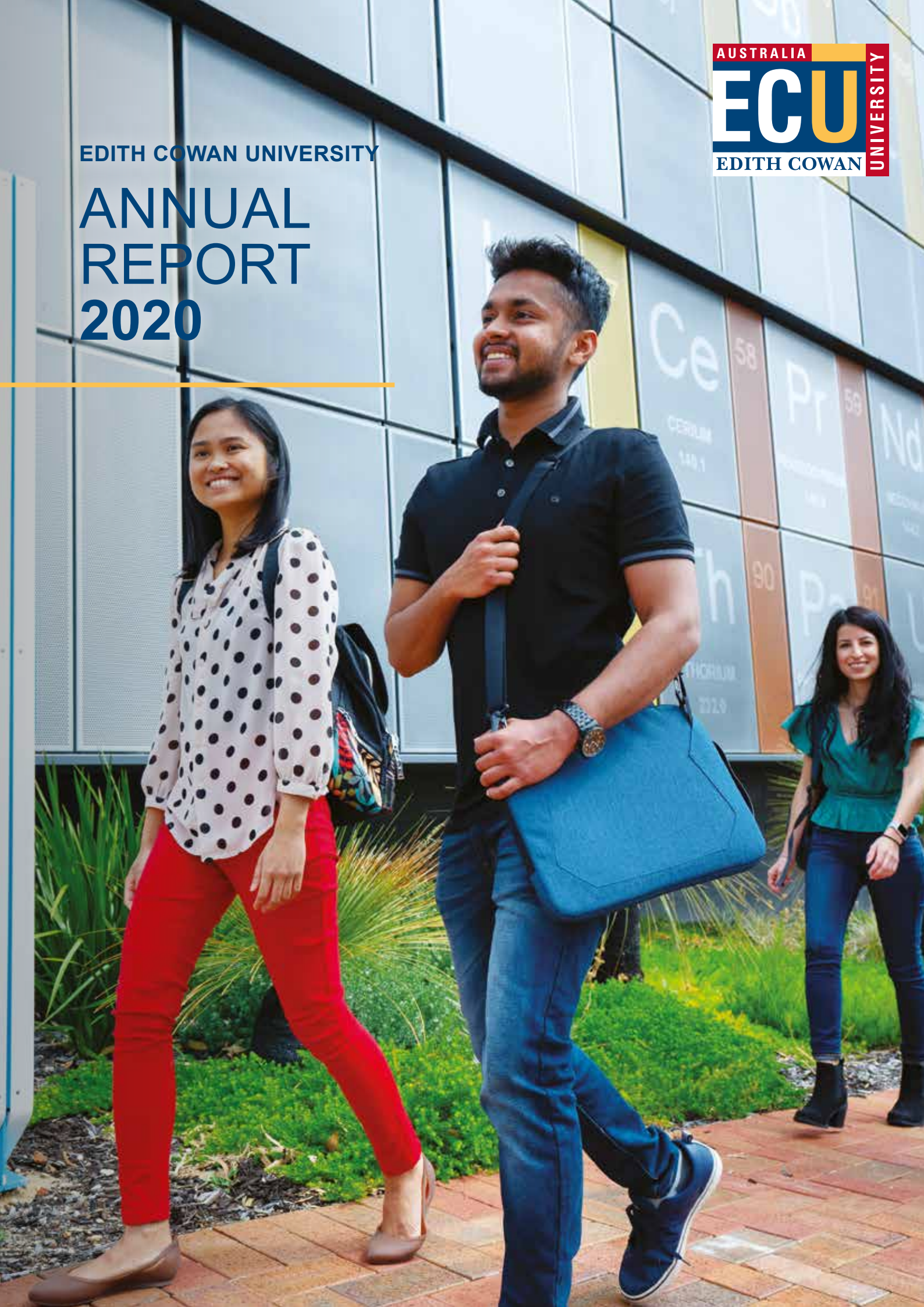


EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Edith Cowan University

Joondalup Campus

270 Joondalup Drive
Joondalup WA 6027
Australia

Mount Lawley Campus

2 Bradford Street
Mount Lawley WA 6050
Australia

South West Campus

585 Robertson Drive
Bunbury WA 6230
Australia

Telephone

Within Australia: 134 328
Outside Australia: +61 8 6304 0000

CRICOS IPC 00279B RTO Provider 4756

This document is available online at the link below.

www.ecu.edu.au/about-ecu/reports-and-plans/annual-reports

ECU is committed to reconciliation, and recognises and respects the significance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities, cultures and histories. ECU acknowledges and respects our continuing association with the Whadjuk people and Wardandi people of the Noongar nation, the traditional custodians of the land upon which our campuses stand.

Contents

Statement of compliance	4	Significant issues and trends	31
Chancellor's foreword	6	Disclosures and legal compliance	32
Vice-Chancellor's summary	8	Occupational Safety, Health and Injury	
Our vision	9	Management	32
Our purpose	9	Staffing	33
Our values	9	Major capital works.....	34
ECU Strategic Plan.....	10	Directors' and officers' liability insurance.....	35
Strategic themes	10	Pricing policy on outputs provided.....	35
Strategic goals and objectives.....	10	Advertising and marketing activities	35
Overview.....	11	Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP)	
Governance.....	11	outcomes	36
Edith Cowan University Council	12	Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the	
Key Committees of Council	13	Governance of Australian Universities	37
Council Members	14	Risk Management	37
Council Meetings 2020.....	15	National Student Representation Protocols	37
Senior Executive	16	Record Keeping – compliance with the State	
ECU Organisational Chart.....	18	Records Act (2000).....	37
Schools	20	Shares held by senior officers	37
Professional services	21	Commitment to gender equality	38
Controlled entities.....	21	Independent auditor's report	39
Key statistics	22	Financial statements.....	43
Report on operations.....	23	Certification of financial statements.....	43
Enhancing learning and teaching.....	23	Key performance indicators.....	104
Advancing research and knowledge translation ..	25	Certification of key performance indicators	104
Growing internationalisation	27	Introduction.....	105
Ensuring organisational sustainability	29	Strategic goals and key performance	
		indicators	105

Statement of compliance

Minister for Education and Training
13th Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005

10 March 2021

Dear Minister

In accordance with section 63 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, we hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of Edith Cowan University for the year ending 31 December 2020.

The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, and is provided pursuant to a resolution of the University's Council.



The Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO
Chancellor



Professor Steve Chapman CBE
Vice-Chancellor



New City Campus in 2025

Our new campus will represent the future of university education – urban, connected, integrated with business and community – and part of the lifeblood of a thriving city.

This exciting development will transform the City of Perth and will deliver a world-class Creative Industries, Business and Technology precinct.

To follow future developments, please visit www.citycampus.ecu.edu.au

Chancellor's foreword

I am delighted to present the 2020 Annual Report of Edith Cowan University.

As COVID-19 emerged early in 2020, communities and institutions world-wide faced a crisis which wreaked havoc on the best-laid plans. Like most universities, ECU was required to transition to on-line learning and remote working, and to manage the reduction in revenue that was expected to result from diminished international student enrolments. ECU managed both of these tasks with an efficiency and effectiveness which was very much appreciated by all stakeholders, swiftly pursuing innovative strategies to minimise the impact, ensuring regular communication and identifying and embracing opportunities to enhance ECU's ability to thrive in a changed environment.

The outstanding opportunity in 2020 that focused management and Council firmly on the future was the prospect of creating a world-class cultural and creative industries education precinct in the Perth CBD through the establishment of a city campus. In September we had the pleasure of announcing to the University community that ECU had secured State and Federal support and funding for this game-changing initiative as part of the Perth City Deal. This hugely exciting outcome was the fruit of extensive discussions and of many hours spent in the development of a comprehensive and compelling expression of interest document. We are pleased that ECU has the support of both the State and Federal Governments to deliver such an exciting initiative which we see as transformative for both the city and ECU.



During 2020, Council also worked on strategies to enhance the University's governance arrangements, and participated in joint workshops and briefings with members of Council's key committees and Senior Executive staff. Council, members of its Quality, Audit and Risk Committee and Senior Executive staff participated in a valuable Strategic Risk Review workshop in June, which informed the development of an updated Strategic Risk Register and refreshed Risk Appetite Statement. The 200th meeting of the Council was held shortly afterwards.

Council regularly monitors progress on the University's *Strategic Plan 2017-2021 World Ready* and received comprehensive updates on progress against the four Strategic Goals of the current Plan. The early achievement of some targets – such as ECU's ranking as one of the Times Higher Education's top 100 young universities in the world – was particularly pleasing. The fact that ECU attained a five-star rating for teaching quality for the fourteenth year in a row reflects continued focus on students, which is one of the hallmarks of ECU's success over the last 30 years. Council is now looking to the future not only with the development of the ECU City Campus but also to working with management to develop the University's next five-year strategic plan.

ECU's ranking as one of the Times Higher Education's top 100 young universities in the world – was particularly pleasing.



During 2020, Council farewelled Mr John Cahill after nine years of distinguished service on Council, including as Chair of the Resources Committee. We also farewelled elected members Professor Margaret Jones and Ms Natalie Dimmock, both of whom contributed actively to Council throughout their three-year terms, as well as our student members Mr Ammar Asif and Ms Charlotte Fletcher, who provided their important student perspective. New members were welcomed to Council and its Committees through participatory elections or appointment decisions supported by robust recruitment processes.

I particularly want to express my appreciation to all members of Council and Council Committees for their support and willingness to contribute their time and energy to support ECU, and to the Council Secretariat staff for their excellent and important advice and support of both myself as Chancellor and of Council and its Committees.

The extraordinary year that was 2020 challenged ECU in a variety of ways. From my perspective, the key attributes that allowed the University to meet these challenges with confidence and plot a clear course for continued success were not only a sound strategic direction but also resilience, innovative thinking, a strong work ethic and well-founded optimism, underpinned by a positive culture of mutual support and transparent communication across the University. I extend my warmest thanks and congratulations to the Vice-Chancellor and his team for providing excellent leadership through turbulent times. I am confident that the tremendous efforts made by all members of the University community – students, staff, alumni and members of Council and its Committees – have set the stage for ECU to consolidate its achievements and to develop its next five-year strategy as it focuses on the years ahead.

Vice-Chancellor's summary

As I reflect on this unprecedented year, I am immensely proud of Edith Cowan University's achievements.

ECU quickly adopted a response and recovery approach to the COVID-19 pandemic, providing our students and staff with the support needed to build resilience in difficult times. Despite the challenges of 2020, we continued to excel in learning and teaching, brought added focus and investment to the University's world class research activities, sustained our international efforts and by late 2020, announced plans for a new city campus in the heart of Perth.

The *Good Universities Guide* again awarded ECU a 5-star rating for teaching quality for a record fourteenth year in a row. ECU is the only public university in Australia to have achieved such a consistently high endorsement. ECU improved its rank in the top 100 of the Times Higher Education (THE) Young Universities Rankings and maintained its top 500 place in the overall THE World University Rankings.

In early 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic response phase, ECU migrated all its teaching to online delivery and transitioned most staff to remote working, a significant whole-of-University effort within a short timeframe, that preceded the orderly return to ECU campuses as restrictions eased.

In 2020, ECU's research publications and citations continued to grow. New strategies to enhance ECU's research capacity and culture included the appointment of four new Research Theme Leaders, recruited from ECU's senior staff, in four major research themes of Health, Natural and Built Environment, Society and Culture and Securing Digital Futures. A new *ECU Strategic Research Institutes and Centres program* was established, awarding centre or institute status to nine research groups demonstrating research excellence. This program will receive investment of \$16 million over the next five years.



Despite the challenges of border closures, 544 international students commenced their ECU studies onshore or online in the second half of 2020. A virtual recruitment model to *respond, recover and rebound* was developed, incorporating Virtual Open Days that attracted over 1500 attendees from more than 130 countries. The delivery of full degree programs at ECU's Sri Lanka campus commenced ahead of schedule and our program offerings were extended in Singapore.

ECU's new \$50 million Science Building was officially opened in February 2020. The five-level structure on ECU's Joondalup Campus incorporates super-laboratories and has two floors to accommodate industry and government partners including the WA Police and Sapient Cyber. The sharing of the space will provide more opportunities for collaboration across organisations and will provide ECU's students with unique learning opportunities through industry collaboration.

The University maintained its commitment to equity and diversity, launching the inaugural *ECU Equity, Diversity and inclusion Blueprint 2020-2021*, while ECU's current Citation as a Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) Employer of Choice for Gender Equality remains in place until 2021. ECU formally endorsed the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* which recognises ECU's ongoing commitment to walk with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, families and communities, towards a better future.

In November we announced plans for a \$695 million world-class creative industries, business and technology campus: the centrepiece of the Perth City Deal. The ECU City Campus will bring the energy and activity of more than 9,000 students and staff to Perth's CBD by 2025 and form part of a thriving city hub. The ECU City Campus will be jointly funded by ECU, the State Government and the Federal Government, and will be a transformational project for the University and will support Western Australia's economic recovery through its integration with business and community.

In 2020, ECU continued to meet, or exceed the targets set in the *ECU Strategic Plan, 2017-2021 – World Ready*. Most pleasingly, ECU's international reputation continues to grow, driven by successes in our strategic goals of teaching, research, internationalisation and sustainability. ECU is strongly positioned as a University of the present and of the future.

In what has been an extremely challenging year, I wish to acknowledge the outstanding and sustained contributions to ECU by all members of the University community, including Council, staff, students and alumni, along with the local community, industry partners, visiting scholars and government.

Our vision

ECU's vision is to be recognised for our world ready graduates and leading edge research.

Our purpose

ECU's purpose is to transform lives and enrich society through education and research.

Our values

What we do at ECU, and the way we interact with others, is underpinned by the following four values.

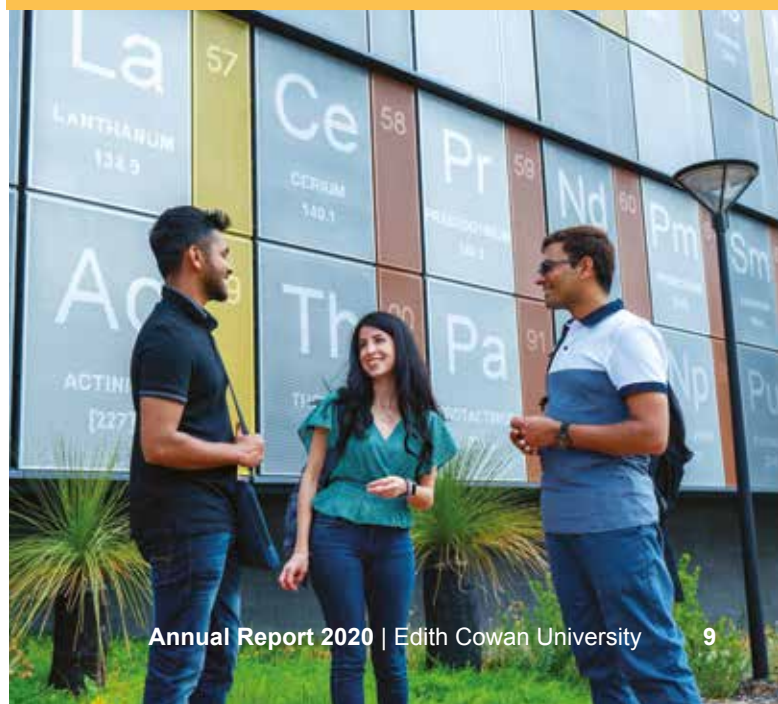
All students, staff and Council members are expected to embrace these values in the conduct of their work, study and service to the University and in their interactions with our external partners.

Integrity – being ethical, honest and fair

Respect – considering the opinions and values of others

Rational Inquiry – motivated by evidence and reasoning

Personal Excellence – demonstrating the highest personal and professional standards



ECU Strategic Plan

2017-2021 World Ready

Strategic themes

1. Dedicated to our students
2. Connecting with our community and the world
3. Building strategic partnerships and collaborations
4. Fostering strong alumni relations
5. Promoting equality, diversity and social responsibility

Strategic goals and objectives

1 Enhancing learning and teaching	2 Advancing research and knowledge translation	3 Growing internationalisation	4 Ensuring organisational sustainability
OBJECTIVE 1 Teaching that inspires	OBJECTIVE 5 Growth in research capacity and culture	OBJECTIVE 9 Growth in international enrolments	OBJECTIVE 13 High-performance culture
OBJECTIVE 2 Transformative learning experiences	OBJECTIVE 6 Extensive research collaboration	OBJECTIVE 10 Strong partnerships and international relations	OBJECTIVE 14 Service excellence
OBJECTIVE 3 A globally relevant and innovative curriculum	OBJECTIVE 7 Increased knowledge translation	OBJECTIVE 11 Global education delivery	OBJECTIVE 15 Infrastructure that supports our goals
OBJECTIVE 4 Improved learning outcomes and career readiness	OBJECTIVE 8 Growth in research training	OBJECTIVE 12 An internationalised student experience	OBJECTIVE 16 A strong financial base

Overview

Governance

Council

As the governing body of the University, Council controls and manages the operation, affairs, concerns and property of Edith Cowan University. The Council acts in accordance with the *Edith Cowan University Act 1984* and the University's Corporate Governance Statement.

2020 Highlights

In April, Council, the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee, and the Resources Committee met jointly for a 'deep dive' on the COVID-19 pandemic, its implications for ECU and the response to date, the risks and opportunities, and strategies to support our recovery.

In June, members of Council, the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee and the Senior Executive participated in a facilitated workshop focused on risks to the achievement of ECU's strategic objectives as set out in the current ECU Strategic Plan. Workshop outcomes contributed to the updating of ECU's Strategic Risk Register and Risk Appetite Statement.

In October, Council, the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee and the Resources Committee met jointly for a 'deep dive' on the University of the Future Program, including consideration of the governance structure, decision matrix, financial plan, risk management framework, critical path, and engagement activities. Council approved the Business Case submitted to Infrastructure Australia for its assessment of the City Campus project – a significant investment for the Commonwealth.

In December, Council received a report on the organisational culture of ECU, which included the outstanding results of the 2020 Staff Engagement Survey and the presentation of a new 'Culture Dashboard' to facilitate Council's monitoring of indicators of organisational culture.

Other highlights included:

- approval of a range of activities to facilitate Council's engagement in the development of ECU's next Strategic Plan;

- adoption of an ECU Statement of Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech in response to the *Report of the Independent Review of Freedom of Speech in Australian Higher Education Providers* lead by the Hon Robert French AC; and
- approval for ECU's public support for the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*.

Governance matters

During 2020, key governance related matters considered by Council included:

- the revision of a number of key University rules, statutes and policies, including significant changes to academic progression arrangements, and to the Council Standing Orders;
- the conferral of a number of honorary awards;
- financial and risk management decisions, including approval of the 2021 budget, a revised Strategic Risk Register and revised Risk Appetite Statement;
- the outsourcing of ECU's internal audit function to an independent professional services firm in alignment with better practice;
- approval of the 2019 Annual Report, Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicator report; and
- the pursuit of a roadmap of actions to address six recommendations for continuous improvement that arose from the 2019 external evaluation of Council.

