generated from the consumption of access rights by the operator is recognised on a straight line basis over the life of the service concession arrangement. This represents the amortisation of the service concession provision. Refer to note 1(t) for further details regarding this provision.

(c) Income tax

The University is exempt from income tax in Australia under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(d) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are capitalised during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use or sale. Other borrowing costs are expensed when incurred.

(e) Impairment of assets

University assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows which are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

(f) Cash and cash equivalents

For Statement of cash flows presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and short-term deposits with financial institutions with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

(g) Restricted funds

Endowment and bequest funds are classified as restricted funds. Endowment and bequest funds have been received from benefactors who, by the terms of their conveying instruments, have stipulated that the use of funds is limited in future years to the purposes designated by the benefactors.

(h) Trade receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. A provision for impairment of receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the University will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments (more than 90 days overdue) are considered indicators that the trade receivable is impaired. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. Cash flows relating to short-term receivable are not discounted if the effect of discounting is immaterial. The amount of the provision is recognised in the income statement.

(i) Investments and other financial assets*Classification*

The University classifies its investments in the following categories: loans and receivables, held-to-maturity investments and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and, in the case of assets classified as held-to-maturity, re-evaluates this designation at each reporting date.

(i) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the end of the reporting period which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in receivables in the statement of financial position.

(ii) Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the University's management has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity.

(iii) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets, comprising principally marketable equity securities, are non-derivatives that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories. They are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the end of the reporting period.

Regular purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade date - the date on which the University commits to purchase or sell the asset. Investments are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the University has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

When securities classified as available-for-sale are sold, the accumulated fair value adjustments recognised in other comprehensive income are included in the income statement as gains and losses from investment securities.

Subsequent measurement

Available-for-sale financial assets are subsequently carried at fair value. Loans and receivables and held-to-maturity investments are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Changes in the fair value of securities classified as available-for-sale are recognised in equity.

Fair Value

The fair values of investments and other financial assets are based on quoted prices in an active market. If the market for a financial asset is not active (as for unlisted securities), the University establishes fair value by using valuation techniques that maximise the use of relevant market data. These include reference to the estimated price in an orderly transaction that would take place between market participants at the measurement date. Other valuation techniques used are the cost approach and the income approach based on characteristics of the asset and the assumptions made by market participants.

Impairment

The University assesses at each balance date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. In the case of equity securities classified as available-for-sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of a security below its cost is considered in determining whether the security is impaired. If any such evidence exists for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss is removed from equity and recognised in the income statement. The cumulative loss is measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in profit and loss. Impairment losses recognised in the income statement on equity instruments are not reversed through the income statement.

(j) Derivatives

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value. The method of recognising the resulting gain or loss depends on whether the derivative is designated as a hedging instrument, and if so, the nature of the item being hedged. The University derivatives comprise of highly probable forecast transactions (cash flow hedges).

(i) Cash flow hedge

The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges is recognised in other comprehensive income. The gain or loss relating to the ineffective portion is recognised immediately in the income statement within other income or other expense.

Amounts that have been recognised in other comprehensive income are reclassified from equity to profit or loss as a reclassification adjustment in the periods when the hedged item affects the income statement (for instance when the forecast sale that is hedged takes place).

When the forecast cash flow that is hedged results in the recognition of a non-financial asset (for example, inventory or fixed assets) the gains and losses previously recognised in other comprehensive income are either reclassified as a reclassification adjustment to the income statement or are included in the initial measurement of the cost of the asset. The deferred amounts are ultimately recognised in the income statement as cost of goods sold in the case of inventory, or as depreciation in the case of fixed assets.

When a hedging instrument expires or is sold or terminated, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative gain or loss that has been recognised in other comprehensive income from the period when the hedge was effective shall remain separately in equity until the forecast transaction occurs. When a forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss that was recognised in other comprehensive income shall be reclassified to the income statement as a reclassification adjustment.

(k) Fair value measurement

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be measured for recognition and disclosure purposes.

The University classifies fair value measurements using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements.

The fair value of assets or liabilities traded in active markets (such as listed trading and available-for-sale securities) is based on quoted market prices for identical assets or liabilities at the reporting date (Level 1). The quoted market price used for assets held by the University is the most representative fair value in the circumstances within the bid-ask spread.

The fair value of assets or liabilities that are not traded in an active market (for example, over-the-counter derivatives, land and investment properties) is determined using valuation techniques. The University uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date. Quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments (level 2) are used for managed funds and derivative financial instruments and current rentals derived from market data are used for investment properties. Other techniques that are not based on observable market data are used to determine the fair value of unlisted shares, buildings and leasehold improvements (level 3). Techniques used to determine fair value for these assets and liabilities are outlined in note 38.

The fair value of forward exchange contracts is determined using forward exchange market rates at the reporting date. The level in the fair value hierarchy shall be determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety.

Fair value measurement of non-financial assets is based on the *highest and best use* of the asset. The University considers market participants or purchase price of the asset, in a manner that would be highest and best use.

The carrying value less impairment provision of trade receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature. The fair value for disclosure purposes, of financial assets and financial liabilities measured at amortised cost, is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the University for similar financial instruments.

(l) Property, plant and equipment

Land and buildings (other than service concession assets), leasehold improvements and artworks are shown at fair value, based on periodic, but at least triennial, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings and leasehold improvements. Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset. All other property, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less depreciation. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items. Cost may also include gains or losses that were recognised in other comprehensive income on qualifying cash flow hedges of foreign currency purchases of property, plant and equipment. For items of property, plant and equipment acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition. Items of property, plant and equipment (excluding artworks) costing less than \$5,000 are expensed to the income statement.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the University and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation of assets are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity under the heading of revaluation surplus. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognised in the income statement, the increase is first recognised in the income statement. Decreases that reverse previous increases of the same asset class are also recognised in

other comprehensive income to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the asset class. All other decreases are charged to the income statement.

On derecognition, any accumulated surplus on revaluation is transferred from revaluation to retained earnings.

Leasehold improvements

Leasehold improvements are capitalised at amounts directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended for the University.

Service concession assets

The University has entered into arrangements with respect to the development and refurbishment of student accommodation. Such arrangements provide for the appointment of an operator responsible for construction, asset upgrades and subsequent operation and management of the assets for an extended period. It is deemed that the University continues to control such assets primarily due to the University, as grantor;

(i) ultimately controlling or regulating the services that may be provided by the operator with respect to the student accommodation assets, the pricing of such services, and to whom such services may be provided; and

(ii) controlling the significant residual interest in the infrastructure at the end of the term of the arrangement.

Existing university buildings that form part of the arrangement with the external operator have been transferred from Land and Buildings into the Service Concession Assets class of assets. Capital improvements to such assets are capitalised at cost which is equivalent to their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Service concession assets under construction at reporting date are recognised at cost, which will be an amount equivalent to fair value based on depreciated replacement cost. Subsequent to initial recognition, service concession assets are measured at cost and depreciated over their useful life.

Depreciation

Land and artworks are not depreciated.

Artworks are considered as heritage assets and are anticipated to have very long and indefinite useful lives. Their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period. As such no amount for depreciation has been recognised in respect of these artworks.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term or the assets useful life. Where lease arrangements contain options for renewal and extension of the lease term, such extensions are only taken into account for the purposes of determining an appropriate depreciation period when, at inception of the lease, it is reasonably certain that the University will exercise the option.

Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost or revalued amounts, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Asset Category	Estimated Useful Life
Buildings	25 - 50 years
Service concession assets - buildings	36.5 - 50 years
Computing equipment	3 - 4 years
Other equipment and furniture	6 years
Motor Vehicles	4 - 6 years
Library collections	10 years

The asset's residual value and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

(m) Repairs and Maintenance

Repairs, maintenance and minor renewal costs are recognised as expenses as incurred.

(n) Investment properties

Investment properties exclude properties held to meet service delivery objectives of the University.

Investment properties are initially recognised at cost. Costs incurred subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the University. Where an investment property is acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, its cost shall be deemed to be its fair value, as at the date of acquisition.

Subsequent to initial recognition at cost, investment property is carried at fair value, which is based on active market prices of similar properties, adjusted, if necessary, for any difference in the nature, location or condition of the specific asset. If this information is not available, the University uses alternative valuation methods such as recent prices in less active markets or discounted cash flow projections. These valuations are reviewed annually by a member of the Australian Property Institute. Changes in fair values are recorded in the income statement.

Rental revenue from the leasing of investment properties is recognised in the income statement in the periods in which it is receivable, as this represents the pattern of service rendered through the provision of the properties.

(o) Leases

Leases of property plant and equipment, where the University, as lessee, have substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised at the lease's inception at the lower of the fair value of the leased property and the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding rental obligations, net of finance charges, are included in other short-term and long-term payables. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and finance cost. The finance cost is charged to the income statement over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. The property, plant and equipment acquired under finance leases are depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term.

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases (note 33(b)). The University leases certain property and equipment by way of operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

(p) Intangible assets

All intangible assets are initially measured at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, where appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the University and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Amortisation is calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset. The estimated useful lives for each class of intangible assets are:

Intangible asset class	Life
Digital library collection	10 years

Expenditure on research activities is recognised in the income statement as an expense when it is incurred

(q) Non-current assets held for sale

Non-current assets are classified as held for sale and stated at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs of disposal, if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use.

An impairment loss is recognised for any initial or subsequent write down of the asset to fair value less cost of disposal. A gain is recognised for any subsequent increases in fair value less costs of an asset, but not in excess of any cumulative impairment loss previously recognised. A gain or loss not previously recognised by the date of the sale of the non-current asset is recognised at the date of derecognition.

Non-current assets classified as held for sale are not depreciated or amortised and are presented separately from other assets in the statement of financial position.

(r) Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the University prior to the end of the financial year, which are unpaid. Accounts payable are not interest bearing and are stated at their nominal value. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

(s) Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are removed from the statement of financial position when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying amount of a financial liability that has been extinguished or transferred to another party and the consideration paid, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in other income or other expenses.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the University has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the statement of financial position date and does not expect to settle the liability for at least 12 months after the end of reporting period.

(t) Provisions

Provisions for legal claims and service warranties are recognised when: the University has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events; it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation; and the amount can be reliably estimated.

Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the statement of financial position date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a finance cost.

Employee benefits

(i) Short-term obligations

Liabilities for short-term employee benefits including wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits and bonuses are measured at the amount expected to be paid when the liability is settled, if it is expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the reporting period, and is recognised in other payables. Liabilities for non-accumulating sick leave are recognised when the leave is taken and measured at the rates payable.

(ii) Other long-term obligations

The liability for other long-term benefits are those that are not expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period. Other long-term employee benefits include such things as annual leave, accumulating sick leave and long service leave liabilities.

It is measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Regardless of the expected timing of settlements, provisions made in respect of employee benefits are classified as a current liability, unless there is an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date, in which case it would be classified as a non-current liability.

(iii) Retirement benefit obligations

All employees of the University are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death from the University's superannuation plans. The University has a defined benefit section and a defined contribution section within its plans. The defined benefit section provides defined lump sum benefits based on years of service and final average salary. The defined contribution section receives fixed contributions from the University and the University's legal or constructive obligation is limited to these contributions. The employees of the University are all members of the defined contribution section of the University's plans

A liability or asset in respect of defined benefit superannuation plans is recognised in the statement of financial position, and is measured as the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date less the fair value of the superannuation fund's assets at that date. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is based on expected future payments which arise from membership of the fund to the reporting date, calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service.

Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Contributions to the defined contribution section of University's superannuation fund and other independent defined contribution superannuation funds are recognised as an expense as they become payable.

(iv) Deferred government benefit for superannuation

In accordance with the 1998 instructions issued by the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs (DETYA), now known as the Department of Education and Training, the effects of the unfunded superannuation liabilities of the University were recorded in the Income Statement and the statement of financial position for the first time in 1998. The prior years' practice had been to disclose liabilities by way of a note to the financial statements.

The unfunded liabilities recorded in the statement of financial position under Provisions have been determined by an independent actuary, Mercer, and relate to liabilities for existing employees who are members of the pension scheme have been calculated based on each member's salary and the completed proportion of their expected total service. Members are assumed to earn entitlements to the maximum state pension at retirement.

Liabilities for existing pensioners have been calculated allowing for the level of the existing pension, the level of assumed pension indexation and expected mortality rates.

Some former pension scheme members have transferred to the Gold State Super. In respect of their transferred benefit the members receive a lump sum benefit at retirement, death or invalidity which is related to their salary during their employment and indexed during any deferral period after leaving public sector employment. Liabilities for member of Gold State Super have been calculated based on their projected unfunded transferred service amounts and rates of exit.

The calculated defined benefit obligation is the sum of the accrued liabilities for all relevant employees.

Deferred government benefits for superannuation are the amounts recognised as reimbursement rights as they are the amounts expected to be received from the Australian Government for the emerging costs of the superannuation funds for the life of the liability, refer to note 17.

For details relating to the individual schemes, refer to note 40.

(v) Termination benefits

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated before the normal retirement date, or when an employee accepts an offer of benefits in exchange for the termination of employment. The University recognises the expense and liability for termination benefits either when it can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when it has recognised costs for restructuring within the scope of AASB137 that involves the payment of termination benefits. The expense and liability are recognised when the University is demonstrably committed to either terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy.

Termination benefits are measured on initial recognition and subsequent changes are measured and recognised in accordance with the nature of the employee benefit. Benefits expected to be settled wholly within 12 months are measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid. Benefits not expected to be settled before 12 months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to present value.

Service concession provision

The University has recognised a service concession provision in the statement of financial position. The liability reflects the performance obligation the University has incurred to allow the operator access to, and the right to generate revenue from, service concession assets. The liability incurred is initially recognised at an amount equivalent to the value of service concession assets delivered to the University and is amortised to the statement of comprehensive income over the duration of the service concession arrangement. As a provision, it is subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount that the University would rationally pay to settle the obligation at the reporting date or to transfer it to a third party. This will generally equate to the unamortised balance at each reporting date.

(u) Foreign currency translation and hedge accounting

(i) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of the University are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the University operates. The financial statements are presented in Australian Dollars, which is the University's functional and presentation currency.

(ii) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the income statement. Qualifying cash flow hedges shall be accounted for by recognising the portion of the gain or loss determined to be an effective hedge in other comprehensive income and the ineffective portion in the income statement.

If gains or losses on non-monetary items are recognised in other comprehensive income, translation gains or losses are also recognised in other comprehensive income. Similarly, if gains or losses on non-monetary items are recognised in profit and loss, translation gains or losses are also recognised in the income statement.

(v) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

(w) Comparative amounts

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to enhance comparability in respect of changes in presentation adopted in the current year.

(x) Initial application of an Australian Accounting Standard

The University has applied the following Australian Accounting Standards effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015 that impacted on the University.

Standard Name	Impact
AASB 2015-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Fair Value disclosures of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities	Relief is provided from some of the disclosures in AASB 13.93 (d), (f) and (h).

(y) New Accounting Standards and interpretations

Certain new Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 31 December 2015 reporting periods. The University's assessment of the impact of these new Standards and Interpretations is set out below:

Standard	Application date	Implications
AASB 9	1 January 2018 (early adoption permitted)	The changes from this standard will impact on the current classification and accounting treatment of Available-for-sale financial assets. The standard will be adopted when mandatory.
AASB 15	1 January 2017	Not assessed
AASB 2010-7	1 January 2018	Not assessed
AASB 2014-1	1 January 2016 1 January 2018	Not assessed
AASB 2014-3	1 January 2016 (early adoption permitted)	This amendment adds new guidance to address the accounting for the acquisition of an interest in a joint operation where those activities constitute a business. It will not have an impact on ECU.
AASB 2014-4	1 January 2016 (early adoption permitted)	This amendment will limit the use of revenue based depreciation and amortisation methods. It will not have an impact on ECU.
AASB 2014 - 5	1 January 2017	Not assessed
AASB 2014 - 7	1 January 2018	Not assessed
AASB 2015 - 1	1 January 2016	Not assessed

(z) Rounding of amounts

Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded off in accordance with Class Order 98/100 as amended by Class Order 04/667 issued by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC), relating to the 'rounding off' of amounts in the financial statements. Amounts have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars.

2 Australian Government financial assistance including Australian Government loan programs (HELP)**(a) Commonwealth Grants Scheme and Other Grants**

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Commonwealth Grants Scheme #1		132,706	136,132
Indigenous Support Program		642	617
Partnership and Participation Program		3,556	3,236
Disability Support Program		102	110
Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Teaching		30	12
Total Commonwealth Grants Scheme and Other Grants	41(a)	137,036	140,107

(b) Higher Education Loan Programs

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
HECS - HELP		76,081	77,294
FEE - HELP		10,852	11,877
VET FEE - HELP		1,491	904
SA - HELP	41(h)	2,599	2,333
Total Higher Education Loan Programs	41(b)	91,023	92,408

(c) Scholarships

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Australian Postgraduate Awards		2,169	1,882
International Postgraduate Research Scholarships		154	148
Commonwealth Education Cost Scholarship ^{#2}		164	62
Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships		125	11
Indigenous Access Scholarships		34	52
Total Scholarships	41(c)	2,646	2,155

(d) Education Research

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Joint Research Engagement Program		2,747	2,808
Research Training Scheme		4,605	4,558
Research Infrastructure Block Grants		465	439
Sustainable Research Excellence in Universities		790	716
Other		703	1,559
Total Education Research Grants	41(d)	9,310	10,080

(e) Australian Research Council

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
(i) Discovery			
Projects	41(e)(i)	217	196
(ii) Linkages			
Projects	41(e)(ii)	256	341
Total Australian Research Council		473	537

(f) Other Australian Government financial assistance

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Non-capital			
National competitive		1,896	3,035
Other research grants		2,718	2,525
Other non-research grants		2,651	4,287
Total		7,265	9,847
Capital			
Other non-research grants		-	113
Total other Australian Government financial assistance		7,265	9,960
Total Australian Government financial assistance		247,753	255,247

#1 Includes the basic CGS grant amount, CGS - Regional Loading, CGS - Enabling Loading, Allocated Places Advance and Non-designated Courses Advance.

#2 Includes Grandfathered Scholarships and National Accommodation Priority Scholarships.

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Reconciliation		
Australian Government grants (a + c + d + e + f)	156,730	162,839
HECS - HELP payments	76,081	77,294
FEE - HELP payments	10,852	11,877
VET FEE - HELP	1,491	904
SA - HELP payments	2,599	2,333
Total Australian Government financial assistance	247,753	255,247

(g) Australian Government Grants received - cash basis (Ref note 41)

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
CGS and other education grants	41(a)	137,767	139,825
Higher Education Loan Programs	41(b)	92,035	88,368
Scholarships	41(c)	2,529	2,460
Education research	41(d)	9,184	9,335
ARC grants - Discovery	41(e)	217	196
ARC grants - Linkages	41(e)	256	341
Other Australian Government Grants		7,031	8,870
Total Australian Government Grants received - cash basis		249,019	249,395
OS-Help (Net)	41(f)	(1,194)	1,723
Superannuation Supplementation	41(g)	2,665	3,252
Total Australian Government funding received - cash basis		250,490	254,370

3 State and Local Government financial assistance

Government grants were received during the reporting period for the following purposes:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Non-capital		
Department of Training and Workforce Development*	7,058	8,234
WA State Government research grants	4,080	4,810
Local Government research grants	201	274
Total State and Local Government financial assistance	11,339	13,318

*Relates to the funding for the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA)

4 Fees and charges

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Course fees and charges			
Fee-paying onshore overseas students		64,651	54,762
Fee-paying offshore overseas students		2,217	2,898
Continuing education		879	520
Fee-paying domestic postgraduate students		5,870	5,279
Fee-paying domestic undergraduate students		64	11
Total course fees and charges		73,681	63,470
Other non-course fees and charges			
Student services and amenities fees	41(h)	1,157	1,561
Examination, registration and photocopying fees		429	441
Other fees and charges		1,103	578
Parking fees		1,684	1,660
Facility Hire		3,329	2,688
Other		221	285
Total other fees and charges		7,923	7,213
Total fees and charges		81,604	70,683

5 Investment revenue and other investment income

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Investment revenue		
Interest revenue from the University operating account	556	229
Interest from bank bills	9,047	10,583
Rental income from investment properties	1,426	1,048
Total investment revenue	11,029	11,860
Other investment income		
Dividends received	375	112
Distributions from managed funds	2,633	1,408
Net gain on disposal of available-for-sale financial assets including gains/losses reclassified from equity	-	10
Net gain on revaluation of investment properties	322	400
Total other investment income	3,330	1,930
Net investment income	14,359	13,790

6 Royalties

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Royalties	6,418	6,336

7 Consultancy and contracts

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Consultancy	261	270
Contract research	5,554	5,279
Total consultancy and contracts	5,815	5,549

8 Other revenue and income

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Other revenue		
Donations and bequests	690	889
Scholarships and prizes	1,404	1,407
Proceeds from sale of non-capitalised equipment	73	113
Commissions, recoveries and rebates received	3,036	5,452
Expense recoups	36	41
Sale of goods	1,818	1,982
Box office sales	766	660
Sundry income	1,167	758
Medical practitioners' fees	111	142
Other revenue	433	390
Total other revenue	9,534	11,834
Other income		
Service concession income	1,238	948
Other income	1,008	3,628
Total other income	2,246	4,576

9 Gains on disposal of assets

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Proceeds from sale of assets	991	1,447
Carrying amount of assets disposed	(508)	(1,309)
Net gain on disposal	483	138

10 Employee related expenses

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Academic		
Salaries	82,147	86,133
Contributions to superannuation and pension schemes - funded	11,639	11,209
Payroll tax	5,772	5,566
Worker's compensation	439	444
Long service leave expense	1,929	1,616
Annual leave	1,187	974
Other	615	701
Total academic	103,728	106,643
Non-academic		
Salaries	95,608	94,080
Contributions to superannuation and pension schemes - funded	13,136	12,370
Payroll tax	5,917	6,027
Worker's compensation	476	494
Long service leave expense	914	694
Annual leave	1,216	915
Other	424	455
Total non-academic	117,691	115,035
Total employee related expenses	221,419	221,678

11 Depreciation and amortisation

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Depreciation		
Buildings	14,025	13,016
Service concession assets	1,432	1,209
Other equipment and furniture	3,109	3,317
Computing equipment	561	309
Motor vehicles	118	121
Library collections	961	1,003
Total depreciation	20,206	18,975
Amortisation		
Intangible assets	1,088	1,025
Leasehold improvements	565	581
Total amortisation	1,653	1,606
Total depreciation and amortisation	21,859	20,581

12 Repairs and maintenance

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Buildings maintenance	5,259	7,816
Grounds maintenance	1,172	802
Other equipment maintenance	957	1,417
Total repairs and maintenance	7,388	10,035

13 Borrowing costs

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Interest expense	4,180	3,964
Less: Amount capitalised	(755)	(2,476)
Total borrowing costs expensed	3,425	1,488

14 Impairment of assets

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Bad and doubtful debts	-	156
Total impairment of assets	-	156

* Additional details on impairments of receivables are included at note 17.