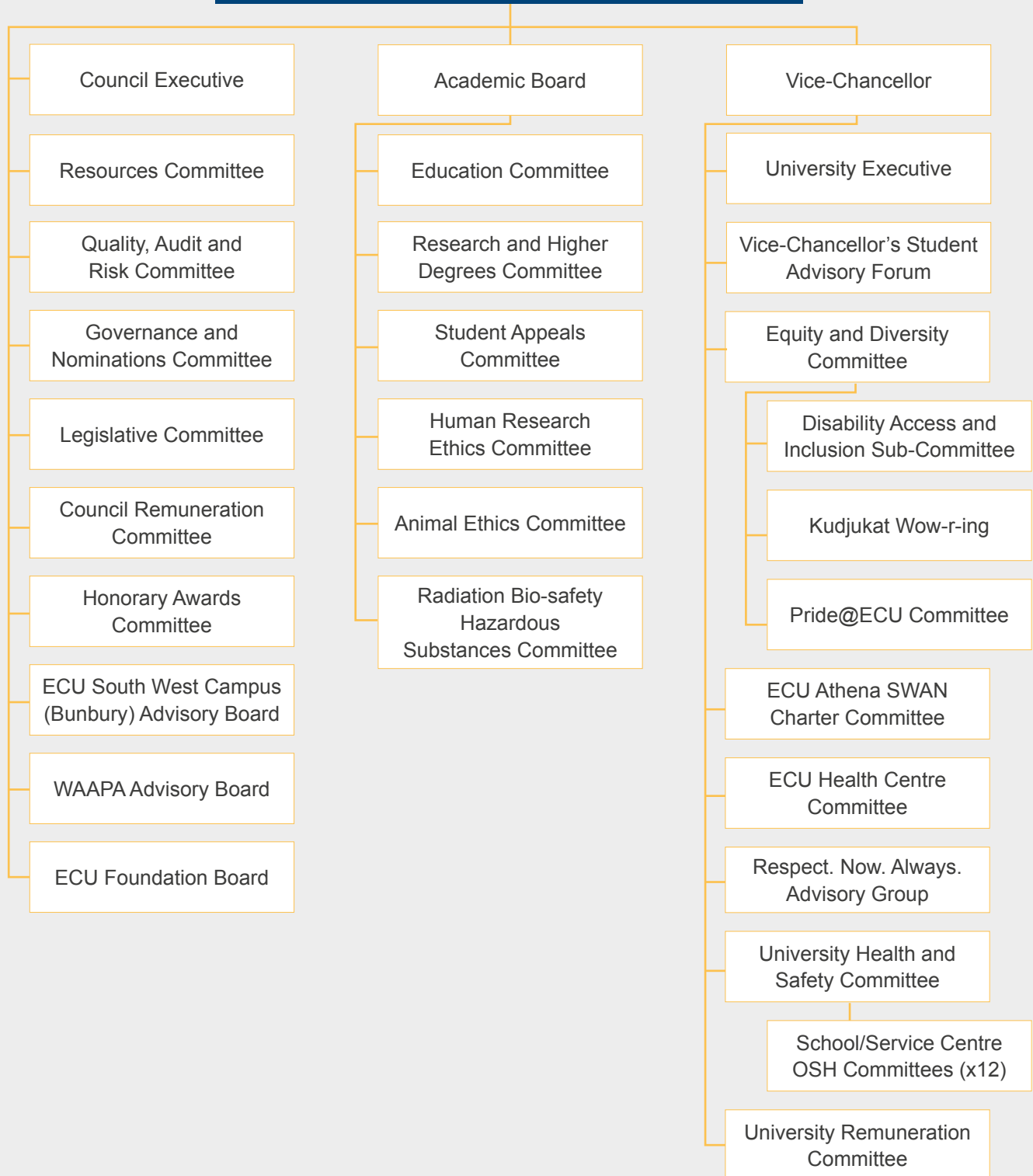
Council received presentations on progress against strategic objectives and developments throughout 2020, including:

- performance reports relating to the strategic goals and objectives;
- equity, diversity and inclusion at ECU including gender equality initiatives and monitoring activities;
- development and alumni relations;
- virtual international recruitment initiatives developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- a report from the ECU Climate Initiative Taskforce; and
- the annual report from the ECU Student Guild.

Council meetings

The Council held six regular meetings in 2020. On two occasions (April, October), special joint meetings were convened for Council, the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee and the Resources Committee to consider key strategic issues.

Edith Cowan University Council



Key Committees of Council

Committees of Council assist Council in fulfilling its governance responsibilities by allowing matters to be appropriately examined by subject experts prior to being brought to Council for resolution. The Council's committees are:

Academic Board

The Academic Board has the overarching responsibility for the academic functions and the academic governance of the University. The scope of the Academic Board ranges across all aspects of courses, student admission and enrolment and academic progress, teaching and learning, research, and services to students.

Resources Committee

The Resources Committee provides advice and recommendations to Council on the University's financial position, its assets and liabilities and its strategies relating to income, budget allocations, and capital expenditure on digital and physical infrastructure.

Quality Audit and Risk Committee

The Quality Audit and Risk Committee assists Council on the effective discharge of its fiduciary duties of governance and stewardship in respect of the University's risk management, control and compliance, systems of internal control, continuous quality improvement, business continuity and regulatory compliance, including occupational safety and health.

Honorary Awards Committee

The Honorary Awards Committee considers nominations for honorary awards and makes recommendations to Council on suitable candidates for those awards. The Committee, supported by the Honorary Awards Working Group, also assesses the suitability of the existing suite of honorary awards and the policy and guidelines governing them.

Governance and Nominations Committee

The Governance and Nominations Committee assists Council in maintaining a model of governance at ECU guided by best practice and reflecting Council's commitment to continuous improvement in university governance.

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee recommends to Council amendments to the *ECU Act 1984* and the adoption, amendment or repeal of University Statutes, Rules, By-Laws and Policies, necessary or advisable for the effective governance of the University.

ECU South West Campus (Bunbury) Advisory Board (SWCAB)

The SWCAB provides advice to the ECU Council and the Dean of the South West Campus on matters such as the skills needs of the South West Region, external relationships, community engagement, and promotion and development of the University. In addition, SWCAB members act as advocates for the University in their industry and community networks.

Advisory Board of the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA Advisory Board)

The WAAPA Advisory Board provides strategic advice to Council in relation to the Academy.

Foundation Board

The Foundation Board advises Council on opportunities and strategies for fundraising activities aligned to the University's strategic priorities.



ECU Council Members December 2020

Back row, left to right: Mr Muhammad Bilal Shaikh; Professor Mark McMahon; Mr Eddie Bartnik; Mr Robert Radley; Mr Brian Piesse; Ms Natalie Dimmock; Associate Professor Geoff Lummis; Mr Colin Watson.

Seated, left to right: Mr Michael Rundus; Ms Denise Goldsworthy AO; Professor Steve Chapman CBE; the Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO; Ms Kelly Hick; Ms Janelle Marr; Dr Susan King.

Not present on the day: Mr Ammar Asif; Ms Dorothy Collins.

Council Members

Chancellor

The Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO

BSc, BEc, HonDLitt, Hon DUniversity, FAICD

Vice-Chancellor

Professor Steve Chapman CBE

PhD, BScHons, HonDSc, FRSE, FRSC, CChem

Members appointed by the Governor

Mr Eddie Bartnik

Director, Tamar Consultancy Pty Ltd
BAHons, MPsyCh, MEdStud, GAICD, FAIM, FASID

Mr John Cahill (to 8 Aug)

Non-executive Director
BBus, PGradDipBus

Ms Denise Goldsworthy AO

Consultant, Alternate Futures
BMetHons, FAIM, FTSE, GAICD

Mr Michael Rundus (from 9 Aug)

Partner, EY Australia; Chartered Accountant
BBusHons, GradDipInformationSystems

Members co-opted by the Council

Ms Kelly Hick (Deputy Chancellor)

Principal Consultant, KLH Consulting
LLB, DipAppSc, CertIVTrngAssmnt, GAICD

Ms Dorothy Collins

Principal, Collins Lawyers
BJuris, LLB, GAICD

Ms Janelle Marr

Managing Director, Step Beyond Strategy
BAHons, MBA, FAICD, FGIA

Mr Brian Piesse

Company Director/Shire President
Business Management Consultant
DipAgric (Muresk), FAICD, FAIM

Mr Robert Radley

Managing Partner, Azure Consulting
BScHons, MScEng, MBA, GAICD

Chairperson of the Academic Board

Professor Mark McMahon

BAHons, DipEd, GradCertCompInstrDesign,
MEd, PhD

Academic staff – elected

Associate Professor Geoff Lummis

School of Education
DipTeach(Prim), BEd(Prim), BEd, MEd, PhD

Non-Academic staff – elected

Professor Margaret Jones (to 25 Sep)

Director, Research Services
BScHons, PhD, GAICD

Mr Colin Watson (from 26 Sep)

Manager, School of Business and Law
BArts(EdStud), GradDipEd(Prim)

Enrolled Undergraduate Student

Ms Charlotte Fletcher (to 10 Oct)

Enrolled in Bachelor of Commerce

Mr Ammar Asif (from 11 Oct)

Enrolled in Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) Honours

Enrolled Postgraduate Student

Mr Rahul Radhakrishnan (to 10 Oct)

Enrolled in Master of Engineering
BEng(Mech), DipMechConstruction

Mr Muhammad Bilal Shaikh (from 11 Oct)

Enrolled in Doctor of Philosophy
(Computer Engineering)
BSc(CompSc), MSc(CompSc), MA(IntRels)

Alumni of the University – elected

Ms Natalie Dimmock

Lawyer, West Family Lawyers
BA, BPsych, LLB, GradDipMgt, GradCertPol&Policy

Dr Susan King

Consultant, Susan King Consulting
TeachCert, BA, BEd, MEd, PhD, FAIMWA, GAICD

Council Meetings 2020

In 2020, Council met on six occasions. The following table identifies the basis of Council appointment under the *Edith Cowan University Act 1984* (WA) and the number of meetings attended by Council members.

Member	ECU Act	Description	Meetings attended	Possible attendance
Mr Eddie Bartnik	Section 9(1)(a)	Members appointed by the Governor	6	6
Mr John Cahill <i>(to 8 Aug)</i>	Section 9(1)(a)	Members appointed by the Governor	3	3
Ms Denise Goldsworthy AO	Section 9(1)(a)	Members appointed by the Governor	6	6
Mr Michael Rundus <i>(from 9 Aug)</i>	Section 9(1)(a)	Members appointed by the Governor	3	3
Professor Mark McMahon	Section 9(1)(b)	The Chairperson of the Academic Board	6	6
Professor Steve Chapman CBE	Section 9(1)(c)	The Vice Chancellor	6	6
Associate Professor Geoff Lummis	Section 9(1)(d)	Academic Staff elected	6	6
Professor Margaret Jones <i>(to 25 Sep)</i>	Section 9(1)(e)	Non-Academic staff elected	4	4
Mr Colin Watson <i>(from 26 Sep)</i>	Section 9(1)(e)	Non-Academic staff elected	2	2
Ms Charlotte Fletcher <i>(to 10 Oct)</i>	Section 9(1)(f)(ii)	Enrolled Undergraduate student elected	3	4
Mr Ammar Asif <i>(from 11 Oct)</i>	Section 9(1)(f)(i)	Enrolled Undergraduate student elected	1	2
Mr Rahul Radhakrishnan <i>(to 10 Oct)</i>	Section 9(1)(f)(i)	Enrolled Postgraduate student elected	2	4
Mr Muhammad Bilal Shaikh <i>(from 11 Oct)</i>	Section 9(1)(f)(ii)	Enrolled Postgraduate student elected	2	2
Ms Natalie Dimmock	Section 9(1)(g)	Alumni of the University elected	5	6
Dr Susan King	Section 9(1)(g)	Alumni of the University elected	6	6
Ms Dorothy Collins <i>(approved Leave of Absence for 2020)</i>	Section 9(1)(h)	Members co-opted by the Council	0	0
Ms Kelly Hick	Section 9(1)(h)	Members co-opted by the Council	6	6
Ms Janelle Marr	Section 9(1)(h)	Members co-opted by the Council	6	6
Mr Brian Piesse	Section 9(1)(h)	Members co-opted by the Council	5	6
Mr Robert Radley	Section 9(1)(h)	Members co-opted by the Council	6	6
Hon Mrs Kerry Sanderson AC CVO	Section 9(1)(i)	The Chancellor	6	6

Senior Executive



Professor Steve Chapman
Vice-Chancellor



Professor Arshad Omari
*Senior Deputy
Vice-Chancellor*



Professor Caroline Finch AO
*Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Research) and Vice President*



Professor Angela Hill
*Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Education) and
Vice President*



Professor Cobie Rudd
*Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Strategic Partnerships)
and Vice President*



Professor Simon Ridings
*Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(International) and
Vice President*



Mr Scott Henderson
*Vice President
(Corporate Services)*



Professor Braden Hill
*Pro-Vice-Chancellor,
(Equity and Indigenous)*



Ms Sonia Mackay-Coghill
*Vice President Enterprise
and Development*



Professor Clive Barstow
*Executive Dean,
School of Arts and Humanities*



Professor Daryoush Habibi
*Executive Dean,
School of Engineering*



Professor Stephen Winn
*Executive Dean,
School of Education*



Professor Moira Sim
*Executive Dean,
School of Medical and Health
Sciences*



Professor Maryam Omari
*Executive Dean,
School of Business and Law*



Professor Di Twigg AM
*Executive Dean,
School of Nursing and
Midwifery*



**Professor Andrew
Woodward**
*Executive Dean,
School of Science*



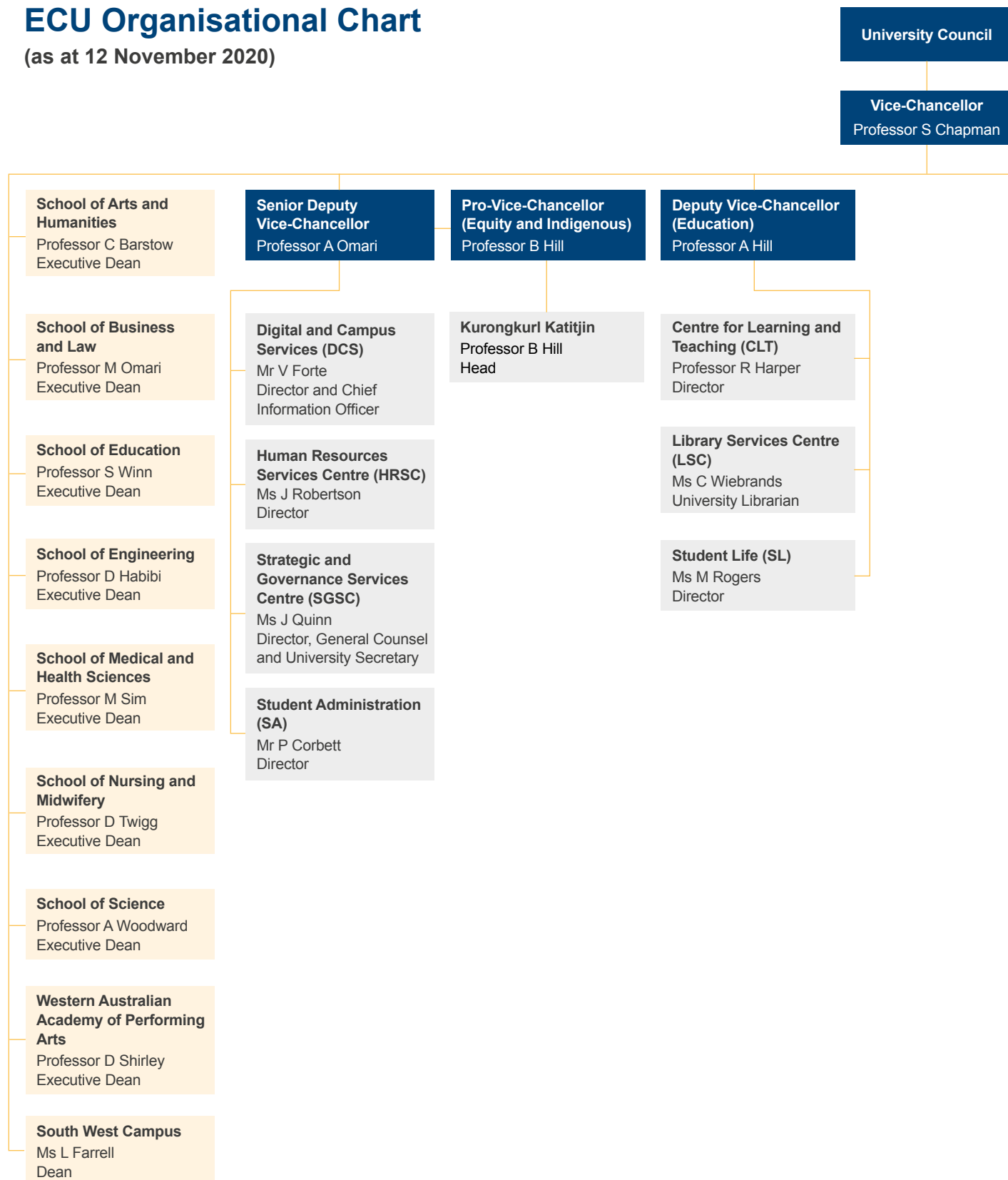
Professor David Shirley
*Executive Dean,
Western Australian Academy
of Performing Arts*

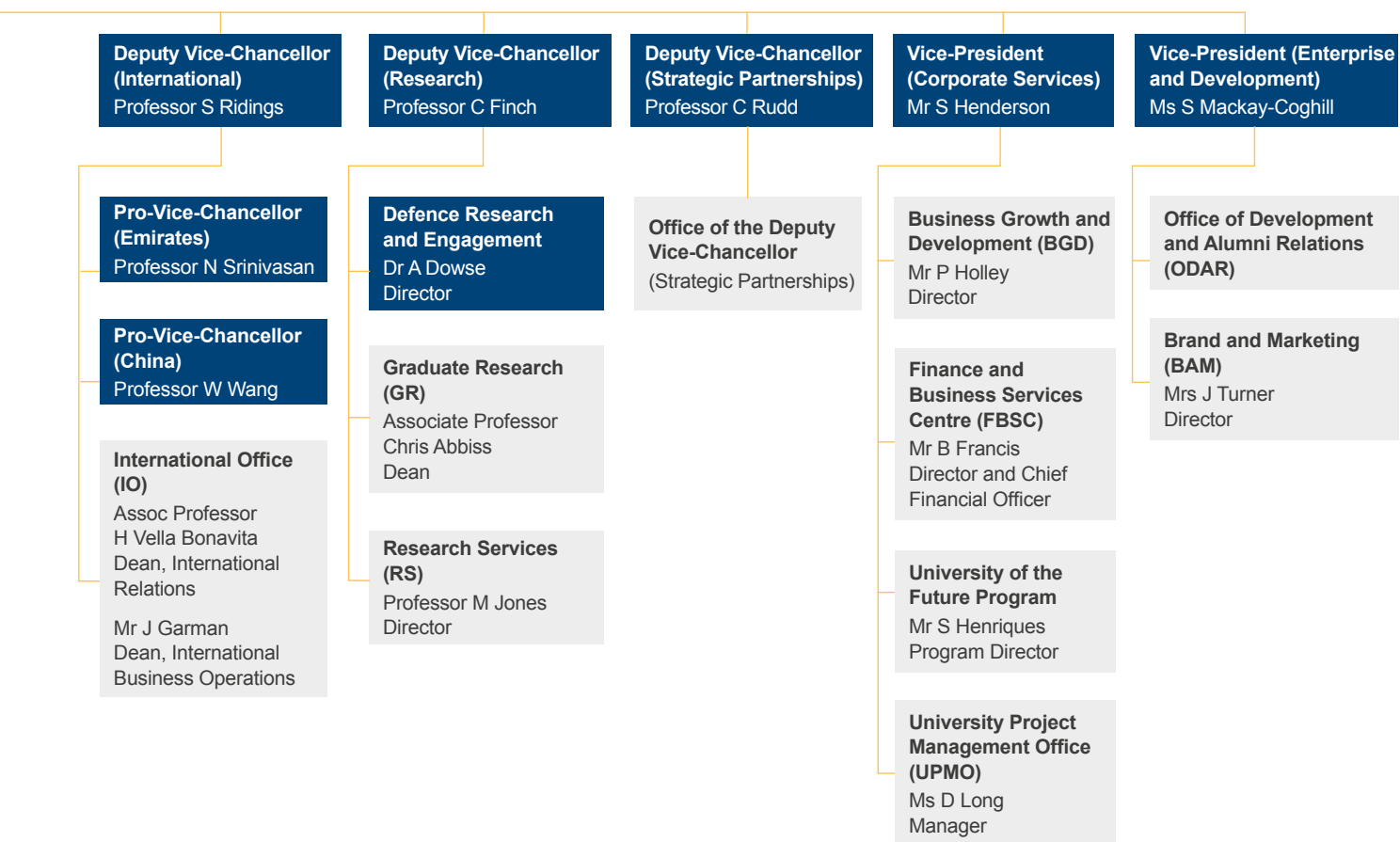


Ms Lyn Farrell
*Dean,
South West Campus*

ECU Organisational Chart

(as at 12 November 2020)





Schools

Arts and Humanities

The School of Arts and Humanities offers a diverse range of programs covering media and communications, contemporary arts, design, psychology and social sciences, criminology and justice and the humanities.

Business and Law

The School of Business and Law offers a comprehensive range of courses with major specialisations, as well as specialist industry-focused degrees. Disciplines include law, management, finance and banking, marketing and commerce, and all courses include relevant theory, practical work experience and employability skills.

Education

ECU has been at the forefront of teacher education for over 100 years and ECU's School of Education is the largest in Western Australia. Course programs are available in early childhood, primary and secondary education specialisations.

Engineering

ECU's School of Engineering is one of the fastest growing engineering schools in Australia, with courses in the specialisations of civil, chemical, mechanical, electrical power, mechatronics, control and automation, electronics, communications, computer systems, naval architecture, marine engineering, offshore engineering, and motorsports.

Medical and Health Sciences

The School of Medical and Health Sciences undertakes teaching and research in medical, biomedical, exercise and sports science and paramedical science, including courses in medical science, human biology, emergency medical services, public health, nutrition, environmental health, occupational safety and health, exercise and sports science and occupational therapy.

Nursing and Midwifery

The School of Nursing and Midwifery runs the largest undergraduate nursing program in Western Australia. A diverse mix of course specialisations is offered, developed in consultation with industry groups and combining the latest theory with hands-on, practical experience.

Science

The School of Science offers a diverse range of industry-relevant courses with a strong emphasis on practical skills in the laboratory and field. Courses are offered in the disciplines of computing, information science, security science, biology, environmental science, chemistry, mathematics and physics.

Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA)

Recognised nationally and internationally for the quality of its graduates, WAAPA provides the most comprehensive range of performing arts training in Australia. Employing world-class staff, WAAPA enjoys state-of-the-art performance and teaching facilities.

Kurongkurl Katitjin

Kurongkurl Katitjin is ECU's Centre for Indigenous Australian Education and Research. The Centre plays a vital role in assisting ECU to meet its commitments to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, staff and communities, supporting University-wide activities and programs, as well as activities specific to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their cultures.

South West Campus

Located in Bunbury, the South West Campus is Western Australia's largest regional university campus. Courses are offered in arts, business, nursing, engineering, teacher education and social work.

Professional services

ECU's organisational structure includes a range of professional services that guide and support Council, the University Executive, schools, research centres, academics, students and the communities ECU serve. The professional services centres are:

- Brand and Marketing
- Business Growth and Development
- Centre for Learning and Teaching
- Development and Alumni Relations
- Digital and Campus Services
- Finance and Business Services
- Graduate Research School
- Human Resources Services
- International Office
- Library Services
- Research Services
- Strategic and Governance Services
- Student Administration
- Student Life

Controlled entities

Edith Cowan Accommodation Holdings Pty Ltd

Provides residential and/or commercial accommodation and related ancillary activities that assist in establishing an affordable and supportive living environment for University students residing on campus.

ECU Holdings Pty Ltd

An entity established to focus on commercial activities at ECU. Its purpose is primarily to generate revenue to be re-invested in ECU academic activities.

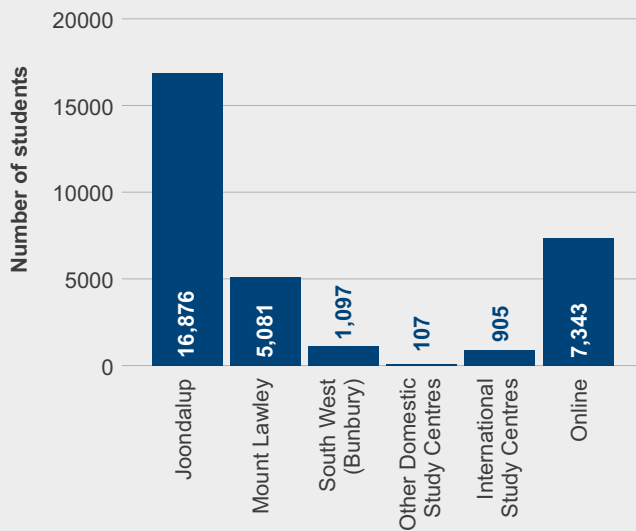
Australian Pathway Education Group Pty Ltd

An Australian Registered Training Organisation focused on the delivery of Australian standard Vocational Education and Training programs to students in China.

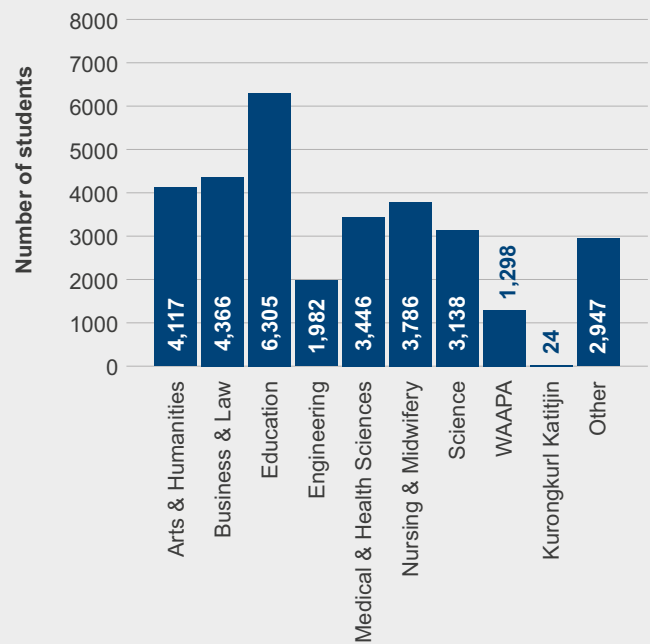


Key statistics

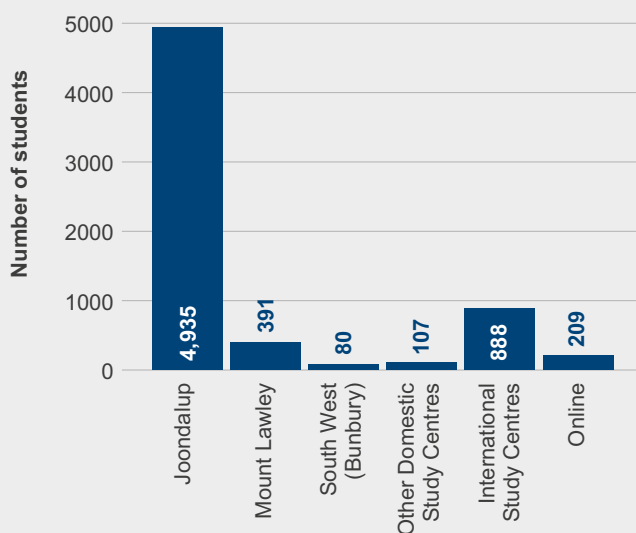
Student Enrolments by Home Campus



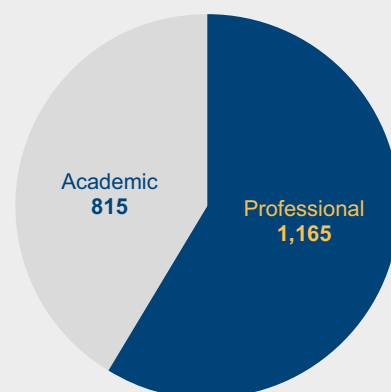
Student Enrolments by Enrolled School



International Enrolments by Home Campus



Number of Staff



Report on operations

Enhancing learning and teaching

The *ECU Strategic Plan 2017-2021* identifies the following objectives relevant to learning and teaching:

- Teaching that inspires;
- Transformative learning experiences;
- A globally relevant and innovative curriculum;
- Improved learning outcomes and career readiness.

ECU's strategies to ensure quality in teaching and learning are driven from the *ECU Student Success Blueprint, 2018-2021*. The Blueprint provides a four-year vision of a co-ordinated whole-of-institution approach that connects with and supports ECU's strategic goals and objectives. Further, the *ECU Technology Enhanced-Learning Blueprint 2017-2021* provides a whole of institution framework to guide the University's investment in online learning, and learning technologies more generally. The introduction of the *ECU Equity, Diversity and inclusion Blueprint 2020-2021* this year sharpened ECU's commitment to excellence and equity in learning and teaching.

2020 Highlights

ECU continued to be recognised for its teaching excellence, attaining a five-star rating in the 2021 *Good Universities Guide* for teaching quality. This rating has been achieved for an unequalled fourteen years in a row.

ECU's 2020 pulse survey responses, alongside academic results, indicated that students maintained high levels of engagement with ECU and their studies, in the transformed learning environments established in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Teaching that inspires

The COVID-19 pandemic triggered a significant shift in ECU's learning and teaching arrangements, with all units and courses swiftly moving from on campus delivery to the online environment. The University's responses were timely and far-reaching, helping to ensure students were supported in their studies. Substantial adjustments included: rescheduling of ECU's academic calendar; transition to online teaching of all units; introduction of alternative assessment methods and replacing central examinations; delivery of a fully online orientation program to welcome and acclimatise students to ECU; maintaining student support services with alternative access arrangements (e.g. telehealth appointments); and enhanced support and financial assistance to students.

Student safety and health and wellbeing remained the highest priority for the University. ECU introduced additional alternative ways of providing support for students experiencing distress due to the pandemic. In excess of \$2 million in Emergency Relief Grants were provided for international and domestic students experiencing severe financial hardship.

ECU implemented a series of measures to support student learning including: a number of online live Q&A events for students and staff on learning, teaching and assessment and an expanded array of resources to support the use of learning technologies.

The University undertook pulse surveys to obtain timely student feedback on their experiences of online learning and unit assessments during the close-down period in the first half of the year. Despite the difficulties presented by the pandemic, overall, feedback on support, assessment and effectiveness of study was positive from both domestic and international students. Results from students who moved to online study were comparable to students who had always intended to study online.



ECU's annual cross-institutional teaching and learning conference, *ECUture*, was fully online in 2020. Staff shared their experiences of teaching off-campus, and ongoing innovative teaching practice and research under the theme of: 'Flexibility and Sustainability: Exploring multiple modes of student-centred learning'. ECU's post-pandemic recovery plan will leverage its experiences in online learning in 2020 and the consequential rapid upskilling of academic staff in the use of learning technologies to move teaching off-campus. The University began work to move its learning management system to Canvas, a next generation digital learning environment, from 2022.

Four ECU staff were honoured for exceptional contributions to teaching and learning in the 2019 Australian Awards for University Teaching:

Professor Denise Jackson, ECU's Director Work-Integrated Learning in the School of Business and Law, received a Teaching Excellence Award for work on addressing the social and cultural barriers to meaningful work experience for students.

Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning went to:

- Associate Professor Vicki Banham for creating a signature pedagogy for students entering the human services/community work field through a professional placement program.
- Dr Donna Barwood for pioneering and championing inclusive, strengths-based health education, empowering pre-service secondary teachers with transformative capacities to cultivate health-literate young Australians.
- Associate Professor Deborah Hersh for motivating speech pathology students to become exemplary, person-centred, interprofessional practitioners by building mutually beneficial links between innovative teaching, clinical expertise and high-impact research.

Transformative learning experiences

Teaching began in ECU's four new superlabs in the new Science Building. The Science Building provides four state-of-the-art learning spaces that enable physical and virtual collaboration for up to 96 students.

A globally relevant and innovative curriculum

Student Mobility initiatives are described under The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted ECU's global learning initiatives. Further information is provided under Strategic Goal 3: Growing Internationalisation.

ECU offered a number of training opportunities for staff and students in Sri Lanka as they transitioned to online learning.

Improved learning outcomes and career readiness

The University is committed to providing Work In 2020, travel restrictions, requirements to social distance, closure of non-essential services, and pressure on Australia's health system severely limited student participation in practicum placements and work integrated learning.

In response to the Commonwealth Government focus on new 'short courses' in 'national priority' disciplines, ECU offered six-month short courses in Cyber Security, Engineering and Health. Following a successful bid for funding for short courses in 2021, work began on the development of a new Undergraduate Certificate in Higher Education, and a number of discipline specific Undergraduate Certificates, to provide new ways for students to transition to further undergraduate study.

Advancing research and knowledge translation

The *ECU Strategic Plan 2017-2021* identifies the following objectives relevant to research:

- Growth in research capacity and culture;
- Extensive research collaboration;
- Increased knowledge translation;
- Growth in research training.

Growth in research capacity and culture

During 2020, the University focused on implementing planned key aspects of ECU's research strategy, while responding to changing circumstances arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Adverse impacts included: the need to defer some projects until 2021 when data collection can resume; reductions in previously approved external funding sources; and deferred funding application rounds or opportunities.

ECU's postgraduate coursework and research staff development opportunities were delivered in online mode.

Fourteen new early career and mid-career academics commenced as Vice-Chancellor's Teaching and Research Fellows in January 2020 as part of the University's plan to sustainably grow research capacity.

ECU is also committed to supporting and growing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research. In 2020, ECU developed its first Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy for Research. ECU appointed Dr Dan McAullay, a nationally recognised expertise in Aboriginal Health, to an Associate Professor position to expand research capability in this area.

ECU continued to expand its postgraduate supervisory capacity through the Principal Supervisor Accreditation Program. Twenty-nine early career research supervisors participated in the 2020 program, adding to the existing 70 accredited principal supervisors.

Professional development for existing postgraduate supervisors continued in 2020 through online arrangements, resulting in increased uptake of courses compared to previous years.

2020 Highlights

ECU announced the establishment of nine new research institutes and centres in November 2020. Supported by investment of \$16 million over the next five years, the Strategic Research Institutes and Centres will lead the University's research excellence across key areas of research strength from 2021. A new look web presence was developed to maximise reach, relevance and interest for internal and external stakeholders of the Strategic Research Institutes and Centres.

ECU's Strategic Research Institutes and Centres are:

- Institute for Nutrition Research
- Exercise Medicine Research Institute
- Security Research Institute
- Centre for Precision Health
- Centre for Integrative Metabolomics and Computational Biology
- Centre for Sustainable Energy and Resources
- Centre for Research in Aged Care
- Centre for Work and Wellbeing
- Centre for People, Place and Planet

Four new Research Theme Leaders were recruited to enhance ECU's research culture and increase industry and external engagement. ECU's Research Theme Leaders are:

- Health: Professor John Olynyk;
- Natural and Built Environment: Professor Kerry Brown;
- Society and Culture: Professor Paul Arthur; and
- Securing Digital Futures: Mr Tony Marceddo.

In 2020, many ECU's researchers were recognised for their outstanding contributions in their fields:

Professor Hongqi Sun – Vice-Chancellor's Professorial Research Fellow in the School of Engineering, and Professor Ralph Martins AO – Foundation Chair in Aging and Alzheimer's Disease at ECU, were included in the 2020 Web of Science most highly cited researchers in the cross-field category.

Professor Michelle Colgrave was a recipient of the 2020 ICM Agrifood Award from the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering for significant contributions to the agricultural sector. Professor Colgrave has achieved substantial recognition for her work in improving the quality of life for people with coeliac disease through developments in Australian barley production and food labelling.

In 2020, Dr Stacey Reinke was awarded the International Metabolomics Society President's medal, the highest honour for an early or mid-career scientist in Metabolomics. The award was based on outstanding contributions to the field of respiratory metabolomics and in recognition of Dr Reinke's leadership role within the Metabolomics Society.

Extensive research collaboration

ECU continued to increase its research outputs and publications. International co-authorship grew through increased collaborations with international researchers and the University performed slightly above the Australian average for the proportion of research outputs with international co-authors.

ECU maintained active membership of important WA-based research consortia linking researchers to industry groups. In 2020, ECU became a member of the Australian Research Data Commons and maintained affiliations with a number of national bodies, including the Australian Research Management Society, the Australian Academic Research Network, and the Collaborative Research Centre Network.

ECU continued to participate in research partnerships and joint ventures in Western Australia including: the PAWSEY Supercomputing Facility; the WA Health Translation Network, the RAINE Study; the WA Marine Science Institute; the WA Biological Science Institute; and the WA Defence Science Centre.

An external review of the ECU-led iPREP program in late 2020 commended the program and recommended its expansion. iPREP remains an integral program providing ECU Higher Degree by Research candidates with experience of conducting research projects with industry partners.

Increased knowledge translation

In 2020, three ECU-led research projects were awarded funding of \$445,000 from the Defence Science Centre's Collaborative Research Grants Scheme to develop Australia's Defence capabilities through world class research, highlighting the University's considerable engagement with the Australian Defence Forces and defence industries.

Eight new Industry Engagement Scholarships were established in 2020, with partner income of \$592,000. These scholarships link Higher Degree by Research candidates with industry partners throughout the duration of their degree.

An additional 15 ECU PhD candidates participated in the ECU-developed and ECU-led iPREP program in 2020. The program embeds candidates within industry where they learn professional skills and bridges partnerships between the University and industry-based potential research collaborators.



Growing internationalisation

The *ECU Strategic Plan 2017-2021* identifies the following objectives for growing internationalisation:

- Growth in international enrolments;
- Strong partnerships and international relations;
- Global education delivery;
- An internationalised student experience.

Growth in international enrolments

ECU continued to focus on diversifying source country markets. In 2020, ECU performed well in Bhutan, continued to grow in Nepal and Pakistan, and continued to support initiatives in European markets.

In response to border closures, ECU adjusted its 2020 half year targets for the number of commencing international students studying onshore or online. ECU exceeded these adjusted targets.

Strong partnerships and international relations

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ECU worked closely with offshore partners in Dubai, Hong Kong, Singapore, Sri Lanka, China and Vietnam to ensure student safety and wellbeing and to support student success, irrespective of their location.

In 2020, ECU focused on maintaining and further strengthening its partnerships with strategic partners, including Tokyo City University, Zhejiang Normal University and Beijing University of Agriculture, as well as developing new partnerships and programmes that will position ECU to bring student cohorts onshore in 2021 and 2022, particularly in China.

Global education delivery

The impact of the pandemic on regions where ECU delivers offshore programs consequentially had an impact on student enrolments. For example, ECU's education partnership with Emirates Airlines was affected by the mandatory closure of Dubai Airport and consequently student enrolments reduced.

2020 Highlights

ECU commenced 2020 in a strong position and was on track to achieve or exceed the University's targets for international student recruitment.

Despite the impact of international travel restrictions on international student recruitment, international student fee income exceeded target for 2021, as set in the ECU Strategic Plan.

The significant, disruptive potential of travel restrictions for international students due to the COVID-19 pandemic was recognised early and the University developed a multi-faceted, digital response to the emerging crisis.

A virtual recruitment model was implemented to position ECU as the university of choice for international students.

Digital initiatives included: Virtual Global Open Days in June and October that attracted over 1500 attendees from more than 130 countries; the development of personalised, digital promotional materials for 2021, and a digital toolkit with a range of social media content to promote ECU programs and events.

A series of over 100 webinars were conducted for students, agents and partners that engaged over 2000 participants.