15 Other expenses

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Scholarships, grants and prizes	10,838	9,941
Advertising and marketing	6,193	5,672
Promotions and sponsorships	4,352	3,567
Audit fees, bank charges, legal costs and insurance	6,467	13,683
Computer software and maintenance	18,051	15,009
General consumables	4,221	4,100
Hire and lease costs	2,683	1,586
Library subscriptions	1,533	1,544
Non-capitalised equipment	3,367	3,761
Operating lease rental expenses	264	258
Printing and stationery	2,305	2,580
Professional and consulting fees	12,530	12,297
Student related expenditure	8,733	9,777
Telecommunications	1,286	1,493
Travel, staff development and entertainment	6,119	6,337
Utilities and rates	5,985	6,567
Net loss on asset write-offs ^{#1}	5	68
Cost of goods sold	45	51
Student Practicum and related expenses	2,226	2,862
Miscellaneous	9,365	8,983
Total other expenses	106,568	110,136

#1 Additional detail on write-offs during the year is included at note 39.

16 Cash and cash equivalents

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Cash-at-bank	14,998	9,330
Term Deposits	32,231	45,190
Cash held in imprests	10	10
Total cash and cash equivalent	47,239	54,530

(a) Reconciliation to cash at the end of the year

The above figures are reconciled to cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows as follows:

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Unrestricted cash		37,567	45,246
Restricted funds	29	9,672	9,284
Balance as per cash flow statement		<u>47,239</u>	<u>54,530</u>

(b) Cash-at-bank and held in imprests

Cash in the University operating account has earned interest at an average rate of 1.90% (2014: 2.40%).

(c) Term deposits

The term deposits are bearing fixed interest rates between 2.85% and 3.05% (2014: 3.18% and 3.50%). These deposits have an average maturity of 63 days.

17 Receivables

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Current			
Trade receivables and student debts		4,198	6,454
Less: Provision for impaired receivables		(364)	(1,411)
		<u>3,834</u>	<u>5,043</u>
Deferred Government benefit for superannuation	40	2,651	2,741
GST and withholding tax receivable		2,905	4,047
Total current receivables		<u>9,390</u>	<u>11,831</u>
Non-current			
Deferred Government benefit for superannuation	40	21,808	22,833
Total non-current receivables		<u>21,808</u>	<u>22,833</u>
Total trade and other receivables		<u>31,198</u>	<u>34,664</u>

Impaired receivables

As at 31 December 2015 current receivables of the University with a nominal value of \$0.4m (2014: \$1.4m) were impaired. It was assessed that a portion of these receivables are expected to be recovered.

The ageing analysis of these receivables is as follows:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
3 to 6 months	223	803
6 to 12 months	50	484
Over 12 months	91	124
Total current impaired receivables	<u>364</u>	<u>1,411</u>

As at 31 December 2015, trade receivables of \$1.0m (2014: \$0.5m) were past due but not impaired. These relate to a number of clients and students for whom there is no recent history of default.

The ageing analysis of these receivables is as follows:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
3 months or less	<u>1,040</u>	<u>494</u>

Movements in the provision for impaired receivables are as follows:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Balance at 1 January	1,411	1,292
Provision for impairment recognised during the year	(973)	156
Receivables written off during the year as uncollectible	(74)	(40)
Unused amount reversed	-	3
Balance at 31 December	<u>364</u>	<u>1,411</u>

The creation and release of the provision for impaired receivables has been included in 'Impairment of assets' in the Income Statement. Amounts charged to the provision account are generally written off when there is no expectation of further recovery.

The other amounts within receivables do not contain impaired assets and are not past due. Based on credit history, it is expected that these amounts will be received when due.

18 Derivative financial instruments

Current assets

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Derivative financial instruments	<u>9</u>	<u>19</u>

(a) Instruments used by the University

The University is party to derivative financial instruments in the normal course of business in order to hedge exposure to fluctuations in foreign exchange rates in accordance with the University's financial risk management policies (refer to note 37).

In order to protect against exchange rate movements, the University had entered into a forward exchange contract to purchase foreign currency.

These contracts are hedging obligations for payments for the ensuing financial year. The contracts are timed to mature when payments are contractually due for payment.

The portion of the gain or loss on the hedging instrument that is determined to be an effective hedge is recognised directly in equity. When the cash flows occur, the University adjusts the initial measurement of the component parts recognised in the statement of financial positions by the related amount deferred in equity.

(b) Interest rate and foreign exchange risk

For an analysis of the sensitivity of derivatives to interest rate and foreign exchange risk refer to note 37.

19 Other financial assets	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Current		
Held-to-maturity investments		
Fixed term deposits	115,568	141,025
Total current other financial assets	115,568	141,025
Non-Current		
Available-for-sale investments		
Listed shares	1,868	2,032
Unlisted shares	9,198	-
Funds under management	54,040	24,288
Held-to-maturity investments		
Fixed term deposits	59,262	59,262
Total non-current other financial assets	124,368	85,582
Total other financial assets	239,936	226,607

20 Other non-financial assets	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Current		
Accrued income	1,933	523
Advances and prepayments	8,881	9,841
Total current other non-financial assets	10,814	10,364
Non-current		
Non-current other non-financial assets	1,658	1,758
Total other non-financial assets	12,472	12,122

21 Investment properties	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
At fair value		
Opening balance at 1 January	21,354	13,610
Additions	960	7,344
Gain on revaluation	322	400
Closing balance as at 31 December	22,636	21,354

For fair value hierarchy categorisation of investment properties see note 38.

(a) Amounts recognised in Income Statement for investment properties

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Rental income	1,426	1,048
Direct operating expenses	(513)	(326)
Gain on revaluation	322	400
Total recognised in Income Statement	1,235	1,122

(b) Valuation basis

The fair value of all investment properties has been determined by reference to recent market transactions. The investment properties have been valued as at 31 December 2015 by independent professional valuer.

22 Property, plant and equipment

	Work-in-progress \$000's	Land \$000's	Buildings \$000's	Service concession assets - land \$000's	Service concession assets - building \$000's	Leasehold improve- ments \$000's	Artworks \$000's	Library collections \$000's	Motor vehicles \$000's	Other equipment & furniture \$000's	Computer equipment \$000's	Total \$000's
At 1 January 2014												
Cost	34,566	-	-	11,617	53,488	-	-	12,029	762	38,471	11,472	162,405
Valuation	-	124,069	525,738	-	-	9,115	12,921	-	-	-	-	671,843
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-	(4,404)	-	-	(6,443)	(381)	(29,393)	(10,686)	(51,307)
Net book amount	34,566	124,069	525,738	11,617	49,084	9,115	12,921	5,586	381	9,078	786	782,941
Year ended 31 December 2014												
Opening net book amount	34,566	124,069	525,738	11,617	49,084	9,115	12,921	5,586	381	9,078	786	782,941
Additions	47,090	-	-	-	-	-	70	-	99	1,833	-	49,092
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3)	-	(3)
Write offs during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	(68)	-	-	-	-	(68)
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	-	7,666	(11,122)	-	-	(181)	-	-	-	-	-	(3,637)
Reclassifications in/(out)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,958)	(4)	-	-	-	-	(1,962)
Depreciation charge	-	-	(13,016)	-	(1,209)	(581)	-	(1,003)	(121)	(3,317)	(309)	(19,556)
Transfers	(9,305)	-	7,649	-	-	-	-	371	-	1,153	132	-
Closing net book amount	72,351	131,735	509,249	11,617	47,875	6,395	12,919	4,954	359	8,744	609	806,807
At 31 December 2014												
Cost	72,351	-	-	11,617	53,488	-	-	12,400	817	40,464	10,605	201,742
Valuation	-	131,735	509,249	-	-	6,395	12,919	-	-	-	-	660,298
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-	(5,613)	-	-	(7,446)	(458)	(31,720)	(9,996)	(55,233)
Net book amount	72,351	131,735	509,249	11,617	47,875	6,395	12,919	4,954	359	8,744	609	806,807

	Work-in-progress \$000's	Land \$000's	Buildings \$000's	Service concession assets - land \$000's	Service concession assets - building \$000's	Leasehold improve- ments \$000's	Artworks \$000's	Library collections \$000's	Motor vehicles \$000's	Other equipment & furniture \$000's	Computer equipment \$000's	Total \$000's
Year ended 31 December 2015												
Opening net book amount	72,351	131,735	509,249	11,617	47,875	6,395	12,919	4,954	359	8,744	609	806,807
Additions	25,141	14,825	7,307	-	-	-	350	-	-	4,999	131	52,753
Disposals during the year	-	(825)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(22)	-	(847)
Write-offs during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	-	(1,125)	(21,247)	-	-	(59)	1,336	-	-	-	-	(21,095)
Reclassifications in/(out)	(960)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(960)
Depreciation charge	-	-	(14,025)	-	(1,432)	(565)	-	(961)	(118)	(3,109)	(561)	(20,771)
Transfers	(88,495)	-	74,837	-	11,118	-	-	920	40	543	1,037	-
Closing net book amount	8,037	144,610	556,121	11,617	57,561	5,771	14,605	4,913	281	11,155	1,216	815,887
At 31 December 2015												
Cost	8,037	-	-	11,617	64,607	-	-	13,320	793	37,168	10,961	146,503
Valuation	-	144,610	556,121	-	-	5,771	14,605	-	-	-	-	721,107
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-	(7,046)	-	-	(8,407)	(512)	(26,013)	(9,745)	(51,723)
Net book amount	8,037	144,610	556,121	11,617	57,561	5,771	14,605	4,913	281	11,155	1,216	815,887

22 Property, plant and equipment (continued)**(a) Valuations of land, buildings and artworks**

Land, buildings and leasehold improvements were revalued as at 31 December 2015 by independent professional valuers. The fair value of all land has been determined by reference to recent market transactions and the fair value of buildings and leasehold improvements have been determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits, refer to note 1(l).

Artworks are heritage assets and have been valued as at 31 December 2015 by independent professional valuers, the fair value of artworks has been determined by reference to recent market transactions.

(b) Service concession assets

The University entered into a Service Concession Arrangement with Campus Living Villages ('CLV'), an entity that specialises in the construction, operation and maintenance of long-term student accommodation services. As part of this arrangement, CLV has constructed a 355 bed student village at the Mt Lawley Campus, a 127 bed student accommodation in Joondalup and continue to undertake refurbishment of existing accommodation at Mt Lawley, Joondalup and Bunbury campuses. CLV has assumed management of all such accommodation. CLV is compensated for the provision of capital works to the University through the granting of rights by the University to CLV allowing CLV to operate and enjoy full access to such assets, including the retention of all rental income.

The term of the arrangement is for 38 years in total, at which time CLV management and operational rights will cease, and the full operation and management will return to the University. The financial statements reflect the control of all such assets by the University pursuant to the principles of service concession accounting.

A breakdown of service concession assets at reporting date is:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Land	11,617	11,617
Buildings	57,561	47,875
Work in progress	-	11,119
Net book amount	69,178	70,611

23 Intangible assets

	Total \$000's
Digital library collections	
At 1 January 2014	
- Cost	12,168
- Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(6,065)
Net book amount	6,103
Year ended 31 December 2014	
Opening net book value	6,103
Additions	1,387
Amortisation charge	(1,025)
Closing net book amount	6,465
At 31 December 2014	
- Cost	13,554
- Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(7,089)

	Total \$000's
Net book amount	6,465
Year ended 31 December 2015	
Opening net book amount	6,465
Additions	313
Amortisation charge	(1,088)
Closing net book amount	5,690
At 31 December 2015	
- Cost	13,867
- Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(8,177)
Net book amount	5,690

24 Trade and other payables

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Current		
Trade payables	9,460	4,725
CGS and other liabilities to Australian Government	945	300
OS HELP liabilities to Australian Government	622	1,816
GST payable	119	478
Total current trade and other payables	11,146	7,319

The fair value of trade and other payables is equal to their carrying value.

(a) Foreign currency risk

The carrying amounts of the University's trade and other payables are denominated in the following currencies.

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Australian Dollar	11,090	7,300
Euro Dollar	37	-
Great British Pound	2	-
US Dollar	17	19
	<u>11,146</u>	<u>7,319</u>

For an analysis of the sensitivity of trade and other payables to foreign currency risk refer to note 37.

25 Borrowings

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Current - Unsecured interest bearing		
Western Australian Treasury Corporation	18,941	125
Non-current - Unsecured interest bearing		
Western Australian Treasury Corporation	<u>80,608</u>	99,520
Total borrowings	<u>99,549</u>	99,645

(a) Financing arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at reporting date to the following lines of credit:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Credit standby arrangements		
Total facilities		
Western Australian Treasury Corporation	100,000	100,000
Bank facilities	<u>6,050</u>	6,050
Total facilities	<u>106,050</u>	106,050
Used at balance date		
Western Australian Treasury Corporation	99,549	99,645
Bank facilities	<u>280</u>	228
Total used at balance date	<u>99,829</u>	99,873
Unused at balance date		
Western Australian Treasury Corporation	451	355
Bank facilities	<u>5,770</u>	5,822
Total unused at balance date	<u>6,221</u>	6,177

The current interest rates on loans from Western Australian Treasury Corporation range between 3% and 3.29%, depending on the type of borrowing (2014: 3.47% and 5.41%).

A majority of the used bank facilities of \$0.3m (2014: \$0.2m) represent credit card balances outstanding as at year end which are included as part of trade and other payables in note 24.

Assets pledged as security

The University has not pledged any assets as security against the borrowings. The borrowings are secured by the Western Australian Government guarantee for which ECU incurs a 0.7% guarantee fee.

(b) Fair value

The carrying amounts and fair values of borrowings at reporting date are:

	2015		2014	
	Carrying Amount \$000's	Fair Value \$000's	Carrying Amount \$000's	Fair Value \$000's
<i>Borrowings</i>				
Western Australian Treasury Corporation	99,549	99,957	99,645	104,681
	99,549	99,957	99,645	104,681

The fair value of borrowings have been prepared assuming hypothetical settlement dates of 31 December 2014 and 31 December 2015.

(c) Risk exposures

The exposure of the University's borrowings to interest rate changes and the contractual repricing dates at the reporting dates are as follows:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Within one year	18,941	125
Between one and five years	80,608	59,520
Later than five years	-	40,000
	99,549	99,645
These borrowings are classified as follows:		
Current borrowings	18,941	125
Non-current borrowings	80,608	99,520
	99,549	99,645

The carrying amounts of the University's borrowings are denominated in Australian Dollars.

For an analysis of the sensitivity of borrowings to interest rate risk refer to note 37.

26 Provisions

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Current provisions expected to be settled within 12 months			
Employee benefits			
Annual leave and other compensated absences		7,292	6,810
Long service leave		7,589	7,294
Employment on-costs provision		3,388	3,175
Defined benefit obligation	40	2,651	2,741
Staff bonuses		1,484	1,150
Provision for service concession liabilities		1,241	1,238
Other provisions		2,080	3,391
		25,725	25,799
Current provisions expected to be settled after more than 12 months			
Employee benefits			
Annual leave and other compensated absences		908	709
Long Service Leave		16,058	12,806
Superannuation and other post-employment benefits		2,242	1,770
Employment on-costs provision		1,327	1,056
		20,535	16,341
Total current provisions		46,260	42,140
Non-current provisions			
Employee benefits			
Long service leave		2,777	4,395
Defined benefit obligation	40	21,808	22,833
Provision for deferred salary		367	221
Employment on-costs provision		1,855	2,046
Provision for service concession liabilities		38,032	39,273
Other provisions		7,094	7,232
		71,933	76,000
Total non-current provisions		71,933	76,000
Total provisions		118,193	118,140

Current provisions expected to be settled after more than 12 months represents a current obligation of the University, however, it is the view of the management that they are expected to be settled after more than 12 months.

Annual leave liabilities have been classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after reporting date.

Long service leave liabilities have been classified as current where there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

The settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation premiums and payroll tax. The provision is measured at the present value of expected future payments. The associated expense, apart from the unwinding of the discount (finance cost), is included at note 10.

Other provisions include a provision for present obligations arising from an onerous contract under which the unavoidable costs of meeting the contract obligations exceed the economic benefits expected to be received.

(a) Movements in provisions

	Employment on-costs \$000's	Service concession liabilities \$000's	Other \$000's
2015			
Carrying amount at start of year	6,277	40,511	10,623
Additional provisions recognised	4,341	-	3,671
Amounts incurred and charged	(4,048)	(1,238)	(5,120)
Carrying amount at end of year	6,570	39,273	9,174

27 Other liabilities

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Current		
Fees and grants received in advance	18,888	17,352
Financial assistance received in advance	1,445	1,468
Accrued expenses	13,595	20,689
Total other liabilities	33,928	39,509

28 Reserves and retained earnings**(a) Reserves**

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Reserves		
Property, plant and equipment revaluation surplus	306,183	344,283
Investments revaluation surplus	12,248	5,744
Hedging reserve - cash flow hedges	9	19
Total Reserves	318,440	350,046

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Movements		
<i>Property, plant and equipment revaluation surplus</i>		
Balance 1 January	344,283	348,719
Revaluation - gross	(21,095)	(3,637)
Transfer to retained earnings	(17,005)	(799)
Balance 31 December	<u>306,183</u>	<u>344,283</u>
<i>Investments revaluation surplus</i>		
Balance 1 January	5,744	6,105
Revaluation - gross	6,504	(361)
Balance 31 December	<u>12,248</u>	<u>5,744</u>
<i>Hedging reserve - cash flow hedges</i>		
Balance 1 January	19	21
Revaluation - gross	(10)	(2)
Balance 31 December	<u>9</u>	<u>19</u>
Total reserves	<u>318,440</u>	<u>350,046</u>

(b) Retained earnings

Movement in retained earnings were as follows:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Retained earnings at the beginning of the year	547,909	519,615
Net result for the period	28,897	27,495
Transfer from property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve	17,005	799
Retained earnings at end of the year	<u>593,811</u>	<u>547,909</u>

(c) Nature and purpose of reserves*(i) Property, plant and equipment revaluation surplus*

The property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets, as described in note 1(l).

(ii) Investments revaluation surplus

Changes in the fair value and exchange differences arising on revaluation of investments, such as equities, classified as available-for-sale financial assets, are taken to the investments revaluation reserve, as described in note 1(i). Amounts are reclassified to the income statement when the associated assets are sold or impaired.

(iii) Hedging reserve - cash flow hedges

The hedging reserve is used to record gains or losses on a hedging instrument in a cash flow hedge that are recognised directly in equity, as described in note 1(u). Amounts are reclassified to the income statement when the associated hedged transaction affects profit and loss. If the gains/losses in a cash flow hedge relate to the foreign purchase of a non-financial asset (e.g. property, plant and equipment), they are reclassified to the carrying amount of the asset on initial recognition.

29 Restricted funds

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Restricted funds		
ECU Foundation	<u>9,672</u>	<u>9,284</u>

The purpose of the ECU Foundation is to hold funds received from external sources. These funds are appropriated for a variety of educational and research purposes ranging from scholarships, research, prizes and special lecture programs. The Foundation was established to aid and promote excellence in educational and research activities by seeking, receiving and administering private gifts for the benefit of the University and its community. These restricted funds are considered to be controlled by the University and are included in cash and cash equivalents.

30 Key management personnel disclosures**(a) Remuneration of members of the University Council**

The number of council members, whose total of fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial year, fall within the following bands are:

	2015 Number	2014 Number
Nil to \$10,000	19	20
\$130,001 to \$140,000	1	1
\$140,001 to \$150,000	1	-
\$170,001 to \$180,000	-	1
\$180,001 to \$190,000	1	-
\$230,001 to \$240,000	1	-
\$360,001 to \$370,000	1	1
\$470,001 to \$480,000	1	-
\$510,001 to \$520,000	-	1
\$530,001 to \$540,000	-	1
\$600,001 to \$610,000	1	-

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Base remuneration and superannuation	2,007	1,526
Annual leave and long service leave accruals	65	139
Other benefits	78	67
The total aggregate remuneration of members of the University council	<u>2,150</u>	<u>1,732</u>

No council member has received any remuneration in his/her capacity as a council member.

The total remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the University in respect of council members.

No council members are members of the pension scheme.

(b) Remuneration of senior officers

The number of senior officers, other than senior officers reported as members of the University council, whose total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial year, fall within the following bands are:

	2015 Number	2014 Number
\$70,001 to \$80,000	1	-
\$170,001 to \$180,000	1	-
\$240,001 to \$250,000	-	1
\$260,001 to \$270,000	2	-
\$310,001 to \$320,000	-	2
\$320,001 to \$330,000	-	1
\$340,001 to \$350,000	-	-
\$350,001 to \$360,000	1	1
\$370,001 to \$380,000	1	1
\$390,001 to \$400,000	1	-
\$410,001 to \$420,000	1	1
\$470,001 to \$480,000	-	1
\$490,001 to \$500,000	1	-

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Base remuneration and superannuation	2,495	2,668
Annual leave and long service leave accruals	119	6
Other benefits	201	157
The total aggregate remuneration of senior officers	2,815	2,831

The remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the University in respect of senior officers other than senior officers reported as members of the University Council.

No senior officer is a member of the pension scheme.

31 Remuneration of auditors

Remuneration to the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) and non-related audit firms for the financial year are as follows:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Audit the Financial Statements		
Audit fees - OAG	246	242
Other audit and assurance services		
Audit fees - OAG	14	14
Audit fees - Non-OAG firms	-	5
Total	260	261

32 Contingencies**Contingent liabilities**

In addition to the liabilities recognised in the financial statements, the University has the following contingent liabilities:

Native title claims

University land is subject to Federal Court proceedings concerning native title rights and to settlement negotiations between the State Government and the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council.

Outstanding litigation

The University is a defendant in an action commenced by a former employee. The claim is not material and sufficient insurance is in place to cover the potential liability.

33 Commitments**(a) Capital expenditure commitments**

Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, including amounts for infrastructure, are payable as follows:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Property, plant and equipment		
Within one year	6,351	11,103
	<u>6,351</u>	<u>11,103</u>

(b) Lease commitments: The Entity as lessee*(i) Operating leases*

Commitments in relation to leases contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities, are payable as follows:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Within one year	1,904	276
Between one year and five years	6,554	270
Non-cancellable operating lease	<u>8,458</u>	<u>546</u>

(c) Other expenditure commitments

Commitments in relation to purchase orders in existence at the reporting date, but not recognised as liabilities, are payable as follows:

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Within one year	12,071	13,005
Between one year and five years	10,887	-
	<u>22,958</u>	<u>13,005</u>

All commitments reported above are exclusive of GST.