In conjunction with StudyPerth, ECU facilitated an ongoing, structured communication and consultation process between Western Australian universities and relevant State and Federal government agencies on procedures and arrangements for the safe return of international students to the State when travel restrictions are eased.



Nevertheless, in 2020, growth was achieved in some offshore programs including the Master of Education in Vietnam and China, Cybersecurity at PSB Academy in Singapore, and at ECU's Sri Lanka campus.

ECU enhanced its presence in Sri Lanka as a degree-delivering institution and accelerated the plans to offer full degrees in Sri Lanka.

An Internationalised student experience

In 2020, study abroad and inbound study tours were seriously impacted by restrictions on student and staff travel. ECU's priorities were the rapid and safe recall and return of all ECU exchange students from overseas and active support to assist international student exchange and study abroad students recalled by their home universities. ECU's exchange programs for late 2020 and early 2021 were suspended.

The Tokyo City University Australia Program (TCUAP) successfully commenced at ECU early in 2020. Following the recall of all participants to Tokyo, ECU developed a comprehensive virtual program in short time, allowing the TCUAP cycle to recommence online and conclude successfully.

A number of new partnerships were developed, including with Undiknas University, Indonesia and inbound and outbound virtual programs were initiated.

ECU signed an agreement to join Global Partners in Education (GPE), a membership-led organisation, opening up partnerships for virtual programs with 47 institutions in 29 countries. This new agreement facilitated increased online student mobility options, including an online student conference and a partnership with East Carolina University.

Additional new virtual programs in 2020 included:

- China: Shenzhen Polytechnic online summer camp.
- Japan: Kansai Gaidai University Japanese studies.
- Uganda: Occupational Therapy student placements.
- China and Vietnam: Work Integrated Learning placements for business, science and engineering students.

ECU hosted the Global Futures at ECU virtual study abroad program offered to students through more than 50 student exchange and study abroad partners.

ECU's New Colombo Plan mobility funding was rolled over to 2021. An additional 24 new applications were lodged for New Colombo Plan funding for 2021/2022. New Colombo Plan funding was utilised to support virtual study and learning experiences for international students.

Ensuring organisational sustainability

The *ECU Strategic Plan 2017-2021* identifies the following objectives relevant to organisational sustainability:

- High-performance culture;
- Service excellence;
- Infrastructure that supports our goals;
- A strong financial base.

2020 Highlights

ECU was successful in its bid to establish a new \$695 million ECU City Campus in the Perth CBD. The world-class creative industries, business and technology campus will be the centrepiece of the Perth City Deal, and will bring more than 9,000 students and staff to the heart of Perth from 2025 to support Western Australia's economic recovery.

The ECU City Campus will be jointly funded by ECU, the Federal Government and the State Government. \$245 million funding will be provided by the Federal Government and \$150 million of funding and in-kind land support will be contributed by the Western Australian Government. A \$300 million investment by ECU will realise this transformational project.

The ECU City Campus will be Western Australia's first, comprehensive city campus. Located at the Perth City Link, adjacent to Yagan Square, the campus will offer programs in creative and performing arts, business, and technology.

ECU appointed Mr Sean Henriques to the role of Program Director, University of the Future Program. Mr Henriques, formerly Chief Executive Officer of the Perth Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority, will take up the position in January 2021.

High performance culture

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted operations and performance at all levels across ECU's learning and teaching, international activity, research and support functions.

ECU moved all teaching to online mode of delivery, transitioned most staff to remote working and implemented University-wide savings and efficiency measures.

ECU's actions in response to the pandemic were well regarded by students as stated in the results of a pulse survey, and by staff who reported 93% satisfaction levels with the way ECU handled the impact of the pandemic.

ECU launched the inaugural *Equity, Diversity and inclusion Blueprint 2020-2021* to articulate a whole-of-institution approach to equity, diversity and inclusion. The Blueprint supplements and complements ECU's existing suite of equity-related plans and includes 20 high level actions arranged around the themes of: Our Strategy and Leadership; Our People; Our Communities; Our Culture; and Our Research and Teaching.

ECU was amongst the top 4% of universities globally who participated in the *2020 Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings* for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal on Gender Equality.

ECU's Citation as an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality from the Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) remains current into 2021. Awarded for the fourth consecutive year, the Citation recognises ECU's long-standing commitment to creating an inclusive culture. ECU is one of only three organisations in the State to hold a current Citation and the only WA university.

ECU is an Athena SWAN Bronze accredited institution through Science in Australia Gender Equity Limited (SAGE) and continues to implement the 24 action items in the *Athena SWAN Bronze Institution Action Plan 2018-2023*.

In March 2020, ECU hosted the 12th Annual Edith Cowan Memorial Lecture to celebrate International Women's Day. The event was opened by the Hon Simone McGurk MLA, Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services. The 2020 event also marked the official launch of ECU's partnership with the WA Women's Hall of Fame, at Edith Cowan House at ECU's Joondalup Campus. The launch included the unveiling of an ongoing exhibition showcasing a series of photographs of inductees.

STEM and gender equality collaborations were expanded and the wide range of activities being undertaken are captured and reported within ECU's customer relationship management system.

The University finalised the *ECU Student and Staff Mental Health Strategy*, a document that sets a University-wide strategy to promote and support student and staff mental health and wellbeing regardless of location, role or mode of study. The strategy aligns with ECU's values, supports the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Blueprint and will help to ensure that ECU is a psychologically safe and healthy workplace for all students and staff.

Consistent with ECU's vision for reconciliation expressed in ECU's fourth *Reconciliation Action Plan 2018-2021*, ECU publicly endorsed the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*. This endorsement marks the University's ongoing commitment to walking alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, families and communities. A number of ECU staff were among the 250 delegates from across Australia attending the 2017 Uluru Convention, who overwhelmingly supported the Statement's three key elements of Voice, Truth and Makaratta.

ECU's new \$50 million state-of-the-art Science Building on the Joondalup Campus, features the world's largest fixed Periodic Table, and was officially opened in February 2020.

In celebration of Pride Month and LGBTIQ+ diversity, ECU held a number of events and activities focused on the themes of connection and community. Highlights included:

- Raising the rainbow flag on ECU's three campuses;
- A webinar featuring a panel of LGBTIQ+ staff and community members who discussed intersectionality in LGBTIQ+ communities;
- An open, online panel discussion on the importance of supporting LGBTIQ+ students at ECU; and
- In partnership with OUT South West, led a number of local events in Bunbury.

ECU continues to implement its *Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, 2016-2021*. Progress against the plan is noted in the Disclosures and Legal and Compliance section of this Annual Report.

Service excellence

ECU's Service Excellence Program was completed in 2019, with the changes enabling the organisational arrangements and technological infrastructure required for ECU's continued success and for the University's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ECU's customer relationship management system has enabled further efficiencies and improved reporting.

Infrastructure that supports our goals

The ECU Climate Initiative Task Force was established in March. A comprehensive audit of ECU's carbon footprint was undertaken and options for a range of initiatives to assist ECU to reduce its carbon footprint, will be developed.

ECU's new \$50 million state-of-the-art Science Building on the Joondalup Campus, features the world's largest fixed Periodic Table, and was officially opened in February 2020.

A Strong financial base

The University achieved an operating surplus of 5%, compared to an original target of 4% approved by Council in December 2019 and the revised target of 1%, approved by Council as part of the budget reforecast in August 2020.



Significant issues and trends

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will continue into 2021 and will include continued travel restrictions for international students, academics and researchers.

ECU's recovery planning is based on the domestic and international borders being opened progressively during 2021 and transitioning back to staged access in time for enrolments in the first half of 2021.

If borders are not open, or student demand does not materialise, the financial position of the University may be impacted in 2021 and the outer years. The size of this financial impact will depend on the overall student enrolment reduction.

Consistent with previous periods of employment downturn, domestic student demand is expected to grow, as those retrenched, or unable to secure employment due to labour market constraints, turn to educational opportunities to upskill and retrain. The expanded provision of online learning opportunities, accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic response, are likely to see increased competition for domestic students in Australia.

The economic outlook is unclear at the time of writing, however the Western Australian economy in particular, appeared to be making a strong recovery in late 2020.

New Commonwealth funding and reporting arrangements, as a result of the passing of amendments to the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (under the banner of the *Job-Ready Graduates* package), will be in place from January 2021.

The Federal Government will continue to monitor the activity and performance of universities in graduate employment, as part of the Performance-based Funding arrangements, although funding will not be withheld during a transition period to the end of 2023. The Department of Education, Skills and Employment will monitor closely the enrolment take up of domestic students for additional Commonwealth Supported Places provided to universities in 'national priority' disciplines, such as science and technology.

The Federal Government's focus on national security concerns is likely to continue. Legislative changes to monitoring and reporting arrangements will be introduced, intended to limit foreign interference in Australia's government and industries. Australian universities, and the significant international links through partnerships for education and research, remain part of this focus.

In addition, the Federal Government has indicated its continuing interest in safeguards to academic freedom and freedom of expression on university campuses. Adoption of the French Model Code by universities may be mandated through legislation in 2021 and in late 2020, the previous Minister urged universities to consider reporting their adherence to the Model Code through the governing bodies and annual reports of universities.

Disclosures and legal compliance

Occupational Safety, Health and Injury Management

Refer: 2018-03 Code of Practice: Occupational Safety and Health in the WA Public Sector

Commitment

ECU aims to provide a healthy and safe working and learning environment where our staff, students, service providers and visitors are protected from physical and psychological injury, ill health, disease or harm.

As detailed in the ECU Health and Safety Policy, reviewed and updated in 2020, Council Members and Officers of the University are responsible for exercising due diligence, providing a safe and healthy working and learning environment and ensuring ECU complies with all health and safety statutory requirements. Executive Deans and Centre Directors undertake annual due diligence reviews of their business unit's health and safety performance using local performance indicators, improvement plans, hazard risk registers and other monitoring tools.

ECU's health and safety performance indicators and metrics are monitored and reported quarterly to the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee and Council.

All ECU staff are required to complete online health and safety inductions every two years, with additional health and safety leadership training for managers and supervisors, refreshed every three years.

ECU aims to provide a healthy and safe working and learning environment where our staff, students, service providers and visitors are protected from physical and psychological injury, ill health, disease or harm.

Mechanism for consultation

In accordance with the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*, ECU's health and safety committees facilitate consultation, communication and the implementation of health and safety policy aims and objectives. There are two levels: the University Health and Safety Committee, which reports to the Vice-Chancellor via the University Executive, and local health and safety committees.

In accordance with *University Health and Safety Consultative Committees Procedure* these committees hold quarterly meetings, and committee members liaise and consult directly with those they represent.

ECU's Radiation, Biosafety and Hazardous Substances Committee reports to the Academic Board, and monitors our systems of radiation safety, biosafety, and chemicals and other hazardous materials safety to ensure compliance with the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*; *Radiation Safety Act 1975*; *Biosecurity Act 2015* (Cth), *Gene Technology Act 2000* (Cth) and other relevant statutory requirements.

Injury management requirements

The University's *Fitness for Work Guideline and Injury and Illness Management Procedure* outline processes for workers' compensation and injury management including the development of return to work plans. These documents were developed in accordance with the *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981*, and are published on ECU's website.

Assessment

An internal audit of ECU's occupational safety and health management system against the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*, key changes proposed in the *Work Health and Safety Bill 2019* and the international standard *ISO 4500:2018 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems* was completed by an external consultant in November 2020. The six findings have resulted in 12 agreed management actions, 8% of which were completed at the end of 2020, with the remainder in progress and scheduled for completion in 2021. Audits are conducted every three years.

Injury management target performance

Indicator	2018	2019 ¹	2020 ²	Target
Fatalities	0	0	0	0
Lost time incidence rate	0.36	0.61	0.20	0, or 10% reduction
Lost time severity rate	0.00	0.00	50.00	0, or 10% reduction
Returned to work within:				
• 13 weeks	100%	91%	25%	At least 80% within 26 weeks
• 26 weeks	100%	91%	50%	
Managers trained	87%	89%	72%	At least 80%

¹ The 2019 figure for Lost time Incidence (LTI) rate and return to work severity rate has been amended to include an additional incident from 2019 reclassified as a compensable LTI in 2020.

² A refresher requirement for Managers trained in Health and Safety was introduced in 2019 and the performance outcome for 2020 reflects managers who have completed the training and are current in their refresher completion. Figures reported for 2018 and 2019 report training completion do not consider a refresher compliance component.

Staffing

Employees		
Category	2020	2019
Academic	815	814
Teaching and research	375	370
Research-only	109	99
Teaching-focused	331	345
Professional	1,165	1,147
TOTAL	1,980	1,961

Source: ECU.

Notes:

Full-time equivalent numbers shown. An estimate of casual staff is included in calculations.

Due to rounding, numbers may not sum to totals.

The University has an extensive suite of staffing policies including recruitment and development.



Major capital works

Refer: *Treasurer's Instruction 903, (13)(ii)*

Completed

Project	Cost (\$m)	
	Estimate	Actual
New Work Integrated Learning space in Building 2 at the Joondalup Campus	0.9	0.9
Sapien Cyber Security fit-out at the Science Building at the Joondalup Campus	0.9	0.9
WAPOL fit-out in the Science Building at the Joondalup Campus	2.1	2.1
Collaborative Research Centre tenancy fit-out in the Science Building at the Joondalup Campus	0.3	0.3

In progress

Project	Expected completion	Cost (\$m)	
		Estimate	To date
City Campus	2024	695.0	0.5
Refurbishment of the Library Activation at the Joondalup Campus	2021	3.1	2.0
Fit-out of Level 3 at the ECU Health Centre in Wanneroo	2021	1.5	0.4
New quadrangle electronic signage at the Joondalup Campus	2021	0.8	0.0
New ECU Health Centre in Yanchep	2024	2.3	0.1
Science Building Level 4 and 5 variations at the Joondalup Campus	2021	0.5	0.5
Refurbishment of general teaching spaces at the Mount Lawley Campus	2021	1.0	0.4
<i>This project is on hold.</i>			
Refurbishment of the WAAPA Spatial Music Studio at the Mount Lawley Campus	2021	0.7	0.1
<i>This project is on hold.</i>			

Directors' and officers' liability insurance

In 2020 ECU paid a premium of \$175,000 for Management Liability Cover. This includes Directors and Officer Liability insurance cover for members of Council and Officers of the University and its controlled entities. The cover also applies to staff members and external members appointed to ECU advisory boards and committees established by Statute.

Pricing policy on outputs provided

ECU's pricing policies are set out in *Statute 31 – Fees*, *Statute 29 – Student Services and Amenities Fee*, the *Tuition Unit and Incidental Fee Setting Policy*, and the *Pricing Policy*. Student course and unit fees are published in our online Fees Calculator, and student incidental fees (e.g. personal safety equipment, field trips) are published on the ECU website.

Advertising and marketing activities

Refer: *Electoral Act 1907*, 175ZE

Type	Total
Advertising agencies	\$1,770,089
303 Mullenlowe Australia Pty Ltd	
Rare Pty Ltd	
Market research organisations	\$8,984
Polling organisations	Nil
Direct mail organisations	Nil
Media advertising organisations	\$3,335,157
Mediabrand Australia Pty Ltd	
Google Australia Pty Ltd	
Optimum Media Decisions (WA) Pty Ltd	
TOTAL	\$5,114,230



Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) outcomes

In 2020 the following progress was made against the *ECU Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, 2016-2021*:

Outcome One: People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of, and any events organised by, the University.	<p>ECU engaged Youth Disability Advocacy Network to conduct an 'experiential audit' from the perspective of young people with disabilities prior to an International Day of People with Disability event.</p> <p>Recommendations were provided to further improve physical accessibility.</p> <p>ECU's events checklist is to be updated to incorporate items from Disability Services Commission's accessible events checklist.</p>
Outcome Two: People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to access buildings and other facilities of the University.	<p>Several refurbishments have been undertaken to replace tiered seating and ensure class and exam rooms are more accessible for all students.</p> <p>The Changing Place at the Joondalup Campus gained full accreditation. The room contains a harness, bed and removable curtain for privacy purposes. This project has taken approximately seven years to complete to its current high standard.</p>
Outcome Three: People with disability 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.	<p>ECU's reviewed and expanded Equity, Diversity and Inclusion web presence includes the latest update to the <i>Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2016-2021</i>.</p> <p>The new web page provides information on the various support services for students and staff with disabilities or health conditions in one place, including both internal and external services available.</p>
Outcome Four: People with disability receive the same level of quality service from the staff of the University as other people receive from the staff of the University.	<p>ECU piloted a new Access and Inclusion at Edith Cowan University rights-based training program to upskill staff on inclusion for students and staff with disability.</p>
Outcome Five: People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to make complaints to the University.	<p>Complaints processes meet web accessibility requirements.</p> <p>Alternative complaints lodgement options are available.</p>
Outcome Six: People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to participate in any public consultation by the University.	<p>Feedback from students and staff has been incorporated in the development of ECU's upcoming mental health strategy. Public feedback sessions were held with staff and students through Microsoft Teams, with the recordings published on ECU's website.</p>
Outcome Seven: People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to obtain and maintain employment with the University.	<p>The University continued to develop a disability employment strategy to identify actions to improve and increase opportunities for employing people with a disability at ECU through normal recruitment processes and via Disability Employment agencies.</p>

Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Universities

ECU, where practical, complies with the Voluntary Code of Best Practice.

Risk Management

ECU's *Integrated Risk Management Policy* provides a risk management framework for its activities outlining the University's approach to manage risk effectively and foster a culture where risk is an enabler of informed decision-making. Procedures are consistent with the principles and standards in *AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 – Risk management – Guidelines*.

ECU's governing Council sets the overall risk appetite for the University. The Integrated Risk Management Framework maps risks to ECU's strategic priorities and is the basis for all risk registers. The Vice-Chancellor is responsible for ensuring that the risk management system is maintained in accordance with policy, and the Quality, Audit and Risk Committee provides oversight.

In 2020, ECU outsourced its internal audit function to an independent professional services firm. The objective was to enhance the value of internal audit by obtaining risk-based assurance on the adequacy and effectiveness of ECU's risk, compliance, internal control and governance processes.

National Student Representation Protocols

ECU complies with the *National Student Representation Protocols*, with multiple opportunities for student involvement in decision-making. For example, student-elected representatives are members of the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) Steering Committee, and ECU Council. Annually, the draft SSAF expenditure priorities are shared with the ECU student community for comment.

Record Keeping – compliance with the State Records Act (2000)

In accordance with the State Records Commission Standard 2:

- The University has an established Records and Information Management Awareness Training program.
- Records and Information Management Awareness training is identified in the University's Role Based Development Framework as required training for all staff.
- The training program is delivered in multiple modes (online, classroom and one to one).
- Access to the University's Records Management System is only provided after appropriate training has been undertaken.
- Training is regularly reviewed and feedback from attendees incorporated to ensure continuous improvement.

The University manages and preserves official records in accordance with the *State Records Act 2000* (WA) and best practice.

ECU's current record keeping plan was approved in 2016 and is due for renewal in 2021.

Shares held by senior officers

ECU has nothing to report for this item.

Commitment to gender equality

In 2020 ECU maintained its status as a Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) *Employer of Choice for Gender Equality*. The successful achievement of the 2019-2020 Citation allows ECU to be recognised as a WGEA Employer of Choice for Gender Equality for a two-year period to February 2022. The Citation reflects the University's active commitment to gender equality and diversity, as well as the improvement of gender equity policies and practices as they relate to ECU staff and students.

Additionally, ECU has been recognised as a 'Women in STEM Decadal Plan Champion' by the Australian Academy of Science by demonstrating alignment of gender equity plans and activities with the six opportunities identified in the Women in STEM Decadal Plan.

ECU's Vice-Chancellor is a member of CEOs for Gender Equity, and a signatory to the WGEA Pay Equity Pledge, as a demonstration of the University's ongoing commitment to achieving gender equality and gender pay equity.

ECU continues to work towards the advancement of gender equality through the successful implementation of the Athena SWAN Bronze Institution Action Plan 2018-2023.

In 2020 ECU's annual analysis showed our organisational-wide gender pay gap was 15.3% (total remuneration). This represents minimal change to that reported for 2019. Targets and monitoring arrangements are in place to address this gap.





Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Parliament of Western Australia

EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of Edith Cowan University which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2020, the Income Statement, Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows for the University and the consolidated entity for the year then ended, as well as notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the operating results and cash flows of Edith Cowan University for the year ended 31 December 2020 and the financial position at the end of that period. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Financial Management Act 2006*, relevant Treasurer's Instructions, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act)* and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the University in accordance with the *Auditor General Act 2006*, *ACNC Act* and the relevant ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

The University Council's Responsibilities 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, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and relevant Treasurer's Instructions, the *ACNC Act*, 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.

In preparing the financial statements, the University Council is responsible for assessing the University's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements. The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Report on Controls

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the design and implementation of controls exercised by Edith Cowan University. The controls exercised by the 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 (the overall control objectives).

My opinion has been formed on the basis of the matters outlined in this report.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the controls exercised by 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 2020.

The University Council's Responsibilities

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

Auditor General's Responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the suitability of the design of the controls to achieve the overall control objectives, and the implementation of the controls as designed. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform my procedures to obtain reasonable assurance about whether, in all material respects, the controls are suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives and the controls, necessary to achieve the overall control objectives were implemented as designed.

An assurance engagement to report on the design and implementation of controls involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the suitability of the design of controls to achieve the overall control objectives, and the implementation of those controls. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks that controls are not suitably designed or implemented as designed. My procedures included testing the implementation of those controls that I consider necessary to achieve the overall control objectives.

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

Limitations of Controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and implemented as designed, once the controls are in operation, the overall control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error, or noncompliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of the suitability of the design of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become unsuitable because of changes in conditions.

Report on the Key Performance Indicators

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the key performance indicators of Edith Cowan University for the year ended 31 December 2020. The key performance indicators are the key effectiveness indicators and the key efficiency indicators that provide performance information about achieving outcomes and delivering services.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the key performance indicators of 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 2020.

The 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 internal control as the University Council determines necessary to enable the preparation of key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the key performance indicators, the University Council is responsible for identifying key performance indicators that are relevant and appropriate having regard to their purpose in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 904U *Key Performance Indicators*.

Auditor General's Responsibility

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators. The objectives of my engagement are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the University's performance, and whether the key performance indicators are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the key performance indicators. It also involves evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators against the criteria and guidance in Treasurer's Instruction 904U for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and the efficiency of service delivery. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

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

My Independence and Quality Control Relating to the Reports on Controls and Key Performance Indicators

I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements. In accordance with ASQC 1 *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagements*, the Office of the Auditor General maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory 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 Edith Cowan University for the year ended 31 December 2020 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.



CAROLINE SPENCER
AUDITOR GENERAL
FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Perth, Western Australia
15 March 2021

Financial statements

Certification of financial statements

The accompanying financial statements of Edith Cowan University have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the reporting period ended 31 December 2020 and the financial position as at 31 December 2020.

At the date of signing:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Edith Cowan University is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable,
- the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, and
- we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.



The Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO
Chancellor
9 March 2021



Professor Steve Chapman CBE
Vice-Chancellor
8 March 2021



Mr Brad Francis
Chief Financial Officer
8 March 2021

We declare that the amount of Australian Government financial assistance expended during the financial year ended 31 December 2020 was for the purposes for which it was intended, and that Edith Cowan University has complied with applicable legislation, contracts, agreements and program guidelines in making expenditure.

ECU charged Student Services and Amenities Fees strictly in accordance with the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* and the Administration Guidelines made under the Act. Revenue from the fee was spent strictly in accordance with the Act and only on services and amenities specified in subsection 19–38(4) of the Act.



The Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO
Chancellor
9 March 2021



Professor Steve Chapman CBE
Vice-Chancellor
8 March 2021

Contents

Income statement.....	45
Statement of comprehensive income	46
Statement of financial position.....	47
Statement of changes in equity	48
Statement of cash flows	50
Notes to the financial statements	51

The financial report covers the Edith Cowan University as a group and 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 10th day of March 2021.

The University has the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

Edith Cowan University

Income Statement

For the year ended 31 December 2020

		Consolidated		Parent	
		2020	2019	2020	2019
	Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Income from continuing operations					
Australian Government financial assistance					
Australian Government grants	2.1	173,169	171,914	173,169	171,914
HELP - Australian Government payments	2.1	113,549	105,968	113,549	105,968
State and Local Government financial assistance	2.2	11,510	10,549	11,510	10,549
HECS-HELP - student payments		7,559	7,668	7,559	7,668
Fees and charges	2.3	139,270	139,764	132,861	131,899
Royalties	2.4	371	555	371	555
Consultancies and contracts	2.5	6,455	7,302	6,455	7,302
Other revenue	2.6	8,262	9,596	10,600	11,946
Investment income gains/(losses)	3	19,009	28,774	19,900	30,598
Share of profit or loss on investments accounted for using the equity method	15	1,244	3,129	1,244	3,129
Total income from continuing operations		480,398	485,219	477,218	481,528
Expenses from continuing operations					
Employee related expenses	4	276,786	265,067	275,463	263,784
Repairs and maintenance	5	9,706	8,380	9,706	8,380
Borrowing costs	6	5,839	5,120	5,838	5,120
Impairment of assets	7	9,510	-	10,767	-
Other expenses and loss on disposal of assets	8	123,936	145,922	120,976	142,850
Depreciation and amortisation	16 & 17	31,237	25,355	30,806	24,903
Total expenses from continuing operations		457,014	449,844	453,556	445,037
Net result before income tax		23,384	35,375	23,662	36,491
Net result after income tax for the period		23,384	35,375	23,662	36,491

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

Edith Cowan University

Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Consolidated		Parent	
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Net result for the period		23,384	35,375	23,662	36,491
<i>Items that will be reclassified to profit or loss</i>					
Loss on cash flow hedges	23	(70)	(100)	(70)	(100)
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	23	(20)	-	-	-
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss</i>					
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	23	(100,733)	5,138	(100,733)	5,138
Gain on value of investments designated as fair value through equity	23	10,485	17,076	10,485	17,076
Total other comprehensive income		(90,338)	22,114	(90,318)	22,114
Total comprehensive income attributable to the University		(66,954)	57,489	(66,656)	58,605

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

Edith Cowan University

Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2020

	Note	Consolidated		Parent	
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Assets					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	10	71,732	60,823	67,213	57,985
Receivables	11	9,190	12,273	9,794	12,258
Other financial assets	12	239,958	197,539	239,958	199,098
Other non-financial assets	13	18,420	15,193	16,894	13,129
Total current assets		339,300	285,828	333,859	282,470
Non-current assets					
Receivables	11	17,681	18,594	17,681	18,594
Other financial assets	12	195,419	199,422	195,169	238,257
Other non-financial assets	13	1,158	1,258	1,158	1,257
Investment properties	14	19,179	18,760	19,179	18,760
Investments accounted for using the equity method	15	2,857	592	2,857	592
Property, plant and equipment	16	735,194	846,894	734,757	846,325
Intangible assets	17	3,447	16,092	3,447	7,035
Investment in subsidiaries	29	-	-	4,811	13,815
Total non-current assets		974,935	1,101,612	979,059	1,144,635
Total assets		1,314,235	1,387,440	1,312,918	1,427,105
Liabilities					
Current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	18	20,858	13,768	20,289	14,092
Contract liabilities	2.7 & 18	12,728	8,613	12,728	8,613
Borrowings	19	2,625	23,770	2,623	23,769
Other financial liabilities	20	105	35	105	35
Employee benefit provisions	21	58,458	56,261	58,424	57,654
Provisions	21	12,011	3,837	12,011	3,837
Other liabilities	22	49,928	55,424	49,292	55,182
Total current liabilities		156,713	161,708	155,472	163,182
Non-current liabilities					
Borrowings	19	156,845	158,315	156,843	158,311
Employee benefit provisions	21	27,336	27,122	27,336	27,122
Provisions	21	1,478	1,478	1,478	40,045
Total non-current liabilities		185,659	186,915	185,657	225,478
Total liabilities		342,372	348,623	341,129	388,660
Net Assets		971,863	1,038,817	971,789	1,038,445
Equity					
Parent entity interest					
Reserves	23	257,212	347,616	257,232	347,616
Retained earnings	23	714,651	691,201	714,557	690,829
Total equity		971,863	1,038,817	971,789	1,038,445

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

Edith Cowan University

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 December 2020

2020

Note	Consolidated			Total \$'000
	Retained Earnings \$'000	General Reserves \$'000	Foreign Currency Translation Reserve \$'000	
Balance at 1 January 2020	691,201	347,616	-	1,038,817
Net result after income tax	23,384	-	-	23,384
Other comprehensive income				
Loss on revaluation of properties	-	(100,733)	-	(100,733)
Gain on financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	10,485	-	10,485
Loss on cash flow hedges	-	(70)	-	(70)
Foreign currency translation	-	-	(20)	(20)
Transfer to revaluation reserves from retained surplus	66	(66)	-	-
Other comprehensive income	66	(90,384)	(20)	(90,338)
Total comprehensive income	23,450	(90,384)	(20)	(66,954)
Balance at 31 December 2020	714,651	257,232	(20)	971,863

2019

Note	Consolidated			Total \$'000
	Retained Earnings \$'000	General Reserves \$'000	Foreign Currency Translation Reserve \$'000	
Balance at 1 January 2019	671,645	327,632	-	999,277
Effect of adoption of new accounting standards	23 (8,163)	-	-	(8,163)
Rectification of prior period error	21 (9,786)	-	-	(9,786)
Balance as restated	653,696	327,632	-	981,328
Net result after income tax	35,375	-	-	35,375
Other comprehensive income				
Gain on revaluation of properties	-	5,138	-	5,138
Gain on financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	17,076	-	17,076
Loss on cash flow hedges	-	(100)	-	(100)
Transfer to revaluation reserves from retained surplus	2,130	(2,130)	-	-
Other comprehensive income	2,130	19,984	-	22,114
Total comprehensive income	37,505	19,984	-	57,489
Balance at 31 December 2019	691,201	347,616	-	1,038,817

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

Edith Cowan University

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 December 2020

2020

Note	Parent			Total \$'000
	Retained Earnings \$'000	General Reserves \$'000	Foreign Currency Translation Reserve \$'000	
Balance at 1 January 2020	690,829	347,616	-	1,038,445
Net result	23,662	-	-	23,662
Other comprehensive income				
Loss on revaluation of properties	-	(100,733)	-	(100,733)
Gain on financial assets at fair value through				
other comprehensive income	-	10,485	-	10,485
Loss on cash flow hedges	-	(70)	-	(70)
Transfer to revaluation reserves from retained				
surplus	66	(66)	-	-
Other comprehensive income	66	(90,384)	-	(90,318)
Total comprehensive income	23,728	(90,384)	-	(66,656)
Balance at 31 December 2020	714,557	257,232	-	971,789

2019

Note	Parent			Total \$'000
	Retained Earnings \$'000	General Reserves \$'000	Foreign Currency Translation Reserve \$'000	
Balance at 1 January 2019	670,159	327,632	-	997,791
Effect of adoption of new accounting standards	23 (8,165)	-	-	(8,165)
Rectification of prior period error	21 (9,786)	-	-	(9,786)
Balance as restated	652,208	327,632	-	979,840
Net result	36,491	-	-	36,491
Other comprehensive income				
Gain on revaluation of properties	-	5,138	-	5,138
Gain on financial assets at fair value through				
other comprehensive income	-	17,076	-	17,076
Loss on cash flow hedges	-	(100)	-	(100)
Transfer to revaluation reserves from retained				
surplus	2,130	(2,130)	-	-
Other comprehensive income	2,130	19,984	-	22,114
Total comprehensive income	38,621	19,984	-	58,605
Balance at 31 December 2019	690,829	347,616	-	1,038,445

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

Edith Cowan University

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Consolidated		Parent	
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Australian Government grants received	2.1(f)	285,897	277,909	285,897	277,909
OS-HELP (net)	2.1(f)	3,683	(374)	3,683	(374)
Superannuation supplementation	2.1(f)	1,707	2,067	1,707	2,067
State Government grants received		11,491	10,541	11,491	10,582
Local Government grants received		19	8	19	8
HECS-HELP - student payments		7,559	7,668	7,559	7,668
Receipts from student fees and other customers		157,747	183,377	152,186	175,243
Dividends and distributions received		13,181	7,444	13,181	7,444
Interest received		7,304	8,642	9,561	10,466
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(406,284)	(447,066)	(403,225)	(442,185)
Interest and other costs of finance		(5,810)	(4,279)	(5,810)	(4,279)
GST recovered		9,428	13,695	9,245	13,411
Short-term lease payments		(292)	(291)	(190)	(182)
Lease payments for leases of low-value assets		(3,043)	(3,133)	(3,043)	(3,133)
Net cash provided by operating activities	31	82,587	56,208	82,261	54,645
Cash flows from investing activities					
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		17	40	16	40
Payments for intangibles, property, plant and equipment		(15,017)	(56,954)	(15,018)	(57,274)
Payments for financial assets		(32,039)	(90,907)	(33,155)	(90,908)
Proceeds from sale of financial assets		-	2,330	-	2,330
Capital investments in subsidiary		-	-	(1,010)	(1,180)
Capital investments in associate		(1,020)	-	(1,020)	-
Repayment of loan from subsidiary		-	-	771	1,491
Distributions from joint venture		533	3,446	533	3,446
Net cash used in investing activities		(47,526)	(142,045)	(48,883)	(142,055)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Proceeds from borrowings		-	119,692	-	119,692
Repayment of borrowings net of loan acquired		(22,571)	(22,325)	(22,571)	(22,325)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(1,581)	(2,260)	(1,579)	(2,259)
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		(24,152)	95,107	(24,150)	95,108
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		10,909	9,270	9,228	7,698
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		60,823	51,553	57,985	50,287
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	10	71,732	60,823	67,213	57,985

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

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

1	Summary of Significant Accounting Policies	52
2	Revenue and Income	55
2.1	Australian Government Financial Assistance including Australian Government Loan Programs (HELP) ...	55
2.2	State and local government financial assistance	56
2.3	Fees and charges.....	56
2.4	Royalties.....	57
2.5	Consultancies and contracts	57
2.6	Other revenue	57
2.7	Revenue and income from continuing operations.....	57
3	Investment income	60
4	Employee related expenses	60
5	Repairs and maintenance	61
6	Borrowing costs.....	61
7	Impairment of assets	61
8	Other expenses	62
9	Income tax benefit.....	62
10	Cash and cash equivalents	62
11	Receivables and contract assets.....	63
12	Other financial assets.....	64
13	Other non-financial assets.....	65
14	Investment properties.....	66
15	Investments accounted for using the equity method.....	67
16	Property plant and equipment	68
16.1	Right-of-use assets	74
17	Intangible assets	75
18	Trade and other payables	76
19	Borrowings	77
19.1	The University as lessee	78
20	Other financial liabilities.....	80
21	Provisions.....	80
22	Other liabilities.....	83
23	Reserves and retained earnings	83
24	Restricted cash.....	85
25	Key management personnel disclosures	85
26	Remuneration of auditors	86
27	Commitments	86
28	Related parties	86
29	Subsidiaries.....	87
30	Events occurring after the reporting date	88
31	Reconciliation of net result to net cash flows from operating activities	88
32	Financial risk management	89
33	Fair value measurements.....	92
34	Contingencies.....	96
35	Write-offs	96
36	Deferred government benefit for superannuation.....	97
37	Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance.....	100

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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 include separate statements for Edith Cowan University as the parent entity and the consolidated entity consisting of Edith Cowan University and its subsidiaries.

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

i) 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); and
- 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 8th March 2021.

Historical cost convention

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

Critical accounting estimates

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 estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. 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;
- Control of student accommodation assets;
- Impairment of assets;
- Classification of financial assets;
- Discount rates and payback periods used in estimating provisions; and
- Estimating liabilities for defined benefit superannuation plans

Changes in accounting estimates

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Going concern

Edith Cowan University has prepared an assessment of its ability to continue as a going concern, taking into account all available information for a period of 12 months from the date of issuing the consolidated financial statements.

The long term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is still dependant upon when the current travel restrictions ease. In 2020, there was minimal impact to overall revenue for the Group as students commencing or continuing study in 2020 were mostly onshore before the peak of the pandemic and online and flexible study plans implemented in 2020 have been embraced by students to mitigate the impact of travel restrictions. Continued travel restrictions will have a more medium to longer term impact and in response to this ECU has implemented various cost saving measures to mitigate the impact and continues to monitor the developments.

Whilst the situation is evolving, ECU remains confident that the University will be able to continue as a going concern which assumes the University will continue trading and realise assets and discharge liabilities in the ordinary course of business for at least 12 months from the date of the consolidated financial statements. In reaching this position, the following factors have been considered:

- ECU has adequate levels of cash and investments and access to available debt lines to be drawn if required
- ECU has prepared for several scenarios assuming the COVID-19 pandemic continues for six, twelve and twenty-four months, stress testing operating cash flows and in all cases ECU expects to remain solvent
- ECU's debt is fixed with no material repayments due in the next 24 months
- ECU's debt to equity ratio sits at 16% and well below Council's target
- ECU's interest cover ratio at 31 December 2020 was 5 times and comfortably above Council's target

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

- Stress testing of the ratio's results in adequate levels of headroom from both a gearing and interest cover perspective.

The outcome of all of the above means that ECU's financial position is strong, and it will be able to meet its debts as and when they fall due for at least a period of 12 months from the date of the consolidated financial statements.

The consolidated financial statements have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

ii) Basis for consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of all subsidiaries of Edith Cowan University ("parent entity") as at 31 December 2020 and the results of all subsidiaries for the year then ended. Edith Cowan University and its subsidiaries together are referred to in this financial report as the University or the consolidated entity.

iii) 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 in Notes 2 Revenue and Income, 3 Investment income, 4 Employee related expenses, and 5 Repairs and maintenance. 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.

iv) Foreign currency translation and hedge accounting

(i) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of each of the University's entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates ('the functional currency'). 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 profit or loss.

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 or loss, translation gains or losses are also recognised in profit or loss.

Goodwill and fair value adjustments arising on the acquisition of a foreign entity are treated as assets and liabilities of the foreign entity and translated at the closing rate.

(iii) Group companies

The results and financial position of all ECU's entities (none of which has the currency of a hyperinflationary economy) that have a functional currency different from the presentation currency are translated into the presentation currency as follow:

- Assets and liabilities for each statement of financial position presented are translated at the closing rate at the end of the reporting period;
- Income and expenses for each income statement are translated at average exchange rates (unless this is not a reasonable approximation of the cumulative effect of the rates prevailing on the transaction dates, in which case income and expenses are translated at the dates of the transactions);
- All resulting exchange differences are recognised as a separate component of equity.

1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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.

vi) Comparative Figures

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

vii) New Accounting Standards and interpretations

Certain new Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 31 December 2020 reporting periods. The University's assessment of the impact of these new Standards and Interpretations is set out below:

Standard	Name	Application date	Implications
AASB 2020-1	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as current or non-current	1 January 2022	ECU will determine the impact of the Standard when applicable.
AASB 2020-3	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual improvements 2018-2020 and Other Amendments	1 January 2022	ECU will determine the impact of the Standard when applicable.
AASB 2020-8	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2	1 January 2022	ECU will determine the impact of the Standard when applicable.
AASB 2017-5	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128	1 January 2022	ECU will determine the impact of the Standard when applicable.