34 Events occurring after the reporting date

No events have occurred since the reporting date that are likely to have a material impact on the financial statements or notes of the University.

35 Reconciliation of net result to net cash flows from operating activities

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Net result for the period	28,897	27,495
Non-cash items		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	21,859	20,581
Revaluation of investment properties	(322)	(400)
Provision for impairment of receivables	(973)	156
Service concession income	(1,238)	(948)
Gain on sale of asset	(483)	(138)
Net loss on asset write-offs	5	68
Gain on sale of investment	-	(10)
	<u>47,745</u>	<u>46,804</u>
(Increase)/decrease in receivables and non-financial assets	4,925	(7,119)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(1,754)	10,506
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	1,290	10,595
	<u>4,461</u>	<u>13,982</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>52,206</u>	<u>60,786</u>

36 Non-cash investing and financing activities

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Proceeds accrued from sale of property, plant and equipment	<u>835</u>	<u>-</u>

37 Financial risk management

The University is exposed to the following financial risks as a result of its activities:

(a) Market risk*(i) Foreign exchange risk*

The University manages its foreign exchange risk by negotiating all contracts in Australian dollars as far as it is practical. The University seeks to hedge any material and highly probable foreign exchange exposure. The University does not speculate in foreign currency exchange.

At 31 December 2015, the University held \$9m in foreign currency forward exchange contracts.

(ii) Interest risk

The University's exposure to interest rate risk arises from its cash at bank balance and borrowings. The University's interest rate risk arising from the University's borrowings is managed by diversifying maturities and interest rate terms, and monthly monitoring of targeted interest cover, liquidity and debt portfolio maturity profile. Other than as detailed in the interest rate sensitivity analysis table in (iv), the University has limited exposure to interest rate.

(iii) Price risk

The University investment portfolios are exposed to fluctuations in the prices of equity securities. The University's investment policy provides strategies for minimisation of price risk with the diversification of investment managers and regular monitoring by independent expert to ensure that there is no concentration of risk in any one area.

(iv) Summarised sensitivity analysis

The following table summarises the sensitivity of the University's financial assets and financial liabilities to interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk and other price risk.

	Carrying amount \$'000	Interest rate risk				Foreign exchange risk				Other price risk			
		-1%		+1%		-10%		+10%		-10%		+10%	
		Profit \$000's	Equity \$000's	Profit \$000's	Equity \$000's	Profit \$000's	Equity \$000's	Profit \$000's	Equity \$000's	Profit \$000's	Equity \$000's	Profit \$000's	Equity \$000's
31 December 2015													
Financial assets													
Cash and cash equivalents	47,239	(266)	(266)	266	266	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trade receivable	3,834	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial assets - Available for sale	65,106	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(6,511)	(6,511)	6,511	6,511
Financial assets - Held to maturity	174,830	(166)	(166)	166	166	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derivatives - cash flow hedges	9	-	-	-	-	1	1	(1)	(1)	-	-	-	-
Sub-total		(432)	(432)	432	432	1	1	(1)	(1)	(6,511)	(6,511)	6,511	6,511
Financial liabilities													
Trade payables	11,027	-	-	-	-	(6)	(6)	6	6	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	99,549	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accrued expenses	13,595	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-total		-	-	-	-	(6)	(6)	6	6	-	-	-	-
Total increase/(decrease)		(432)	(432)	432	432	(5)	(5)	5	5	(6,511)	(6,511)	6,511	6,511
31 December 2014													
Financial assets													
Cash and cash equivalents	54,530	(381)	(381)	381	381	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trade receivables	5,043	-	-	-	-	12	12	(12)	(12)	-	-	-	-
Financial assets - available for sale	26,320	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,632)	(2,632)	2,632	2,632
Financial assets - held to maturity	200,287	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derivatives - cash flow hedges	19	-	-	-	-	2	2	(2)	(2)	-	-	-	-
Sub-total		(381)	(381)	381	381	14	14	(14)	(14)	(2,632)	(2,632)	2,632	2,632
Financial liabilities													
Trade payables	6,841	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)	2	2	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	99,645	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accrued expenses	20,689	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-total		-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)	2	2	-	-	-	-
Total increase/(decrease)		(381)	(381)	381	381	12	12	(12)	(12)	(2,632)	(2,632)	2,632	2,632

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk arises principally from the University's investment securities and to a limited extent from its receivables. The carrying amount of the financial assets represents the maximum credit risk exposure at the reporting date.

The University manages its exposure to credit risk by diversifying investments between fund managers, setting investment restrictions and establishing strategic asset allocation benchmarks.

The University's Investment Policy Statement, sets out Investment Policy for matters such as performance objectives, investment restrictions, performance benchmarks and monitoring, and the strategic asset allocation benchmark for each investment pool. The Investment Policy Statement is reviewed internally at least every three years. An independent consultant is engaged to assess both the Investment Policy and the internal reviews thereof, unless otherwise approved by Council.

The majority of the University's exposure to credit risk from receivables is denominated in Australian dollars. The University's trade and receivable management policy is designed to ensure that credit facilities are provided to customers with an appropriate credit history.

The University's cash and cash equivalent transactions are invested only with investment grade deposit taking institutions and in accordance with the University Treasury Policy, where maximum exposure limits are set for each institution according to their risk profile.

(c) Liquidity risk

The University is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business. Liquidity risk arises when the University is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The University's objective is to maintain a balance between continuity of funding and flexibility through the use of borrowings. The University has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

The tables below analyse the University's financial assets and liabilities based on the remaining period at the reporting date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows. Balances due within 12 months equal their carrying balances, as the impact of discounting is not significant.

	Within 1 year		1 - 2 years		2 - 5 years		5+ years		Total	
	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Financial Assets:										
Cash and cash equivalents	47,239	54,530	-	-	-	-	-	-	47,239	54,530
Trade and other receivables	3,834	5,043	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,834	5,043
Financial assets - available for sale	-	-	-	-	-	-	65,106	26,320	65,106	26,320
Financial assets - held to maturity	123,797	141,026	-	8,229	51,033	10,201	-	40,832	174,830	200,288
Derivative financial instruments	9	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	19
Total Financial Assets	174,879	200,618	-	8,229	51,033	10,201	65,106	67,152	291,018	286,200
Financial Liabilities:										
Trade and other payables	11,028	6,844	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,028	6,844
Borrowings	18,941	125	19,436	14,581	61,172	44,939	-	40,000	99,549	99,645
Accrued expenses	13,595	20,689	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,595	20,689
Total Financial Liabilities	43,564	27,658	19,436	14,581	61,172	44,939	-	40,000	124,172	127,178

The following are the average interest rates for the above financial assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2015

Financial assets

1. Cash and cash equivalents - 2.64% p.a (2014: 3.20% p.a).
2. Trade and other receivables - Non-interest bearing financial asset.
3. Available-for-sale financial assets - Non-interest bearing financial asset.
4. Held to maturity investments - 3.88% p.a (2014: 4.19% p.a).

Financial liability

1. Trade and other payable - Non-interest bearing financial liability.
2. Borrowings - 3.29% p.a (2014: 4.06% p.a).

The University's derivative financial instruments will be settled on a gross basis within the next 12 months.

38 Fair value measurement**(a) Fair value measurements**

The fair value financial assets and financial liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes.

Due to the short-term nature of the current receivables their carrying value is assumed to approximate their fair value and based on credit history it is expected that the receivables that are neither past due nor impaired will be received when due.

The carrying amounts and aggregate net fair values of financial assets and liabilities at balance date are:

	Note	Carrying Amount		Fair Value	
		2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Financial assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	16	47,239	54,530	47,239	54,530
Trade receivables	17	3,834	5,043	3,834	5,043
Available-for-sale financial assets	19	65,106	26,320	65,106	26,320
Held-to-maturity financial assets	19	174,830	200,287	174,830	200,287
Derivative financial instruments	18	9	19	9	19
Total financial assets		291,018	286,199	291,018	286,199
Financial liabilities					
Trade payables	24	11,027	6,841	11,027	6,841
Borrowings	25	99,549	99,645	99,957	104,681
Accrued expense	27	13,595	20,689	13,595	20,689
Total financial liabilities		124,171	127,175	124,579	132,211

The University measures and recognises the following assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Derivative financial instruments
- Available-for-sale financial assets
- Land and buildings
- Leasehold improvements
- Investments properties
- Artworks

(b) Fair value hierarchy

The University categorises the assets and liabilities measured at fair value into a hierarchy based on the level of inputs used in measurement.

Level 1	quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
Level 2	inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
Level 3	inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs)

(i) Recognised fair value measurements

Fair value measurements recognised in the statement of financial position are categorised into the following levels:

Fair value measurements at 31 December 2015

	Note	\$000's	Level 1 \$000's	Level 2 \$000's	Level 3 \$000's
Recurring fair value measurements					
Financial assets					
Investment in shares	19	1,868	1,868	-	-
Investment in unlisted shares	19	9,198	-	-	9,198
Investment in managed funds	19	54,040	-	54,040	-
Derivative financial instruments	18	9	-	9	-
Total financial assets		65,115	1,868	54,049	9,198
Non-financial assets					
Investment properties	21	22,636	-	22,636	-
Land	22	144,610	-	144,610	-
Buildings	22	556,121	-	-	556,121
Leasehold improvements	22	5,771	-	-	5,771
Artworks	22	14,605	-	14,605	-
Total non-financial assets		743,743	-	181,851	561,892

Fair value measurements at 31 December 2014

	Note	\$000's	Level 1 \$000's	Level 2 \$000's	Level 3 \$000's
Recurring fair value measurements					
Financial assets					
Investment in shares	19	2,032	2,032	-	-
Investment in managed funds	19	24,288	-	24,288	-
Derivative financial instruments	18	19	-	19	-
Total financial assets		26,339	2,032	24,307	-
Non-financial assets					
Investment properties	21	21,354	-	21,354	-
Land	22	131,735	-	131,735	-
Buildings	22	509,249	-	-	509,249
Leasehold improvements	22	6,395	-	-	6,395
Artworks	22	12,919	-	12,919	-
Total non-financial assets		681,652	-	166,008	515,644

There were no transfers between levels 1, 2 and 3 for recurring fair value measurements during the year. All reported fair value measurements were recurring.

(ii) Disclosed fair values

The University has a number of assets and liabilities which are not measured at fair value, but for which the fair values are disclosed in the notes.

The carrying value less impairment provision of trade receivables and payables is a reasonable approximation of their fair values due to the short-term nature of trade receivables.

Non-current borrowings are measured at amortised cost with interest recognised in the income statement when incurred. The fair value of borrowings disclosed in note 25 represents the contractual undiscounted cash flows at balance date.

(c) Valuation techniques used to derive level 2 and level 3 fair values*(i) Recurring fair value measurements*

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market (for example, derivatives and unlisted shares) is determined using valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise the use of observable market data where it is available and rely as little as possible on entity specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an instrument are observable, the instrument is included in level 2.

If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the instrument is included in level 3. This is the case for unlisted equity securities, buildings and leasehold improvements.