In addition, at the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the following IASB Standards and IFRIC Interpretations were on issue not yet effective, and for which Australian equivalent Standards and Interpretations have not yet been issued:

viii) Initial application of accounting standards

The University has adopted AASB15, AASB1058 and AASB16 in accordance with the transitional provisions applicable to each standard. The nature and effect of the changes as a result of adoption of these new accounting standards are described below.

The following interpretations and amending standards have also been adopted:

Standard	Name
AASB 2018-6	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Definition of a Business
AASB 2019-3	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Interest Rate Benchmark Reform
AASB 2018-7	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Definition of Material
AASB 2019-6	Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Research Grants and Not for Profit Entities

viii) Rounding of amounts

Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded off in accordance with ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Report) Instrument 2016/191. Amounts have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

2 Revenue and Income

2.1 Australian Government Financial Assistance including Australian Government Loan Programs (HELP)

a) Commonwealth Grants Scheme and Other Grants

	Notes	Consolidated		Parent	
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Commonwealth Grants Scheme ^{#1}		148,331	148,764	148,331	148,764
Indigenous Student Success Program ^{#4}		1,687	963	1,687	963
Higher Education Participation Program		3,072	3,177	3,072	3,177
Disability Support Program		294	233	294	233
Academic Centres of Cyber Security Excellence		177	192	177	192
National Priorities Pool		1,766	-	1,766	-
Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Teaching		12	13	12	13
Total Commonwealth Grants Scheme and Other Grants	37(a)	155,339	153,342	155,339	153,342

b) Higher Education Loan Programs

HECS-HELP		91,277	86,922	91,277	86,922
FEE-HELP		18,470	14,601	18,470	14,601
VET FEE-HELP		1,741	1,462	1,741	1,462
SA-HELP	37(i)	2,061	2,983	2,061	2,983
Total Higher Education Loan Programs	37(b)	113,549	105,968	113,549	105,968

c) Education Research

Research Training Program ^{#2}	37(c)	6,747	6,773	6,747	6,773
Research Support Program ^{#3}	37(c)	3,847	3,978	3,847	3,978
Total Education Research Grants		10,594	10,751	10,594	10,751

d) Australian Research Council

Discovery		333	557	333	557
Linkages		12	124	12	124
Total Australian Research Council	37(e)	345	681	345	681

e) Other Australian Government financial assistance

Non-capital					
National competitive		3,141	3,232	3,141	3,232
Other research grants		2,792	2,663	2,792	2,663
Other non-research grants		958	1,245	958	1,245
Total other Australian Government financial assistance		6,891	7,140	6,891	7,140
Total Australian Government financial assistance		286,718	277,882	286,718	277,882

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

#2 Includes Australian Postgraduate Awards, International Postgraduate Research Scholarships and Research Training Scheme

#3 Includes Joint Research Engagement, JRE Engineering Cadetship, Research Block Grants and Sustainable Research Excellence in Universities

#4 Includes Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships Programs and Indigenous Support Program

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

2.1 Australian Government Financial Assistance including Australian Government Loan Programs (HELP) (continued)

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Reconciliation				
Australian Government grants (a + c + d + e)	173,169	171,914	173,169	171,914
HECS - HELP payments	91,277	86,922	91,277	86,922
FEE - HELP payments	18,470	14,601	18,470	14,601
VET FEE - HELP	1,741	1,462	1,741	1,462
SA - HELP payments	2,061	2,983	2,061	2,983
Total Australian Government financial assistance	286,718	277,882	286,718	277,882

f) Australian Government Grants received – cash basis (Note 37 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance)

	Notes	Consolidated		Parent	
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
CGS and other Education Grants	37(a)	155,868	153,833	155,868	153,833
Higher Education Loan Programs	37(b)	111,668	105,354	111,668	105,354
Department of Education, Skills and Employment and Training Research	37(c)	10,594	10,751	10,594	10,751
ARC grants - Discovery & Linkages	37(e)	876	831	876	831
Other Australian Government grants		6,891	7,140	6,891	7,140
Total Australian Government grants received - cash basis		285,897	277,909	285,897	277,909
OS-HELP (net)	37(g)	3,683	(374)	3,683	(374)
Superannuation Supplementation	37(h)	1,707	2,067	1,707	2,067
Total Australian Government funding received - cash basis		291,287	279,602	291,287	279,602

2.2 State and local government financial assistance

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Non-capital				
WA State Government research grants	3,376	3,518	3,376	3,518
WA State Government operating grants	8,115	7,023	8,115	7,023
Local Government research grants	19	8	19	8
Total State and Local Government financial assistance	11,510	10,549	11,510	10,549

2.3 Fees and charges

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Course fees and charges				
Fee-paying onshore overseas students	116,034	114,148	116,034	114,147
Fee-paying offshore overseas students	4,298	3,032	3,733	2,597
Continuing education - short course fees	1,505	3,327	1,505	3,327
Fee-paying domestic postgraduate students	4,111	3,251	4,111	3,251
Fee-paying domestic undergraduate students	7	-	7	-
Fee-paying non award courses	67	105	67	105
Total course fees and charges	126,022	123,863	125,457	123,427
Other non-course fees and charges				
Student Services and Amenities Fees	802	951	802	951
Examination, registration and photocopying fees	123	82	123	82
Service fees	2,313	2,028	2,313	2,028
Parking fees	1,571	1,993	1,571	1,993
Facility hire	1,184	1,387	1,184	1,387
Student accommodation and rental income	5,844	7,429	-	-
Other sundry fees and charges	1,411	2,031	1,411	2,031
Total other fees and charges	13,248	15,901	7,404	8,472
Total fees and charges	139,270	139,764	132,861	131,899

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

2.4 Royalties

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Royalties	371	555	371	555

2.5 Consultancies and contracts

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Consultancies	446	575	446	575
Contract research	6,009	6,727	6,009	6,727
Total consultancies and contracts	6,455	7,302	6,455	7,302

2.6 Other revenue

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Other revenue				
Donations and bequests	1,583	1,426	1,583	1,426
Scholarships and prizes	50	544	50	541
Proceeds from sale of non-capitalised equipment	18	9	18	9
Gains on asset disposal	17	-	16	-
Commissions, recoveries and rebates recovered	5,335	4,633	6,089	5,545
Sale of goods	775	1,341	775	1,341
Box office sales	28	899	28	899
Operating rights income	-	-	710	1,438
Other revenue	456	744	1,331	747
Total other revenue	8,262	9,596	10,600	11,946

2.7 Revenue and income from continuing operations

Accounting policies and significant accounting judgements and estimates

Course fees and charges and Research

The course fees and charges revenue relate to undergraduate programs, graduate and professional degree programs and continuing education and executive programs.

The revenue is recognised over time as and when the course is delivered to students over the semester.

When the courses or training have been paid in advance by students or the University has received the government funding in advance (e.g. before starting the academic period), the University recognises a contract liability until the services are delivered.

The University does not have any obligations to return or refund fees.

There is no significant financing component, as the period to when the student has paid and the service is provided is less than 12 months and the consideration is not variable.

Revenue recognition for research funding is dependent upon the source of the funding and the nature of the transaction.

The following specific research revenue recognition criteria have been applied:

- Funding received from Australian Research Council ("ARC"): enforceable contract criteria are met and sufficiently specific performance obligations are contained in the proposal for the grant.
- Funding received from National Health and Medical Research Council ("NHMRC"): enforceable contract criteria are met and sufficiently specific performance obligations are contained in the proposal for the grant.
- Funding received from the Department of Education, Skills and Employment – Research Block Grant ("RBG"): enforceable contract criteria are met and sufficiently specific performance obligations are contained in the proposal for the grant.
- Funding received from non-government entities: enforceable contract criteria are met and sufficiently specific performance obligations are contained in the proposal for the grant.

The revenue is recognised:

- Over time when the University satisfies its obligations under the contract as service is performed, which established rights to receive; or
- At a point in time when the service is provided.

The research grants that are considered within the scope of AASB15 meet the enforceability criteria due to the existence of refund clauses in the agreements with the grantor and the promises to transfer goods or services to the customer (or on behalf of the customer) are sufficiently specific as the University has the obligation to provide:

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

2.7 Revenue and income from continuing operations (continued)

- Publishing or providing access to research data and results on an ongoing basis in an openly accessible repository as requested by the grantor; and
- Intellectual property that ultimately transfers to the grantor.

Depending on the nature of the promise, the University either recognises revenue at a point in the time when the promise is delivered (e.g. when research findings are published or made available) or recognises revenue over time as the service is performed (e.g. as the customer obtains control or access to the intellectual property or research data as it is created).

Non-course fees and charges

Non-course fees and charges revenue relates to student services and amenities fees, parking fees, facility hire and student accommodation.

Revenue is recognised:

- Over time as and when the service is provided; or
- At a point in time when the service is provided.

Other

Other revenue that is within the scope of AASB 15 mainly relates to donations and bequests, scholarships, commissions and sale of goods.

Revenue is recognised:

- Over time as and when the service is provided over the period; or
- At a point in time when the service or goods are provided.

Royalties

Royalties that are within the scope of AASB 15 mainly relate to revenue from surveys.

Revenue is recognised at a point in time when the service is provided.

(a) Unsatisfied performance obligations

Remaining performance obligations represent services the University has promised to provide to customers under research agreements which are satisfied as the goods or services are provided over the contract term. In determining the transaction price allocated to the remaining performance obligations in the University's contracts with customers, the University has allocated unused funding to these obligations. For customer contracts with terms of one year or less, or where revenue is recognised using the 'right to invoice' method of recognising revenue, as permitted under AASB 15, disclosures are not required in relation to the transaction price allocated to these unsatisfied performance obligations. Further, the amounts disclosed below do not include variable consideration which has been constrained.

These unsatisfied performance obligations are expected to be satisfied within the following periods:

	Within 1 year \$'000	From 1 to 5 years \$'000	After 5 years \$'000	Total \$'000
31 December 2020				
Consolidated				
Contract Liabilities	12,728	-	-	12,728
Parent				
Contract Liabilities	12,728	-	-	12,728
	Within 1 year \$'000	From 1 to 5 years \$'000	After 5 years \$'000	Total \$'000
31 December 2019				
Consolidated				
Contract Liabilities	8,613	-	-	8,613
Parent				
Contract Liabilities	8,613	-	-	8,613

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

2.7 Revenue and income from continuing operations (continued)

(b) Assets and liabilities related to contracts with customers

The University has recognised the following assets and liabilities related to contracts with customers:

	Notes	Consolidated		Parent	
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Contract liabilities - current	18	12,728	8,613	12,728	8,613

Revenue recognised in the reporting period that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period was \$8.6m.

Accounting policy

While a receivable is the University's right to consideration that is unconditional, a contract asset is the University's right to consideration in exchange for goods or services that the University has transferred to the customer when that right is conditioned on something other than the passage of time (e.g. the University's future performance).

Contract liabilities

The contract liabilities are associated to research contracts and scholarships.

Accounting policy

A contract liability is the obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer for which the University has received consideration (or an amount of consideration is due) from the customer. If a customer pays consideration before the University transfers goods or services to the customer, a contract liability is recognised when the payment is made or the payment is due (whichever is earlier). Contract liabilities are recognised as revenue when the University performs under the contract.

Contract liabilities differ from the amounts disclosed in Note 2.7 Revenue and income from continuing operations. The contract liabilities include deferred income or liabilities arising from rebate agreements, loyalty reward programs and gift cards, among others.

(c) Right of return assets and refund liabilities

The University has no right of return assets and refund liabilities related to contracts with customers.

Income of not-for-profit

(d) Accounting policies and significant accounting judgements and estimates

Donations and Bequests

Donations and Bequests are categorised as:

Donations and Bequests for which a DGR tax receipt is issued. Income is recognised immediately when the funds are received.

Donations and Bequests received under a Deed of Gift agreement which contain enforceable rights and obligations and sufficiently specific performance obligations. Income is recognised under AASB 15 over time or at a point in time as the performance obligations are satisfied.

(e) Transfers to acquire or construct a non-financial asset

	Notes	Consolidated		Parent	
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Deferred Capital Grants	22	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400

During the reporting period, no income was recognised as result of acquiring or constructing non-financial assets. Refer to Note 22.

(f) Volunteer services

ECU has elected to not recognise volunteer services received as income.

(g) Restrictions

Edith Cowan University has no restrictions imposed.

3 Investment income

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Interest				
Financial assets at amortised cost	5,192	8,643	6,083	10,467
Dividends and distributions				
Equity instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income	5,543	824	5,543	824
Equity instruments designated at fair value through profit or loss	8,487	4,720	8,487	4,720
Rental income				
Rental income from investment properties	1,368	1,353	1,368	1,353
Fair value gains/(losses)				
Equity instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(2,000)	12,354	(2,000)	12,354
Investment properties at fair value through profit or loss	419	880	419	880
Investment income gain/(losses)	19,009	28,774	19,900	30,598

Accounting policy

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised on an accrual basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Dividends

Dividends and distribution revenue from investments are recognised when (a) the University's right to receive the payment is established, which is generally when shareholders approve the dividend, (b) it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the dividend will flow to the entity, and (c) the amount of the dividend can be measured reliably.

Rental income

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

Change in the fair value of financial assets

Unrealised gains are determined on a net basis as the difference between the fair value and the carrying amount of an asset. Gains or loss arising from changes in the fair value of an investment property are included in the income/expense for the period in which they arise. Assets that do not meet the criteria for amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income are measured at fair value through profit and loss. A gain or loss on an investment that is measured at fair value through profit or loss is recognised in the income/expense for the period in which they arise.

4 Employee related expenses

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Academic				
Salaries	101,523	101,331	101,523	101,331
Contributions to superannuation and pension schemes - funded	14,249	14,224	14,249	14,224
Payroll tax	7,079	7,210	7,079	7,210
Worker's compensation	571	349	571	349
Long service leave expense	4,437	1,798	4,437	1,798
Annual leave	(168)	1,559	(168)	1,559
Other	122	177	122	177
Total academic	127,813	126,648	127,813	126,648
Non-academic				
Salaries	120,076	110,830	118,956	109,647
Contributions to superannuation and pension schemes - funded	15,426	15,111	15,233	15,058
Payroll tax	7,390	7,618	7,390	7,618
Worker's compensation	609	381	606	378
Long service leave expense	4,266	2,007	4,266	2,007
Annual leave	687	1,677	680	1,633
Other	519	795	519	795
Total non-academic	148,973	138,419	147,650	137,136
Total employee related expenses	276,786	265,067	275,463	263,784

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

4 Employee related expenses (continued)

Accounting policy

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

5 Repairs and maintenance

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Building maintenance	9,013	7,616	9,013	7,616
Grounds maintenance	693	764	693	764
Total repairs and maintenance	9,706	8,380	9,706	8,380

6 Borrowing costs

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Interest expense	5,803	5,528	5,803	5,528
Interest expense on lease liabilities	36	88	35	88
Less: amount capitalised	-	(496)	-	(496)
Total borrowing costs expensed	5,839	5,120	5,838	5,120

Accounting policy

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.

For interest expense on lease liabilities, please refer to Note 19.1 The University as lessee which details the policy for lease accounting where the University is a lessee.

7 Impairment of assets

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Bad and doubtful debts	753	-	753	-
Investments	-	-	10,014	-
Intangible assets	8,757	-	-	-
Total impairment of assets	9,510	-	10,767	-

Accounting Policy

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 or 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.

Goodwill and intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired. Other 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 or value in use.

Impact of City Campus Project

As described more fully in Note 16 Property Plant and Equipment, the City Campus project has changed the expected use of the Mount Lawley campus. One consequence of this is that the recoverable amount of the reacquired rights (within Intangibles) for provision of student accommodation on campus has fallen to zero and an impairment has been recognised of their full carrying value (\$8.1m). The carrying value of the parent entity's investment in Edith Cowan Accommodation Holdings Pty Ltd has also been reduced for the same reason (\$6.7m).

Other impairments

In addition, the performance of the Australian Pathway Education Group Pty Ltd has been lower than expectations (in part due to COVID). The assessment of the recoverable amount of this business gave rise to impairments of both Goodwill (within Intangibles) arising from its acquisition (\$0.7m) and of the parent's investment in this subsidiary (\$3.3m).

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

8 Other expenses

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Scholarships, grants and prizes	17,027	15,008	17,027	15,008
Computing, equipment and consumables	6,351	9,255	6,346	9,252
Advertising and marketing	5,361	6,283	5,361	6,283
Promotions and sponsorships	2,729	2,876	2,714	2,873
Audit fees, bank charges, legal costs and insurance	2,721	3,437	2,657	3,350
Software maintenance and licencing	19,182	21,036	19,158	20,963
Other occupancy related costs	4,685	6,381	4,579	6,266
Library subscriptions	5,012	4,835	5,012	4,835
Printing and stationery	1,796	2,563	1,788	2,550
Professional and consulting fees	16,657	21,297	16,398	21,088
Student related expenditure	18,570	20,419	18,554	20,396
Telecommunications	1,295	1,454	1,293	1,451
Travel, entertainment, staff development and related expenses	2,768	11,064	2,690	10,874
Utilities and rates	6,372	6,530	6,372	6,530
Net loss on asset write-offs ^{#1}	70	-	70	-
Cost of goods sold	10	26	10	26
Student Practicum and related expenses	1,894	2,212	1,894	2,212
Student accommodation outgoings	2,382	2,334	-	-
Miscellaneous	9,054	8,887	9,053	8,868
Loss on asset disposal	-	25	-	25
Total other expenses	123,936	145,922	120,976	142,850

#1 Additional detail on write-offs during the year is included at Note 35 Write-offs

9 Income tax benefit

a) Numerical reconciliation of income tax expense to prima facie tax payable

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Net result before income tax:				
From continuing operations	23,384	35,375	23,662	36,491
Less: Non taxable operating results	(23,384)	(35,375)	(23,662)	(36,491)
Tax at the Australian tax rate of 30% (2019: 30%)	-	-	-	-
Total income tax expense	-	-	-	-

Accounting policy

The University does not provide for Australian income tax as it is exempt under the provisions of Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (ITAA).

In 2018, the University acquired Australian Pathway Education Group Pty Ltd, an entity to which Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 Act applies.

The income tax expense or income for the period is the tax payable/receivable on the current period's taxable income based on the national income tax rate for each jurisdiction adjusted by changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements, and to unused tax losses.

The amount of unused tax losses for which no deferred tax assets is recognised in the statement of financial position is approximately \$6.3 million.

10 Cash and cash equivalents

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Cash at bank	19,430	17,515	14,932	14,699
Term deposits	52,289	43,293	52,268	43,271
Cash held in imprest	13	15	13	15
Total cash and cash equivalents	71,732	60,823	67,213	57,985

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

10 Cash and cash equivalents (continued)

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:

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Unrestricted	57,848	47,733	53,329	44,895
Restricted cash	13,884	13,090	13,884	13,090
Balance as per cash flow statement	71,732	60,823	67,213	57,985

b) Cash-at-bank and held in imprests

Cash at bank is interest bearing at variable interest rates. Refer to Note 32 Financial risk management.

c) Term deposits

The term deposits are interest bearing at variable interest rates. Refer to Note 32 Financial risk management.

Accounting Policy

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.

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.

11 Receivables and contract assets

		Consolidated		Parent	
	Notes	2020	2019	2020	2019
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Current					
Trade receivables and student debts		6,169	7,484	6,740	7,468
Less: Allowance for expected credit losses		(1,503)	(932)	(1,497)	(926)
		4,666	6,552	5,243	6,542
Deferred government benefit for superannuation	36.1	2,075	2,126	2,075	2,126
GST and withholding tax receivable		2,449	3,595	2,476	3,590
Total current receivables		9,190	12,273	9,794	12,258
Non-current					
Deferred government benefit for superannuation	36.1	17,681	18,594	17,681	18,594
Total non-current receivables		17,681	18,594	17,681	18,594
Total trade and other receivables		26,871	30,867	27,475	30,852

A receivable represents the University's right to an amount of consideration that is unconditional (i.e. only the passage of time is required before payment of the consideration is due).

Refer to Note 12 Other financial assets for a detailed accounting policy for financial assets.

Impaired receivables

Set out below is the movement in the allowance for expected credit losses of trade receivables and contract assets:

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

11 Receivables and contract assets (continued)

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Balance at 1 January	932	1,143	926	1,142
Provision for Expected Credit Loss				
Impairment recognised during the year	753	7	753	-
Written off during the year	(182)	(144)	(182)	(142)
Amounts recovered during the year	-	(74)	-	(74)
Balance at 31 December	1,503	932	1,497	926

Accounting Policy

Classification and measurement

Trade receivables are held to collect contractual cash flows and give rise to cash flows representing solely payments of principal and interest. At initial recognition trade receivables are measured at their transaction price and subsequently these are classified and measured as debt instruments at amortised cost. Trade receivables are due for settlement no more than 120 days from the date of recognition for land development and resale debtors, and no more than 30 days for other debtors.

Impairment

For trade receivables and contract assets the University applies a simplified approach in calculating expected credit losses ("ECLs").

Therefore, the University does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The University has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

12 Other financial assets

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current				
Financial assets at amortised cost				
Fixed term deposits	239,958	197,539	239,958	197,539
Intercompany loans receivable	-	-	-	1,559
Total current other financial assets	239,958	197,539	239,958	199,098
Non-current				
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income				
Listed shares	639	486	639	486
Unlisted shares	56,054	45,472	55,804	45,472
Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss				
Funds under management	138,726	133,092	138,726	133,092
Financial assets at amortised cost				
Fixed term deposits	-	20,372	-	20,372
Intercompany loans receivable	-	-	-	38,835
Total non-current other financial assets	195,419	199,422	195,169	238,257
Total other financial assets	435,377	396,961	435,127	437,355

Accounting policy

The University adopted AASB 9 'Financial Instruments' in the previous reporting year.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

12 Other financial assets (continued)

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (including designated)

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss principally comprise non derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities and investments in asset management companies (funds under management). They are included in non-current assets unless the maturity date of the asset is within twelve months of the reporting date. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are initially recognised at fair value, with subsequent increases or decreases in fair value recognised in profit or loss. Refer to Note 3 Investment income.

Transaction costs incurred in the acquisition of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are recognised as expenses in net profit in the period in which they are incurred.

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income principally comprise marketable equity securities. 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. Investments are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs with subsequent increases or decreases in fair value recognised in equity. Refer to Note 23 Reserves and retained earnings.

Financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets are held for the objective of collecting contractual cash inflows on specific dates and those cash flows are generally in the form of principal and/or interest. Loan and receivables 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.

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 shares), the University establishes fair value by using valuation techniques that maximise the use of relevant market data. These include references 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.

Derecognition

A financial asset (or, where applicable, a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is primarily derecognised (i.e. removed from the University's consolidated statement of financial position) when:

- The rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired or
- The University has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a 'pass-through' arrangement; and either (a) the University has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or (b) the University has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred control of the asset.

When the University has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from an asset or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, it evaluates if, and to what extent, it has retained the risks and rewards of ownership.

When it has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, nor transferred control of the asset, the University continues to recognise the transferred asset to the extent of its continuing involvement. In that case, the University also recognises an associated liability. The transferred asset and the associated liability are measured on a basis that reflects the rights and obligations that the University has retained.

Continuing involvement that takes the form of a guarantee over the transferred asset is measured at the lower of the original carrying amount of the asset and the maximum amount of consideration that the University could be required to repay.

13 Other non-financial assets

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current				
Accrued income	7,140	3,428	5,973	2,433
Advances and prepayments	11,280	11,765	10,921	10,696
Total current non-financial assets	18,420	15,193	16,894	13,129
Non-current				
Other non-financial assets	1,158	1,258	1,158	1,257
Total non-current non-financial assets	1,158	1,258	1,158	1,257
Total other non-financial assets	19,578	16,451	18,052	14,386

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

14 Investment properties

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value				
Opening balance at 1 January	18,760	17,880	18,760	17,880
Gain on revaluation	419	880	419	880
Closing balance as at 31 December	19,179	18,760	19,179	18,760

For fair value hierarchy categorisation of investment properties see Note 34 Fair value measurement.

a) Amounts recognised in Income Statement for investment properties

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Rental income	1,368	1,353	1,368	1,353
Direct operating expenses	(345)	(615)	(345)	(615)
Gain on revaluation	419	880	419	880
Total recognised in Income Statement	1,442	1,618	1,442	1,618

Accounting policy

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.

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

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

15 Investments accounted for using the equity method

a) Associates

Name of entity	Country of incorporation	Carrying amount		Ownership interest		Principle activity
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 %	2019 %	
Sapien Cyber Limited (formerly known as SC8 Limited)	Australia	553	-	26		Provider of cyber security services

b) Joint Ventures

Name of entity	Country of incorporation	Carrying amount		Ownership interest		Principle activity
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 %	2019 %	
Edith Cowan College Pty Ltd	Australia	2,304	592	50	50	Provider of university pathway programs

c) Individually immaterial associate and joint ventures

Aggregate carrying amount of interests in the joint venture accounted for using the equity method that are not individually material in the consolidated financial statements:

	Associates		Joint ventures	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Profit/(loss) from continuing operations	(467)	-	1,711	3,129
Total comprehensive income	(467)	-	1,711	3,129

Accounting policy

Associates

Associates are all entities over which the University has significant influence but not control. Investments in associates are accounted for in the parent entity financial statements using the cost method or the equity method, and in the consolidated financial statements using the equity method of accounting, after initially being recognised at cost. The University's investment in associates includes goodwill (net of any accumulated impairment loss) identified on acquisition.

The University's share of its associates' post acquisition profits or losses is recognised in the income statement, and its share of post-acquisition movements in reserves is recognised in reserves. The cumulative post acquisition movements are adjusted against the carrying amount of the investment. Dividends receivable from associates are recognised in the parent entity's income statement, while in the consolidated financial statements they reduce the carrying amount of the investment.

Gains or losses resulting from 'upstream' and 'downstream' transactions, involving assets that do not constitute a business, are recognised in the parent's financial statements only to the extent of unrelated investors' interests in the associate or joint venture. Gains or losses resulting from the contribution of non-monetary assets in exchange for an equity interest are accounted for in the same method.

When the University's share of losses in an associate equal or exceeds its interest in the associate, including any other unsecured receivables, the University does not recognise further losses, unless it has incurred obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate.

Joint ventures

Investments in joint arrangements are classified as either joint operations or joint ventures depending on the contractual rights and obligations each investor has, rather than the legal structure of the joint arrangement.

The interest in a joint venture entity is accounted for in the consolidated financial statements using the equity method and is carried at cost by the parent entity. Under the equity method, the share of the profits or losses of the entity is recognised in the income statement, and the share of movements in reserves is recognised in reserves in the statement of comprehensive income and the statement of changes in equity.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

16 Property plant and equipment

	Work in progress \$'000	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Leasehold improvements \$'000	Artworks \$'000	Library Collections \$'000	Motor vehicles \$'000	Other equipment and furniture \$'000	Computer equipment \$'000	Subtotal property, plant and equipment \$'000	Right of use assets \$'000	Total \$'000
Consolidated												
As at 1 January 2019												
Cost	25,613	-	-	-	-	13,726	792	46,748	4,256	91,135	-	91,135
Valuation	-	162,429	583,826	3,580	14,806	-	-	-	-	764,641	-	764,641
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	(11,064)	(704)	(34,919)	(3,386)	(50,073)	-	(50,073)
Net book amount	25,613	162,429	583,826	3,580	14,806	2,662	88	11,829	870	805,703	-	805,703
Year ended 31 December 2019												
Opening net book amount	25,613	162,429	583,826	3,580	14,806	2,662	88	11,829	870	805,703	-	805,703
Additions	52,792	-	-	-	50	71	82	3,635	438	57,068	231	57,299
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(49)	(16)	(65)	-	(65)
Revaluation increments	-	4,640	-	-	498	-	-	-	-	5,138	-	5,138
Depreciation charge	-	-	(15,415)	(511)	-	(688)	(58)	(4,523)	(473)	(21,668)	(2,090)	(23,758)
Transfers	(28,733)	-	25,784	-	-	-	35	2,830	84	-	-	-
Reclassifications	(449)	-	(394)	-	-	-	-	(3)	3	(843)	-	(843)
Closing net book amount	49,223	167,069	593,801	3,069	15,354	2,045	147	13,719	906	845,333	1,561	846,894
As at 31 December 2019												
Cost	49,223	-	25,784	-	-	13,797	881	52,789	4,485	146,959	3,651	150,610
Valuation	-	167,069	583,432	3,580	15,354	-	-	-	-	769,435	-	769,435
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	(15,415)	(511)	-	(11,752)	(734)	(39,070)	(3,579)	(71,061)	(2,090)	(73,151)
Net book amount	49,223	167,069	593,801	3,069	15,354	2,045	147	13,719	906	845,333	1,561	846,894

16 Property plant and equipment (continued)

	Work in progress \$'000	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Leasehold improve- ments \$'000	Artworks \$'000	Library Collections \$'000	Motor vehicles \$'000	Other equipment and furniture \$'000	Computer equipment \$'000	Subtotal property, plant and equipment \$'000	Right of use assets \$'000	Total \$'000
Consolidated												
Year ended 31 December 2020												
Opening net book amount	49,223	167,069	593,801	3,069	15,354	2,045	147	13,719	906	845,333	1,561	846,894
Additions	11,192	-	-	-	25	106	7	2,408	709	14,447	1,439	15,886
Revaluation increments	-	5,189	(106,341)	419	-	-	-	-	-	(100,733)	-	(100,733)
Write-offs during the year	-	-	-	-	(70)	-	-	-	-	(70)	-	(70)
Depreciation charge	-	-	(16,471)	(511)	-	(1,838)	(63)	(5,303)	(839)	(25,025)	(1,485)	(26,510)
Transfers	(54,508)	-	50,780	-	-	-	28	2,986	714	-	-	-
Reclassifications	-	-	(273)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(273)	-	(273)
Closing net book amount	5,907	172,258	521,496	2,977	15,309	313	119	13,810	1,490	733,679	1,515	735,194
As at 31 December 2020												
Cost	5,907	-	-	2,977	25	13,903	916	58,183	5,908	87,819	2,264	90,083
Valuation	-	172,258	521,496	-	15,284	-	-	-	-	709,038	-	709,038
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	(13,590)	(797)	(44,373)	(4,418)	(63,178)	(749)	(63,927)
Net book amount	5,907	172,258	521,496	2,977	15,309	313	119	13,810	1,490	733,679	1,515	735,194

16 Property plant and equipment (continued)

	Work in progress \$'000	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Leasehold improvements \$'000	Artworks \$'000	Library collections \$'000	Motor vehicles \$'000	Other equipment and furniture \$'000	Computer equipment \$'000	Subtotal property, plant and equipment \$'000	Right of use assets \$'000	Total \$'000
Parent												
As at 1 January 2019												
Cost	25,613	-	-	-	-	13,726	792	45,326	4,111	89,568	-	89,568
Valuation	-	162,429	583,826	3,580	14,806	-	-	-	-	764,641	-	764,641
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	(11,064)	(704)	(34,104)	(3,272)	(49,144)	-	(49,144)
Net book amount	25,613	162,429	583,826	3,580	14,806	2,662	88	11,222	839	805,065	-	805,065
Year ended 31 December 2019												
Opening net book amount	25,613	162,429	583,826	3,580	14,806	2,662	88	11,222	839	805,065	-	805,065
On adoption of AASB 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,420	3,420
Additions	52,792	-	-	-	50	71	83	3,564	431	56,991	225	57,216
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(49)	(16)	(65)	-	(65)
Revaluation increments	-	4,640	-	-	498	-	-	-	-	5,138	-	5,138
Depreciation charge	-	-	(15,415)	(511)	-	(688)	(58)	(4,382)	(462)	(21,516)	(2,090)	(23,606)
Transfers	(28,733)	-	25,784	-	-	-	35	2,830	84	-	-	-
Reclassifications	(449)	-	(394)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(843)	-	(843)
Closing net book amount	49,223	167,069	593,801	3,069	15,354	2,045	148	13,185	876	844,770	1,555	846,325
As at 31 December 2019												
Cost	49,223	-	25,784	-	-	13,797	882	51,304	4,331	145,321	3,645	148,966
Valuation	-	167,069	583,432	3,580	15,354	-	-	-	-	769,435	-	769,435
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	(15,415)	(511)	-	(11,752)	(734)	(38,119)	(3,455)	(69,986)	(2,090)	(72,076)
Net book amount	49,223	167,069	593,801	3,069	15,354	2,045	148	13,185	876	844,770	1,555	846,325

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

16 Property plant and equipment (continued)

	Work in progress \$'000	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Leasehold improve- ments \$'000	Artworks \$'000	Library Collections \$'000	Motor vehicles \$'000	Other equipment and furniture \$'000	Computer equipment \$'000	Subtotal property, plant and equipment \$'000	Right of use assets \$'000	Total \$'000
Parent												
Year ended 31 December 2020												
Opening net book amount	49,223	167,069	593,801	3,069	15,354	2,045	148	13,185	876	844,770	1,555	846,325
Additions	11,192	-	-	-	25	106	7	2,408	710	14,448	1,439	15,887
Revaluation increments	-	5,189	(106,341)	419	-	-	-	-	-	(100,733)	-	(100,733)
Write-offs during the year	-	-	-	-	(70)	-	-	-	-	(70)	-	(70)
Depreciation charge	-	-	(16,472)	(511)	-	(1,838)	(63)	(5,185)	(828)	(24,897)	(1,482)	(26,379)
Transfers	(54,508)	-	50,781	-	-	-	27	2,986	714	-	-	-
Reclassifications	-	-	(273)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(273)	-	(273)
Closing net book amount	5,907	172,258	521,496	2,977	15,309	313	119	13,394	1,472	733,245	1,512	734,757
As at 31 December 2020												
Cost	5,907	-	521,496	-	-	13,903	916	56,698	5,755	604,675	2,257	606,932
Valuation	-	172,258	-	2,977	15,309	-	-	-	-	190,544	-	190,544
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	(13,590)	(797)	(43,304)	(4,283)	(61,974)	(745)	(62,719)
Net book amount	5,907	172,258	521,496	2,977	15,309	313	119	13,394	1,472	733,245	1,512	734,757

16 Property plant and equipment (continued)

Accounting Policy

Land and buildings, leasehold improvements and artworks are shown at fair value less subsequent depreciation for buildings and leasehold improvements. Land, buildings, and leasehold improvements are revalued periodically at least triennially by an external independent valuer. Artworks are revalued periodically at least every five years. 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 land and buildings are recognised, net of tax, in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity under the heading of revaluation reserve. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognised in profit or loss, the increase is first recognised in profit or loss. 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.

Construction work in progress

Construction work in progress is stated at the aggregate of contract costs incurred to date plus recognised profits less recognised losses and progress billings. If there are contracts where progress billings exceed the aggregate costs incurred plus profits less losses, the net amounts are presented under other liabilities.

Contract costs include all costs directly related to specific contracts, costs that are specifically chargeable to the customer under the terms of the contract and costs that are attributable to contract activity in general and can be allocated to the contract.

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:

Depreciable assets

	Estimated useful life
Buildings (excluding Mount Lawley)	25 – 50 years
Mount Lawley assets	4 years
Motor vehicles	4 – 6 years
Computer equipment	3 – 4 years
Other equipment and furniture	6 years
Library collections	5 years
Right-of-use assets	3 -5 years

Change in useful lives

The reassessment of useful lives performed during the year identified two groups of assets where the useful lives had changed. Firstly, the City Campus project has led to a reduction in the useful lives of all assets on the Mount Lawley campus. There has also been a review of the library collection which has resulted in a reduction of useful life from 10 years to 5 years.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

16 Property plant and equipment (continued)

Valuations of land, buildings

Land was revalued in December 2020 by independent professional valuers. The fair value of all land has been determined by reference to recent market transactions. The buildings and leasehold improvements were revalued in December 2020 by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits.

Artworks are heritage assets and have been valued in February 2019 by independent professional valuers, the fair value of artworks will be determined by reference to recent market transactions. Artwork is revalued every three to five years.

City Campus Project

As announced in September 2020, Edith Cowan University will develop a Creative Industries, Business and Technology Campus in the centre of Perth, as part of a transformational deal for the University that will also support Western Australia's economic recovery. As part of the changes associated with the new campus, ECU intends withdrawing from its Mount Lawley campus.

The Federal Government has committed capital funding towards this project as part of the Perth City Deal. The State Government has announced that it will provide land for the campus development at Perth City Link in the Perth Central Business District and a cash grant to the University which will recompense the University for the assets at the Mount Lawley Campus being handed over to the WA State Government.

Transiting from Mount Lawley campus to the City Campus has been reflected in assessments of fair value and remaining useful lives of land and buildings, as well as the recoverability of intangible assets and investments in subsidiaries (see note 7 Impairment of assets). Other financial impacts of the project (including the recognition of grant income and the construction of the city campus) will arise in future periods.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

16.1 Right-of-use assets

Information about leases where the University is a lessee is presented below:

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Right-of-use assets				
As at 1 January 2020	1,561	3,420	1,555	3,420
Addition of right-of-use assets	1,439	231	1,439	225
Depreciation charges	(1,485)	(2,090)	(1,482)	(2,090)
As at 31 December 2020	1,515	1,561	1,512	1,555

Accounting Policy

Policy applicable from 1 January 2019

Assessment of whether a contract is, or contains, a lease

At inception of a contract, the University assesses whether a contract is, or contains a lease. A contract is or contains a lease if the contract conveys a right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

The University assesses whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset – The asset may be explicitly or implicitly specified in the contract. A capacity portion of larger assets is considered an identified asset if the portion is physically distinct or if the portion represents substantially all the capacity of the asset. The asset is not considered an identified asset, if the supplier has the substantive right to substitute the asset throughout the period of use.
- The customer has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from the use of the asset throughout the period of use.
- The customer has the right to direct the use of the asset throughout the period of use – The customer is considered to have the right to direct the use of the asset only if either:
 - The customer has the right to direct how and for what purpose the identified asset is used throughout the period of use; or
 - The relevant decisions about how and for what purposes the asset is used is predetermined and the customer has the right to operate the asset, or the customer designed the asset in a way that predetermines how and for what purpose the asset will be used throughout the period of use.

Accounting for leases – The University as lessee

In contracts where the University is a lessee, the University recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the commencement date of the lease, unless the short-term or low-value exemption is applied.

Right-of-use asset

A right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost comprising the initial measurement of the lease liability adjusted for any lease payments made before the commencement date (reduced by lease incentives received), plus initial direct costs incurred in obtaining the lease and an estimate of costs to be incurred in dismantling and removing the underlying asset, restoring the site on which it is located or restoring the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease, unless those costs are incurred to produce inventories.

A right-of-use asset associated with land and buildings is subsequently measured at fair value. All other property, plant and equipment are measured as described in the accounting policy for property, plant and equipment in Note 16 Property plant and equipment.