The University uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date. Specific valuation techniques used to value financial instruments include:

- the use of quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments
- the fair value of forward foreign exchange contracts is determined using forward exchange rates at the end of the reporting period
- other techniques, such as discounted cash flow analysis, are used to determine fair value for the remaining financial instruments

All of the resulting fair value estimates are included in level 2 except for unlisted equity securities (as explained in (d) below), buildings and leasehold improvements.

Investment properties and freehold land and buildings (classified as property, plant and equipment) are valued independently every year. At the end of each reporting period, the University updates their assessment of the fair value of each property, taking into account the most recent independent valuations.

The best evidence of fair values is current prices in an active market for similar properties. Where such information is not available, the valuers consider information from a variety of sources, including:

- current prices in an active market for properties of different nature or recent prices of similar properties in less active markets, adjusted to reflect those differences
- discounted cash flow projections based on reliable estimates of future cash flows
- capitalised income projections based on a property's estimated net market income, and a capitalisation rate derived from an analysis of market evidence

All resulting fair value estimates for properties are included in level 3 except for land and investment properties. The level 2 fair value of land and investment properties has been derived using the sales comparison approach. Sale prices of comparable land in close proximity are adjusted for differences in key attributes such as property size. The most significant input into this valuation approach is price per square metre.

(d) Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

The following table is a reconciliation of level 3 Unlisted Shares for the year ended 31 December 2015 .
Reconciliation for level 3 buildings is not included following early adoption of AASB 2015-7.

2015	Unlisted Shares \$000's
Opening balance	-
Recognised in other comprehensive income	<u>9,198</u>
Closing balance	<u>9,198</u>

(i) *Transfers between levels 2 and 3 and changes in valuation techniques:*

There were no transfers of assets/liabilities between levels 2 and 3.

(ii) *Valuation inputs and relationships to fair value:*

The following table is a summary of the sensitivity of the assumptions used to derive the valuation of the University's holding in unlisted shares.

Description	Fair value at 31 December 2015 \$000's	Unobservable inputs*	Range of inputs (probability weighted average)	Relationship of unobservable inputs to fair value
Unlisted shares	9,198	Discount on value of underlying assets	+/-10%	Increase/decrease of discount by 10% would increase/decrease fair value of underlying assets by \$1.1m

*There were no significant inter-relationship between unobservable inputs that materially affects fair value.

(iii) *Valuation processes*

Calculation methodology has been disclosed as part of (c) in this note.

39 Write-offs

	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Total write-offs as approved by the University council during the financial year		
Receivables written-off against provision	74	40
Receivables written off - not against provision	5	-
Property, plant and equipment	-	68
Total write-offs	<u>79</u>	<u>108</u>

40 Deferred government benefit for superannuation**Unfunded Pension and Unfunded Gold State Super (Lump sum) Schemes**

The University has in its staffing profile a number of employees who are members of the Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) Scheme. As the employer, the University is required to contribute to the scheme as employees are paid a pension or lump sum pay out. Consequently, an unfunded liability has been created. An arrangement exists between the Commonwealth Government and the Western Australian Government to meet the unfunded liability for the Edith Cowan University's beneficiaries of the State Superannuation Schemes on an emerging cost basis. A corresponding asset is also recognised under receivables to recognise the reimbursement rights (refer to note 17).

The recognition of both the asset and the liability concurrently does not affect the end of year net asset position of the University. The liability and equivalent receivables are measured actuarially on an annual basis.

Nature of the benefits provided by the Schemes

Pension Scheme

The employer-financed benefit is a pension benefit payable on retirement, death or invalidity, or a lump sum benefit on resignation.

Gold State Super (transferred benefits)

Some former pension scheme members have transferred to Gold State Super. In respect of their transferred benefit the members receive a lump sum benefit at retirement, death or invalidity which is related to their salary during their employment and indexed during any deferral period after leaving public sector employment.

The regulatory framework

The Pension Scheme and Gold State Super (transferred benefits) operate under the State Superannuation Act 2000 (Western Australia) and the State Superannuation Regulations 2001 (Western Australia).

Although the schemes are not formally subject to the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) (SIS) legislation, the Western Australian government has undertaken (in a Heads of Government Agreement) to operate the schemes in accordance with the spirit of the SIS legislation.

As an exempt public sector superannuation scheme (as defined in the SIS legislation), the schemes are not subject to any minimum funding requirements.

As a constitutionally protected scheme, the schemes are not required to pay tax.

Other entities responsibilities for the governance of the Schemes

The Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) is the Scheme's Trustee and is responsible for the governance of the Scheme. As Trustee, GESB has a legal obligation to act solely in the best interests of Scheme beneficiaries. GESB has the following roles:

- Administration of the Scheme and payment to the beneficiaries when required in accordance with the Scheme rules;
- Management and investment of the Scheme assets (although the liabilities are not supported by assets), and
- Compliance with the Heads of Government Agreement referred to above.

Scheme risks

Pension Scheme

There are a number of risks to which the Scheme exposes the University. The more significant risks relating to the defined benefits are:

- **Legislative risk** - the risk is that legislative changes could be made which increase the cost of providing the defined benefits.
- **Pensioner mortality risk** - the risk is that pensioner mortality will be lighter than expected, resulting in pensions being paid for a longer period.
- **Inflation risk** - the risk that inflation is higher than anticipated, increasing pension payments, and the associated employer contributions.

Gold State Super (transferred benefits)

There are a number of risks to which the Scheme exposes the University. The more significant risks relating to the defined benefits are:

- **Salary growth risk** - the risk that wages or salaries (on which future benefit amounts will be based) will rise more rapidly than assumed, increasing defined amounts and the associated employer contributions.
- **Legislative risk** - the risk is that legislative changes could be made which increase the cost of providing the defined benefits.

Significant events

There were no plan amendments, curtailments or settlements during the year.

Sensitivity analysis*Pension Scheme*

The sensitivity of the defined benefit obligation to changes in the significant assumptions is:

	Change in assumption	Impact on defined benefit obligation (\$'000)	
		Increase in assumption	Decrease in assumption
Discount rate	0.5% p.a	-851	910
Pension increase rate	0.5% p.a	911	-859

The above sensitivity analyses are based on a change in an assumption while holding all the other assumptions constant. In practice this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be correlated. When calculating the sensitivity of the defined benefit obligation to significant actuarial assumptions the same method has been applied as when calculating the defined benefit liability recognised in the statement of financial position.

The methods and types of assumptions used in the preparation of the sensitivity analysis did not change compared to the prior period.

Gold State Super (transferred benefits)

The sensitivity of the defined benefit obligation to changes in the significant assumptions is:

	Change in assumption	Impact on defined benefit obligation (\$'000)	
		Increase in assumption	Decrease in assumption
Discount rate	0.05% p.a	-9	10
Salary increase rate	0.05% p.a	5	-4

The above sensitivity analyses are based on a change in an assumption while holding all the other assumptions constant. In practice this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be correlated. When calculating the sensitivity of the defined benefit obligation to significant actuarial assumptions the same method has been applied as when calculating the defined benefit liability recognised in the statement of financial position.

The methods and types of assumptions used in the preparation of the sensitivity analysis did not change compared to the prior period.

Funding Arrangements

The Employer contributes, as required, to meet the benefits paid.

Reconciliation of the net defined benefit liability/(asset)

	Pension Scheme		Gold State Super	
	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Defined benefit obligation	24,034	25,090	425	484
Fair value of plan assets	-	-	-	-
Deficit	24,034	25,090	425	484
Adjustment for effect of asset ceiling	-	-	-	-
Net deferred benefit liability/(asset)	24,034	25,090	425	484

The asset ceiling has no impact on the net defined benefit liability/(asset).

	Pension Scheme		Gold State Super		Total	
	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Current	2,584	2,683	67	58	2,651	2,741
Non-current	21,450	22,407	358	426	21,808	22,833
Total	24,034	25,090	425	484	24,459	25,574

Reconciliation of the defined benefit obligation

	Pension Scheme		Gold State Super	
	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Present value of defined benefit obligations at the beginning of the year	25,090	25,400	484	442
Interest cost	741	1,001	14	17
Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions	17	-	(1)	-
Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	416	1,829	-	24
Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from liability experience	387	(407)	(12)	1
Benefits paid	(2,616)	(2,733)	(60)	-
Balance at the end of the year	24,035	25,090	425	484

These defined benefit obligations are wholly unfunded, such that there are no assets. The employer contributes, as required, to meet the benefits paid.

Reconciliation of the fair value of scheme Assets

	Pension Scheme		Gold State Super	
	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Fair value of Scheme assets at beginning of the year	-	-	-	-
Employer contributions	2,616	2,733	60	-
Benefits paid	(2,616)	(2,733)	(60)	-
Balance at the end of the year	-	-	-	-

These defined benefit obligations are wholly unfunded, such that there are no plan assets.

Fair value of Scheme assets

There are no assets in the Pension Scheme to support the State Share of the Benefit. Hence, there is:

- No fair value of Scheme assets;
- No asset allocation of Scheme assets;
- No financial instruments issued by the employer;
- No assets used by the employer;
- No asset-liability matching strategies.

Significant Actuarial assumptions at the reporting date

	Pension Scheme		Gold State Super	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	% p.a	% p.a	% p.a	% p.a
Discount rate (active members)	2.88	3.12	2.88	3.12
Discount rate (pensioners)	2.88	3.12	2.88	3.12
Expected salary increase rates	-	-	4.50	5.00
Expected pension increase rates	2.50	2.50	-	-

The discount rate is based on the Government bond maturing in April 2025. The decrement rates used (e.g. mortality and retirement rates) are based on those used at the last actuarial valuation for the Schemes.

Expected Contributions

	Pension Scheme	Gold State Super
	2015	2015
	\$000's	\$000's
Expected employer contributions in the next financial year	2,584	67

Maturity profile of defined benefit obligation*Pension Scheme*

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation for the whole of the Pension Scheme is 7.5 years (2014: 7.7 years).

Gold State Super (transferred benefits)

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation for the whole of the Gold State Super Scheme is 4.6 years (2014: 5.3 years).

41 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance

(a) CGS and other Education grants

	Note	Commonwealth Grants Scheme ^{#1}		Indigenous Support Program		Partnership & Participation Program		Disability Support Program		Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Training		Total	
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
		\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Financial assistance received in CASH during the reporting period (total cash received from Australian Government for the program)	2(g)	133,464	136,224	642	617	3,374	2,885	102	89	185	10	137,767	139,825
Net accrual adjustments		(758)	(92)	-	-	182	351	-	21	(155)	2	(731)	282
Revenue for the period	2(a)	132,706	136,132	642	617	3,556	3,236	102	110	30	12	137,036	140,107
Surplus/(deficit) from the previous year		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70	-	70
Total revenue including accrued revenue		132,706	136,132	642	617	3,556	3,236	102	110	30	82	137,036	140,177
Less expenses including accrued expenses		(132,706)	(136,132)	(642)	(617)	(3,556)	(3,236)	(102)	(110)	(30)	(82)	(137,036)	(140,177)
Surplus/(deficit) for the reporting period		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

#1 Basic CGS grant amount, CGS – Regional Loading, CGS - Enabling Loading, Allocated Places Advance and Non-designate Courses Advance.

(b) Higher education loan programs (excl OS-HELP)

	Note	HECS-HELP (Aust. Government payments only)		FEE-HELP		VET FEE-HELP		SA-HELP		Total	
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
		\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Financial assistance received in CASH during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	2(g)	77,213	73,108	10,908	12,031	1,341	886	2,573	2,343	92,035	88,368
Net accrual adjustments		(1,132)	4,186	(56)	(154)	150	18	26	(10)	(1,012)	4,040
Revenue for the period	2(b)	76,081	77,294	10,852	11,877	1,491	904	2,599	2,333	91,023	92,408
Surplus/(deficit) from the previous year		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue including accrued revenue		76,081	77,294	10,852	11,877	1,491	904	2,599	2,333	91,023	92,408
Less expenses including accrued expenses		(76,081)	(77,294)	(10,852)	(11,877)	(1,491)	(904)	(2,599)	(2,333)	(91,023)	(92,408)
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(c) Scholarships

	Note	Australian Postgraduate Awards		International Postgraduate Research Scholarships		Commonwealth Education Cost Scholarships		Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships ^{#2}		Indigenous Access Scholarship		Total	
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
		\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Financial assistance received in CASH during the reporting period (total cash received from Australian Government for the program)	2(g)	2,163	2,072	154	148	112	116	66	72	34	52	2,529	2,460
Net accrual adjustments		6	(190)	-	-	52	(54)	59	(61)	-	-	117	(305)
Revenue for the period	2(c)	2,169	1,882	154	148	164	62	125	11	34	52	2,646	2,155
Surplus/(deficit) from the previous year		-	226	-	-	7	7	5	5	-	-	12	238
Total revenue including accrued revenue		2,169	2,108	154	148	171	69	130	16	34	52	2,658	2,393
Less expenses including accrued expenses		(2,169)	(2,108)	(154)	(148)	(171)	(62)	(130)	(11)	(34)	(52)	(2,658)	(2,381)
Surplus/(deficit) for the reporting period		-	-	-	-	-	7	-	5	-	-	-	12

#2 Includes Grandfathered Scholarships and National Accommodation Priority Scholarships respectively.

(d) Education Research

	Note	Joint Research Engagement		Research Training Scheme		Research Infrastructure Block Grants		JRE Engineering Cadetships		Sustainable Research Excellence in Universities		Other ^{#3}		Total	
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
		\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's
Financial assistance received in CASH during the reporting period (total cash received from Australian Government for the program)	2(g)	2,747	2,808	4,605	4,558	465	439	16	-	790	716	561	814	9,184	9,335
Net accrual adjustments		-	-	-	-	-	-	(16)	-	-	-	142	745	126	745
Revenue for the period	2(d)	2,747	2,808	4,605	4,558	465	439	-	-	790	716	703	1,559	9,310	10,080
Surplus/(deficit) from the previous year		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	268	86	268	86
Total revenue including accrued revenue		2,747	2,808	4,605	4,558	465	439	-	-	790	716	971	1,645	9,578	10,166
Less expenses including accrued expenses		(2,747)	(2,808)	(4,605)	(4,558)	(465)	(439)	-	-	(790)	(716)	(970)	(1,377)	(9,577)	(9,898)
Surplus/(deficit) for the reporting period		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	268	1	268

#3 The reported surplus for collaborative research network is \$0.001m (2014: \$0.26m) and is expected to be rolled over for future use.

(e) Australian Research Council Grants**(i) Discovery**

	Note	Projects		Total	
		2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Financial assistance received in CASH during the reporting period (total cash received from Australian Government for the program)	2(g)	217	196	217	196
Net accrual adjustments		-	-	-	-
Revenue for the period	2(e)(i)	217	196	217	196
Surplus/(deficit) from the previous year		121	131	121	131
Total revenue including accrued revenue		338	327	338	327
Less expenses including accrued expenses		(212)	(206)	(212)	(206)
Surplus/(deficit) for the reporting period		126	121	126	121

(ii) Linkages

	Note	Projects		Total	
		2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Financial assistance received in CASH during the reporting period (total cash received from Australian Government for the program)	2(g)	256	341	256	341
Net accrual adjustments		-	-	-	-
Revenue for the period	2(e)(ii)	256	341	256	341
Surplus/(deficit) from the previous year		275	273	275	273
Total revenue including accrued revenue		531	614	531	614
Less expenses including accrued expenses		(498)	(339)	(498)	(339)
Surplus/(deficit) for the reporting period		33	275	33	275

(f) OS-HELP

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Cash received during the reporting period		(324)	2,625
Cash spent during the reporting period		(870)	(902)
Net cash received	2(g)	(1,194)	1,723
Cash surplus/(deficit) from the previous period		1,816	93
Cash surplus/(deficit) for the reporting period	24	622	1,816

(g) Superannuation Supplementation

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
Cash received during the reporting period	2(g)	2,665	3,252
University contribution in respect of current employees		192	199
Cash available		2,857	3,451
Cash surplus/(deficit) from the previous period		90	(380)
Cash available for current period		2,947	3,071
Contributions to specified defined benefit funds		(2,794)	(2,981)
Cash surplus/(deficit) for this period		153	90

(h) Student Services and Amenities Fee

	Note	2015 \$000's	2014 \$000's
SA-HELP revenue earned	2(b)	2,599	2,333
Student services and amenities fees direct from students	4	1,157	1,561
Total revenue expendable in period		3,756	3,894
Student services expenses during period		(3,756)	(3,894)
Unspent/(overspent) student services revenue		-	-

Additional ECU Facts and Statistics

Student Enrolments (Persons)

Table 11: Enrolments by Course Level, 2011-2015

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Higher Degree Research	685	681	702	682	683
Higher Degree Coursework	3,189	2,918	2,898	3,051	3,413
Other Postgraduate	2,667	2,690	2,649	2,634	2,564
Bachelor	19,709	19,624	19,473	19,208	18,901
Sub-Bachelor	499	468	384	368	338
Enabling Course	1,081	1,229	1,288	1,518	1,852
Non-Award	279	169	152	166	185
Vocational Education and Training	168	177	208	142	52
Total	27,864	27,534	27,247	27,310	27,497

Note: 2015 data is provisional as at 08/02/2016

Table 12: Enrolment Proportions by Equity Group, 2011-2015

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Low SES Students (%)	11.6	12.0	11.8	12.6	12.8
Regional Students (%)	15.9	16.2	16.8	17.3	18.3
Remote Students (%)	1.8	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.9
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Students (%)	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5
Students with a Disability (%)	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.3
Female (%)	61.7	61.5	61.4	61.4	61.2

Note: 2015 data is provisional as at 08/02/2016.

Other Financial, Governance and Legal Disclosures

Pricing Policies

ECU sets the level of the student contribution for Commonwealth supported places at the maximum allowed under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (Cth), as is the case for most Australian universities. Fees for fee-paying courses are determined on the basis of cost and market conditions and take into account Australian Government requirements regarding fees set for non-Commonwealth supported places.

Major Capital Projects

Table 13: Major Capital Projects Completed, 2015

Project	Estimated total cost (\$M)	Actual total cost (\$M)
Joondalup Ngoolark (Building 34)	69.0	66.0
ECU Health Centre	22.0	20.0

Table 14: Major Capital Projects in Progress, 2015

Project	Estimated total cost (\$M)	Actual total cost (\$M)
Nil	-	-

Employees and Employee Relations

Table 15: Academic Staff by Function, 2011-2015

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Teaching	124	130	138	157	175
Research	49	53	61	52	64
Teaching and Research	483	484	468	429	408
Other	32	27	25	24	10
Total Academic Staff	688	694	692	662	658
Total Professional Staff	1,133	1,180	1,186	1,146	1,128

Note: Figures are based on full-time equivalency, rather than headcount. Figures are average full-time equivalents for the 12 calendar months as at 8 February 2016.

Occupational Safety, Health and Injury Management

Executive Commitment to Occupational Safety, Health and Injury Management

ECU is committed to providing a safe and healthy working and learning environment for students, staff, visitors and contractors, and takes a proactive approach to preventing and minimising the potential for injury, illness and harm. The University has a range of safety and health policies, guidelines, procedures and protocols that exceed legislative obligations.

Executive commitment is articulated in the [University Work Health and Safety Policy](#) and implementation of a robust due diligence compliance framework that requires Occupational Health and Safety (OSH) improvement plans to be developed, implemented and monitored by all faculties and service centres and reported against a suite of indicators. OSH compliance is certified annually by Executive Deans /Faculty Executives, Service Centre Directors, and is reported to the University Health and Safety Committee, Quality, Audit and Risk Committee, and University Executive.

Safety and health training programs have been delivered to assist University staff in understanding their safety and health responsibilities and due diligence requirements. These programs are included in the Role Based Development Framework for managers and supervisors, and separate briefings were provided to the Senior Leadership Team and Council. In 2015, a thorough revision of the University's Health and Safety induction program was undertaken to ensure that key health and safety processes and risks are effectively communicated to staff. In addition to statutory requirements, all managers and supervisors are provided with information, instruction, training and supervision on safety and health procedures and work practices, so that a safe and healthy working environment is maintained at all times.

Mechanism for Consultation with Employees on OSH and Injury Management Matters

ECU's Occupational Safety and Health [Consultative Committee structure](#) comprises the following three levels:

- University Health and Safety Committee – this meets three times per year, and consists of both safety and health representatives and management representatives. It reports to the Vice-Chancellor via the University Executive.
- Health and Safety Advisory Group – this meets quarterly and reports to the Director, Human Resources and the University Health and Safety Committee.
- Faculty and Service Centre Work Safety and Health committees – these meet at least quarterly and report to the Health and Safety Advisory Group.

Each of these committees engages with safety and health representatives and other relevant staff from faculties and service centres to facilitate consultation at all levels.

In 2015 the separate Institutional Bio-safety Committee and Radiation and Biosafety Committee were combined into a single Radiation Biosafety Hazardous Substances Committee, reporting directly to Academic Board.

Compliance with the Proposed Work Health and Safety Act

Although Western Australia has yet to adopt the Commonwealth Government's Work Health and Safety Act (WHS Act) and Regulations, ECU has undertaken significant preparation for future implementation, to meet current best practice in safety and health legislative requirements.

In 2015 this work included: ongoing review and update of key safety and health policies, guidelines and protocols to meet WHS Act requirements; provision of training and information to managers and supervisors on the proposed legislation; enhanced reporting to all levels of the University on safety and health performance; and regular briefings on these matters to the University Health and Safety Committee, the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee and Council.

Workers' Compensation and Injury Management

ECU has a formal [Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Policy](#) and guidelines and a detailed Workers' Compensation claim and return to work process. Collectively these documents meet the requirements of the *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981 (WA)*. Return to work programs for employees, with both work and non-work related injuries and illnesses, are developed in consultation with the employee, their supervisor and the treating medical practitioner.

Performance indicators for Workers' Compensation claims, costs and premiums, and incident/ injury metrics are monitored and reported quarterly to the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee and Council.

Assessment of the Occupational Safety and Health Management System

ECU continues to promote self-assessment of faculty and service centre OSH processes, based on the primary functions and supporting principles of the Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 4801:2001 and the International Standard OHSAS 18001:2007. ECU undertook both an internal and external audit of the OSH management system in 2014 against these standards using results to revise the current framework, address identified gaps and promote continuous improvement to the system. As at the end of 2015, successful completion of the agreed actions arising from the internal audit stands at 80% and external at 70%.

Completion and regular review of an OSH Hazard Risk Register is mandated to ensure that inherent and residual health and safety risks are identified, formally reviewed and signed off by executive deans, faculty executives and directors of service centres.

Additionally, staff attitudes to, and perceptions of, health and safety in their work environment are monitored biennially through a staff survey. The 2014 biennial staff survey showed a high level of satisfaction with health and safety awareness and responsiveness at the University, maintaining the positive survey results of 2012.

Table 16: Performance against 2015 Injury Management Targets

Indicator	Target	2013	2014	2015	2015 Target
Number of fatalities	Zero	0	0	0	Achieved
Lost time injury/diseases incidence rate	Zero or 10% reduction on previous year	0.66	0.49	0.50	Not Achieved
Lost time injury severity rate	Zero or 10% improvement on previous year	0.0	0.0	0.0	Achieved
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within:					
(i) 13 weeks	-	77%	89%	78%	-
(ii) 26 weeks	At least 80% return to work within 26 weeks	85%	100%	89%	Achieved
Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety and health and injury management	At least 80%	N/A	28%	53%	Not Achieved

Notes: Lost time injury/diseases incidence rate is defined as the number of lost time injury claims lodged, divided by the number of employees (FTE), multiplied by 100. Lost time injury severity rate is the number of lost time injury claims where employees do not return to any work duties within 60 days, divided by the total lost time injury claims, multiplied by 100. The percentage of injured workers returned to work within 13 weeks and 26 weeks measures employees returning to full duties.

There has been a change to figures reported in the 2014 Annual Report for the percentage of workers returned to work within 13 weeks in 2014. This is due to an injury that occurred in December 2014, where 13 weeks post-injury had not been reached by the end of 2014.

Occupational safety and health and injury management obligations were incorporated into formal OSH training sessions for managers in 2013 and the percentage of managers and supervisors who have completed this training has been included from 2014.

Insurance of Officers

ECU paid a premium of \$18,300 in respect of Directors and Officers Liability Insurance in 2015. The cover applies to members of Council and Officers of the University and its controlled entities.

Corporate Standards and Risk Management

Equity Commitments and Compliance Reporting in 2015

ECU values diversity and strives to maintain an environment free from inequality and discrimination. ECU is committed to increasing access and providing opportunities for students who face barriers to higher education. ECU's staffing strategies also seek to achieve appropriate representation and distribution of under-represented groups in ECU's workplaces.

The University has a number of specific equity plans that describe initiatives, performance measures and responsibilities for progressing equity and social inclusion. ECU's Equity Committee advises and reports to the Vice-Chancellor on matters related to equity, including on progress against these equity plans.

A performance report on the third and final year of implementation of ECU's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), 2012-2015 was provided to ECU's Council in 2015 and submissions were made to Reconciliation Australia through its online RAP Impact Measurement Questionnaire, as required.

In 2015, ECU's Council endorsed ECU's third Reconciliation Action Plan for 2015-2018; the next stage of the University's commitment to Reconciliation. The RAP includes 35 specific actions organised around seven themes, supported by specific deliverable targets and timeframes. The implementation of the RAP will be overseen by a new Reconciliation Committee, reporting to the University Executive from 2016.

The Indigenous Australian Employment Strategy and Action Plan, 2012-2015 continued to yield positive results in 2015. Significantly, and for the first time, the 2 per cent target for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander employment has been achieved at University level for professional staff. Development of a new plan is in progress, with consultation scheduled for early 2016.

In accordance with the requirements of the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012 (Cth)* on 3 August 2015, ECU lodged its annual compliance report with the Workplace Gender Equality Agency.

Celebrating and Supporting Equity

ECU hosted a range of events in 2015 for students, staff and the community to celebrate and support equity initiatives, including: Harmony Week, International Women's Day, NAIDOC Week, International Day of People with Disability, and Mental Health Week.

International Day of People with a Disability

ECU student Lyn Lepore, OAM engaged the audience on her sporting and academic successes at an event to mark International Day for People with a Disability. Lyn, who won gold in the women's tandem cycling event at the Sydney Paralympics, initially thought her vision impairment meant that university was out of reach for her. Lyn is now well on her way to finishing a Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science and has received the highest marks for her practical placement unit.

ECU is a signatory to the Australian Human Rights Commission's *Racism. It Stops with Me* campaign and for the first time in 2015, ECU publicly supported the White Ribbon Campaign to end violence against women, by providing ribbons for staff and students on all three campuses.

ECU continued to support two volunteer equity networks. University Contact Officers provide referral advice on equity policies and practices for students and staff who are concerned about discrimination or harassment, while "ALLYs" provide a network of advocates for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex students and staff.

Quality and Academic Governance

A dedicated Quality and Academic Governance Unit within the Planning, Quality and Equity Services Centre supports ECU's quality management and academic governance activities, including: the administration of academic committees; unit and course reviews; school reviews; course accreditations; research centre and research institute reviews; and annual faculty and centre reviews.

In 2015, major revisions were made to the majority of quality processes, procedures and documentation to reflect ECU's academic organisation re-design. This included workflows for the Curriculum Approval and Publication System (CAPS) - the mechanism to manage the amendment and approval of all ECU course curricula - and revised Admission, Enrolment and Academic Progress Rules, approved by Council and effective from 1 January 2016.

Governance

ECU continues to comply with the Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Universities (the Code). Council undertook a preliminary assessment of the expected changes to the Code in 2016 and identified no compliance issues with future governance standards.

Risk Management Statement

This statement is consistent with, and complies with, the Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Universities (Item 11).

ECU has an Integrated Risk Management Framework and Policy. It is compliant with ISO Standard 31000: Risk Management.

Strategic oversight of risk management is included in the terms of reference for the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee, as well as in the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee Charter and the Risk and Assurance Service Centre Charter approved by Council in August 2011. A Risk Reference Forum, chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), assists with the exchange of experiences of best practice and dissemination of risk management-related material within the University.

Functionally, the Risk and Assurance Service Centre is responsible for the development and implementation of risk management strategies, methods and tools, legislative compliance, business continuity, insurance, and fraud and misconduct prevention and management. The Human Resources Services Centre is responsible for the day-to-day operation of occupational safety and health strategies and workers' compensation. The Office of Legal Services is responsible for the oversight of legal risk within ECU.

Risk Management

A major component of corporate governance at ECU is effective risk management. During 2015, the University finalised a review of the Integrated Risk Management Policy and the Strategic Risk Register. In addition, ECU developed a Risk Appetite Statement that provides high level guidance in relation to risk tolerance and acceptance.

In relation to particular risks, a fraud risk assessment was updated during 2015 and several integrity policies were modified to ensure regular review of internal disclosures. Cyber security risks have been a focus of internal audit work and the University continues to invest in technologies, policies and procedures to mitigate the risk to the fullest possible extent.

Safety and regulatory risks continue to be monitored, with enhancements to the way that safety incidents are analysed and acted upon. There has been no intervention by regulators in respect of regulatory non-compliance.

Business Continuity Plans are in place for all ECU campuses. These plans are reviewed annually, as well as following any specific incidents that have affected operations. As part of the review and validation process, respective plans are incorporated into the University's annual incident management exercise, with outcomes reported to the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee.

More information on [Risk Management](#) can be found on the ECU website.

Advertising

In accordance with the requirements of section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907 (WA)* the University is required to report all expenditure incurred by, or on behalf of, the University on advertising, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising during the financial year.

Advertising expenditure in 2015 totalled \$5,328,119. The amount in each expenditure class and the organisations paid, are listing in Table 18 below.

Table 17: Advertising Expenditure, 2015

Advertising agencies	\$3,421,085
303 Lowe Group Pty Ltd	
Longtail Communications Company Pty Ltd	
Other Organisations	
Market research organisations	\$55,515
Polling organisations	0
Direct mail organisations	0
Media advertising organisations	\$1,851,519
Carat Australia Media Services Pty Ltd	
Google	
Other Organisations	
Total Expenditure	\$5,328,119

Recordkeeping

The University continued to embed record keeping practices across the University with the ongoing rollout of the Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS).

The EDRMS is the University's approved record keeping system, allowing emails and documents from applications to be saved electronically. The focus for the EDRMS project in 2015 was in the academic areas of the University, with the rollout completed for faculty offices and schools across the University. Extension work was undertaken to support the management of course accreditation and research records. The EDRMS project is deemed complete as at 31 December 2015.

State Records Commission Standard 2 Record Keeping Plans: Principle 6 – Compliance

ECU is subject to requirements in the *State Records Act 2000* (WA) and is committed to compliance in its record keeping. ECU's activities under each of the requirements include:

The efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation's record keeping system is evaluated not less than once every 5 years.

ECU's Record Keeping Plan was approved for a further five year period in 2011, and is due for review again in 2016.

The West Australian University Sector Disposal Authority for records was approved by the State Record Commission and was updated in 2013. The Working Party responsible for reviewing the Disposal Authority was convened during 2015 in anticipation of a full review in 2016.

ECU's University Vital Record education program continued and in excess of 600 new vital records were registered and securely stored in the recordkeeping system in 2015.

The organisation conducts a record keeping training program.

ECU conducts regular record keeping training programs that are integrated into the University's overall professional development and training framework. These include:

- A basic record keeping induction training session, available to all new staff.
- The Records Awareness Training System, which was implemented in 2008 to raise record management awareness for staff, continues to be offered. Since implementation, 2,257 staff have completed, or are working through the course.
- Monthly training courses on the University's record keeping software HP Record Manager (HPRM) are provided at Basic, Intermediate and Advanced levels. In 2015, 209 staff undertook some form of records training.
- Customised and group one-on-one training sessions on HPRM continued to be developed and delivered on request.

The efficiency and effectiveness of the record keeping training program is reviewed from time to time

The outcomes of all record keeping training are monitored and staff feedback is collected through questionnaires. This feedback informs the future content and delivery overall training program.

The organisation's induction program addresses employees' roles and responsibilities with regards to their compliance with the organisation's record keeping plan.

All new ECU employees undergo an induction course that addresses employee roles and responsibilities about the compliance aspects of the University's Record Keeping Plan.

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Outcomes

In July 2015, as required under schedule 3 of the Disability Service Regulations 2004 (WA), ECU reported on achievements against its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) for the 2014/15 reporting year. It is important to note that as the DAIP spans a five-year period (2011-2016), many of the strategies will continue to be implemented throughout that period. Examples of achievements against ECU's DAIP Outcomes in 2014/15 are listed below.

Outcome One: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of, and any events organised by, the University.

- Provisions were made to support note takers in assisting students with disabilities.
- Student orientation and induction profiled the benefits of appropriate disclosure and the range of services that are available to support students with disabilities.

Outcome Two: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and other facilities of the University.

- Completion of Ngoolark (Building 34) at the Joondalup Campus included accessibility features that go beyond minimum access standards.
- ECU's access and accessibility maps were reviewed and updated to include new facilities and campus developments.

Outcome Three: People with disabilities receive information from the University in a format that will enable them to access the information as readily as other people are able to access it.

- A hearing loop was installed in Lecture Theatre 3.101 at ECU's Mount Lawley Campus.
- Teaching and Learning guides were revised for Semester 1, 2015 with updated and expanded information on accessibility and inclusive curriculum.

Outcome Four: People with disabilities receive the same level and quality of service from the staff of the University as other people receive from the staff of the University.

- Compliance with emergency procedures legislation relating to evacuation of people with disabilities was achieved.

Outcome Five: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to make complaints to the University.

- The student complaints website was updated to include details of the support that is available to students with disabilities in lodging complaints.
- Relevant training and support was made available to University Contact Officers.

Outcome Six: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to participate in any public consultation by the University.

- ECU's Survey Services built accessibility requirements into their planning processes.
- ECU's DAIP 2011-2016 was made available for public consultation via ECU's website.

Outcome Seven: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to obtain and maintain employment with the University.

- Local disability employment agencies were provided with information about ECU's employment opportunities.
- Human resources processes were implemented to accurately record staff members' disability status when disclosed.