The University has elected to measure a class (or classes) of right-of-use assets arising under 'concessionary leases' at initial recognition at cost, in accordance with AASB16 paragraphs 23 to 25, which incorporates the amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

17 Intangible assets

	Digital library collections \$'000	Re-acquired operating rights \$'000	Goodwill \$'000	Total \$'000
Consolidated				
Year ended 31 December 2019				
Opening book amount	7,601	8,700	657	16,958
Additions	731	-	-	731
Amortisation charge	(1,297)	(300)	-	(1,597)
Closing net book amount	7,035	8,400	657	16,092
As at 31 December 2019				
Cost	19,928	9,151	1,412	30,491
Accumulated amortisation/impairment	(12,893)	(751)	(755)	(14,399)
Net Book amount	7,035	8,400	657	16,092
Year ended 31 December 2020				
Opening book amount	7,035	8,400	657	16,092
Additions	839	-	-	839
Amortisation charge	(4,427)	(300)	-	(4,727)
Impairment (Note 7)	-	(8,100)	(657)	(8,757)
Closing net book amount	3,447	-	-	3,447
As at 31 December 2020				
Cost	20,767	9,151	1,412	31,330
Accumulated amortisation/impairment	(17,320)	(9,151)	(1,412)	(27,883)
Net Book amount	3,447	-	-	3,447
				Digital library collections \$'000
Parent				
Year ended 31 December 2019				
Opening book amount				7,601
Additions				731
Amortisation charge				(1,297)
Closing net book amount				7,035
As at 31 December 2019				
Cost				19,928
Accumulated amortisation				(12,893)
Net Book amount				7,035
Year ended 31 December 2020				
Opening book amount				7,035
Additions				839
Amortisation charge				(4,427)
Closing net book amount				3,447
As at 31 December 2020				
Cost				20,767
Accumulated amortisation/impairment				(17,320)
Net Book amount				3,447

Accounting policy

Intangible assets acquired as part of a business combination, other than goodwill, are initially measured at their fair value at the date of the acquisition. Intangible assets acquired separately are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, cost is their fair value at the end 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.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

17 Intangible assets (continued)

Amortisation is calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset. The method and useful lives of finite life intangible assets are reviewed annually. Changes in the expected pattern of consumption or useful life are accounted for prospectively by changing the amortisation method or period.

The remaining amortisation periods of the above classes of intangible assets are as follows:

- Digital library collections 5 years
- Re-acquired operating rights 28 - 36 years

Consistent with note 16, a review of the digital library collection has resulted in a reduction of useful life from 10 years to 5 years.

Re-acquired Operating Rights

In 2017, the University as parent entity re-acquired operating rights previously granted to an external operator to manage and operate student accommodation buildings.

Re-acquired operating rights are recognised separately in Intangible assets and amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the operating rights.

Research

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

Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the aggregate of the fair value measurement of the consideration transferred in an acquisition, the amount of any non-controlling interest and any previously held equity interest in the acquiree, over the fair value of the University's share of the net identifiable assets of the acquiree at the date of acquisition. Goodwill on acquisitions of subsidiaries is included in intangible assets. Goodwill on acquisitions of associates is included in investments in associates. Goodwill is not amortised, instead it is tested for impairment annually, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that it might be impaired and is carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses. Gains and losses on the disposal of an entity include the carrying amount of goodwill relating to the entity sold.

Intangible assets acquired in a business combination are recognised separately from goodwill if they are separable, but only together with a related contract, identifiable asset or liability.

18 Trade and other payables

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current				
OS-HELP liability to Australian Government	4,700	1,017	4,700	1,017
Trade creditors	15,511	11,757	14,955	12,105
CGS and other liabilities to Australian Government	415	694	415	694
GST payable	232	300	219	276
Total current trade and other payables	20,858	13,768	20,289	14,092

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.

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Australian Dollar	20,609	13,700	20,063	14,039
Euro	187	9	187	9
US Dollar	39	44	39	44
Hong Kong Dollar	-	5	-	-
Chinese Yuan	23	10	-	-
	20,858	13,768	20,289	14,092

For an analysis of the sensitivity of trade and other payables to foreign currency risk refer to note 33 Fair value measurements.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

18 Trade and other payables (continued)

	Consolidated		Parent Entity	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Contract liabilities				
Current contract liabilities	12,728	8,613	12,728	8,613
Total contract liabilities	12,728	8,613	12,728	8,613

Accounting Policy

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the University prior to the end of 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.

19 Borrowings

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Current				
Secured loans	1,715	22,571	1,715	22,571
Lease liabilities	910	1,199	908	1,198
	2,625	23,770	2,623	23,769
Non-current				
Secured loans	36,767	38,482	36,767	38,482
Lease liabilities	627	444	625	440
Medium term notes	119,451	119,389	119,451	119,389
	156,845	158,315	156,843	158,311
Total borrowings	159,470	182,085	159,466	182,080

a) Financing arrangements

Restricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Credit standby arrangements				
Total credit standby arrangements				
Loan facilities	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000
Used at balance date				
Loan facilities	38,482	61,053	38,482	61,053
Unused at balance date				
Loan facilities	81,518	58,947	81,518	58,947

b) Fair value

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

	2020		2019	
	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Consolidated				
Borrowings				
Secured loans	38,482	46,134	61,053	67,002
Medium term notes	119,451	119,451	119,389	119,389
Lease liabilities	1,537	1,537	1,643	1,643
	159,470	167,122	182,085	188,034
Parent				
Borrowings				
Secured loans	38,482	46,135	61,053	67,002
Medium term notes	119,451	119,451	119,389	119,389
Lease liabilities	1,533	1,533	1,638	1,638
	159,466	167,119	182,080	188,029

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

19 Borrowings (continued)

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:

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Within one year	2,623	23,770	2,623	23,769
Between one and five years	8,168	7,708	8,168	7,704
Later than five years	148,679	150,607	148,675	150,607
	159,470	182,085	159,466	182,080
These borrowings are classified as follows:				
Current borrowings	2,625	23,770	2,623	23,769
Non-current borrowings	156,845	158,315	156,843	158,311
	159,470	182,085	159,466	182,080

For an analysis of the sensitivity of borrowings to interest rate risk refer to note 33 Fair value measurements.

Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities

	2019 \$'000	Cash flows \$'000	Non-cash changes - Other \$'000	2020 \$'000
Long-term borrowings	158,315	-	(1,470)	156,845
Short-term borrowings	23,770	(24,152)	3,007	2,625
	182,085	(24,152)	1,537	159,470

Accounting policy

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 end of the reporting period and does not expect to settle the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

The fair value of borrowings have been prepared assuming hypothetical settlement dates of 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2020.

Assets pledged as security

The University has not directly pledged any assets as security against the borrowings. The borrowings are secured by the Western Australian Government guarantee.

19.1 The University as lessee

Amounts recognised in the income statement

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Interest of lease liabilities	36	88	35	88
Depreciation on right of use assets	1,485	2,090	1,482	2,090
Expenses relating to leases of low-value assets, excluding short term leases of low-value assets	3,043	3,133	3,043	3,133
Subtotal	4,564	5,311	4,560	5,311

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

19.1 The University as lessee (continued)

Maturity analysis – undiscounted contractual cash flows

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Less than one year	910	1,199	908	1,198
One to five years	627	444	625	440
Total undiscounted contractual cash flows	1,537	1,643	1,533	1,638
Lease liabilities recognised in the statement of financial position				
Current	910	1,199	908	1,198
Non-current	627	444	625	440
	1,537	1,643	1,533	1,638

Nature of leasing activities

ECU has lease arrangements for vehicles and network equipment ranging from three to five years in length.

Potential exposure to future cash flows not reflected in the measurement of lease liability.

Amounts recognised in statement of cash flows

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Total cash outflow for leases	(1,581)	(2,260)	(1,579)	(2,259)

Accounting policy

Lease liabilities – The University as lessee

Policy on assessment of whether a contract is, or contains, a lease is detailed in note 16.1 Right-of-use assets.

Lease liability

A lease liability is initially measured at the present value of unpaid lease payments at the commencement date of the lease. To calculate the present value, the unpaid lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease if the rate is readily determinable. If the interest rate implicit in the lease cannot be readily determined, the incremental borrowing rate at the commencement date of the lease is used. Lease payments included in the measurement of lease liabilities comprise:

- Fixed payments, including in-substance fixed payments;
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date (e.g. payments varying on account of changes in CPI); and
- Amounts expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees
- Payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the lessee exercising an option to terminate the lease.

For a contract that contains a lease component and one or more additional lease or non-lease components, the University allocates the consideration in the contract to each lease component based on the relative stand-alone price of the lease component and the aggregate stand-alone price of the non-lease components.

Subsequently, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method resulting in interest expense being recognised as a borrowing cost in the income statement. The lease liability is remeasured when there are changes in future lease payments arising from a change in an index or rate with a corresponding adjustment to the right-of-use asset. The adjustment amount is factored into depreciation of the right-of-use asset prospectively.

Right-of-use assets are presented within property, plant and equipment in Note 16.1 and lease liabilities are presented as borrowings in Note 19.

Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

The University has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases i.e. leases with a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets i.e., when the value of the leased asset when new is \$5,000 or less. The University recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

20 Other financial liabilities

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current				
Financial liabilities at fair value through other comprehensive income				
Derivative financial instruments	105	35	105	35

Accounting Policy

The University is a 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 32 Financial risk management).

In order to protect against exchange rate movements, the University has 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 Position by the related amount deferred in equity.

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 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).

The replacement or rollover of a hedging instrument into another hedging instrument is not considered an expiration or termination if such replacement is documented as part of the hedging strategy. Additionally, it is not considered a termination or expiration if, as a consequence of law or constitution, parties to the hedging instrument agree to replace their original counterparty to become the new counterparty to each of the parties.

For an analysis of the sensitivity of derivatives to interest rate and foreign exchange risk refer to Note 32 Financial risk management.

21 Provisions

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current provisions expected to be settled within 12 months				
Employee benefits				
Annual leave and other compensated absences	6,480	8,435	6,446	8,391
Long service leave	10,801	13,667	10,801	13,667
Superannuation and other post-employment benefits	2,402	2,557	2,402	2,557
Employment on-costs provision	1,144	1,505	1,144	1,505
Defined benefit obligation	2,075	2,126	2,075	2,126
Provision for operating rights	-	-	-	1,437
Other provisions	12,011	3,837	12,011	3,837
	34,913	32,127	34,879	33,520
Current provisions expected to be settled after more than 12 months				
Employee benefits				
Annual leave and other compensated absences	1,045	1,726	1,045	1,726
Long service leave	28,790	21,474	28,790	21,474
Superannuation and other post-employment benefits	3,543	3,060	3,543	3,060
Employment on-costs provision	2,178	1,711	2,178	1,711
	35,556	27,971	35,556	27,971
Total current provisions	70,469	60,098	70,435	61,491
Non-current provisions				
Employee benefits				
Long service leave	5,799	5,046	5,799	5,046
Defined benefit obligation	17,681	18,594	17,681	18,594
Provision for deferred salary	117	55	117	55
Employment on-costs provision	3,739	3,427	3,739	3,427
Provision for operating rights	-	-	-	38,567
Other provisions	1,478	1,478	1,478	1,478
Total non-current provisions	28,814	28,600	28,814	67,167
Total provisions	99,283	88,698	99,249	128,658

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

21 Provisions (continued)

a) Movements in provisions

Movements in each class of provision during the financial year, other than employee benefits, are set out below:

	Employment on-costs \$'000	Other \$'000	Total \$'000
Consolidated 2020			
Carrying amount as at 1 January 2020	6,642	5,315	11,957
Additional provisions recognised	419	8,190	8,609
Unused amounts reversed	-	(16)	(16)
Carrying amount as at 31 December 2020	7,061	13,489	20,550

	Employment on-costs \$'000	Operating rights issued \$'000	Other \$'000	Total \$'000
Parent 2020				
Carrying amount as at 1 January 2020	6,642	40,004	5,315	51,961
Additional provisions recognised	419	-	8,190	8,609
Amounts used	-	(300)	-	(300)
Unused amounts reversed	-	(39,704)	(16)	(39,720)
Carrying amount as at 31 December 2020	7,061	-	13,489	20,550

Accounting policy

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 several 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 end of the reporting period. 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.

Details about the nature of provisions (other than those relating to employee benefits) are set out below:

Other Provision

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.

For details relating to the individual scheme, refer to Note 36 Deferred government benefit for superannuation.

Provision of operating rights

The parent entity has recognised a provision relating to the granting of operating rights to its subsidiary in the Statement of Financial Position. The liability reflects the performance obligation the parent entity has incurred to allow its subsidiary access to, and the right to generate revenue from the student accommodation assets. The liability incurred is initially recognised at an amount equivalent to the value of buildings delivered to the parent entity and is amortised to the Statement of Comprehensive Income over the duration of the lease 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.

Restructuring provision

The University recognises costs for restructuring within the scope of AASB137 that involves the payment of termination benefits.

Employee benefits

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 the 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.

21 Provisions (continued)

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 4 Employee related expenses.

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 twelve 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 plan. The University has a defined benefit section and a defined contribution section within its plan. 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 parent entity are all members of the defined contribution section of the University's plan.

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

iv) 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.

v) 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, Skills and Employment, 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 year's 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 independent actuary, Mercer, and relate to liabilities for existing employees who are members of the pension scheme and 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.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

21 Provisions (continued)

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.

vi) Prior period error

During 2019 the University undertook a review of the application of both the requirements of the Fair Work Act 2009 and the University's historical industrial agreements to the calculation of long service leave balances for current and previous employees. In doing so, it was identified that the University had been incorrectly calculating the long service leave entitlements for a portion of its employees.

The resulting error in the long service leave provision has been corrected by restating the long service leave provision at 1 January 2019, with an equivalent entry in retained earnings, and then correctly calculating the entitlements going forward.

22 Other liabilities

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Current				
Fees and grants received in advance	23,164	24,594	23,098	24,594
Financial assistance received in advance	142	59	142	59
Deferred capital grants	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400
Accrued expenses	16,222	20,371	15,652	20,129
Total other liabilities	49,928	55,424	49,292	55,182

23 Reserves and retained earnings

a) Reserves

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Reserves				
Hedging reserve - cash flow hedges	(105)	(35)	(105)	(35)
Revaluation reserves - investment	56,443	45,958	56,443	45,958
Revaluation reserves - properties	200,894	301,693	200,894	301,693
Foreign currency translation reserve	(20)	-	-	-
Total reserves	257,212	347,616	257,232	347,616

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

23 Reserves and retained earnings (continued)

Movements

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Hedging reserve - cash flow hedges				
Balance at 1 January	(35)	65	(35)	65
Revaluation - gross	(70)	(100)	(70)	(100)
Balance at 31 December	(105)	(35)	(105)	(35)
Revaluation reserves - investments				
Balance at 1 January	45,958	31,012	45,958	31,012
Transfers to retained earnings	-	(2,130)	-	(2,130)
Balance as restated	45,958	28,882	45,958	28,882
Revaluation - gross	10,485	17,076	10,485	17,076
Balance at 31 December	56,443	45,958	56,443	45,958
Revaluation reserves - properties				
Balance at 1 January	301,693	296,555	301,693	296,555
Revaluation - gross	(100,733)	5,138	(100,733)	5,138
Balance at 31 December	200,894	301,693	200,894	301,693
Foreign currency translation reserves				
Balance at 1 January	-	-	-	-
Revaluation - gross	(20)	-	-	-
Balance at 31 December	(20)	-	-	-
Total reserves	257,212	347,616	257,232	347,616

b) Retained earnings

Movement in retained earnings were as follows:

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Retained earnings at the beginning of the year	691,201	671,645	690,829	670,159
Rectification of prior period error	-	(9,786)	-	(9,786)
Reclassification on adoption of AASB 9	-	(241)	-	(243)
Reclassification on adoption of AASB 15	-	(7,758)	-	(7,758)
Reclassification on adoption of AASB 16	-	(164)	-	(164)
Net result attributable to parent entity for the period	23,384	35,375	23,662	36,491
Transfers from revaluation reserves	66	2,130	66	2,130
Retained earnings at the end of the year	714,651	691,201	714,557	690,829

c) Nature and purpose of reserves

i) Revaluation reserves - properties

The property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets.

ii) Revaluation reserves - investments

Changes in the fair value and exchange differences arising on revaluation of investments, such as equities, classified as financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss, are taken to the investment revaluation reserve.

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. 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.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

24 Restricted cash

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Restricted cash				
ECU Foundation	13,884	13,090	13,884	13,090

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.

25 Key management personnel disclosures

a) Remuneration of key management personnel

The University has determined key management personnel to include members of the University Council and senior officers.

The total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for senior officers and University Council members for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

	Consolidated		Parent Entity	
	2020 Number	2019 Number	2020 Number	2019 Number
\$0 to \$10,000	7	7	7	7
\$10,001 to \$20,000	6	5	6	5
\$20,001 to \$30,000	1	2	1	2
\$30,001 to \$40,000	1	-	1	-
\$40,001 to \$50,000	1	1	1	1
\$50,001 to \$60,000	-	1	-	1
\$60,001 to \$70,000	-	1	-	1
\$70,001 to \$80,000	1	-	1	-
\$80,001 to \$90,000	-	1	-	1
\$90,001 to \$100,000	1	-	1	-
\$100,001 to \$110,000	-	1	-	1
\$110,001 to \$120,000	1	-	1	-
\$120,001 to \$130,000	-	1	-	1
\$130,001 to \$140,000	1	-	1	-
\$140,001 to \$150,000	-	1	-	1
\$150,001 to \$160,000	1	-	1	-
\$160,001 to \$170,000	-	1	-	1
\$170,001 to \$180,000	1	-	1	-
\$180,001 to \$190,000	-	1	-	1
\$190,001 to \$200,000	1	-	1	-
\$200,001 to \$210,000	-	1	-	1
\$210,001 to \$220,000	1	-	1	-
\$220,001 to \$230,000	-	1	-	1
\$230,001 to \$240,000	1	-	1	-
\$240,001 to \$250,000	-	1	-	1
\$250,001 to \$260,000	1	-	1	-
\$260,001 to \$270,000	-	1	-	1
\$270,001 to \$280,000	1	-	1	-
\$280,001 to \$290,000	-	1	-	1
\$290,001 to \$300,000	1	-	1	-
\$300,001 to \$310,000	-	1	-	1
\$310,001 to \$320,000	1	-	1	-
\$320,001 to \$330,000	2	3	2	3
\$330,001 to \$340,000	3	1	3	1
\$340,001 to \$350,000	2	1	2	1
\$350,001 to \$360,000	1	-	1	-
\$360,001 to \$370,000	-	1	-	1
\$370,001 to \$380,000	2	-	2	-
\$380,001 to \$390,000	-	2	-	2
\$390,001 to \$400,000	-	1	-	1
\$400,001 to \$410,000	1	-	1	-
\$410,001 to \$420,000	-	1	-	1
\$420,001 to \$430,000	1	-	1	-
\$430,001 to \$440,000	-	1	-	1
\$440,001 to \$450,000	1	-	1	-
\$450,001 to \$460,000	-	1	-	1
\$460,001 to \$470,000	1	-	1	-
\$470,001 to \$480,000	-	1	-	1
\$480,001 to \$490,000	1	-	1	-
\$490,001 to \$500,000	-	1	-	1
\$500,001 to \$510,000	1	-	1	-
\$510,001 to \$520,000	-	1	-	1
\$520,001 to \$530,000	1	-	1	-
\$530,001 to \$540,000	-	1	-	1
\$540,001 to \$550,000	1	-	1	-
\$550,001 to \$560,000	-	1	-	1
\$560,001 to \$570,000	1	-	1	-
\$570,001 to \$580,000	-	1	-	1
\$580,001 to \$590,000	1	-	1	-
\$590,001 to \$600,000	-	1	-	1
\$600,001 to \$610,000	1	-	1	-
\$610,001 to \$620,000	-	1	-	1
\$620,001 to \$630,000	1	-	1	-
\$630,001 to \$640,000	-	1	-	1
\$640,001 to \$650,000	1	-	1	-
\$650,001 to \$660,000	-	1	-	1
\$660,001 to \$670,000	1	-	1	-
\$670,001 to \$680,000	-	1	-	1
\$680,001 to \$690,000	1	-	1	-
\$690,001 to \$700,000	-	1	-	1
\$700,001 to \$710,000	1	-	1	-
\$710,001 to \$720,000	-	1	-	1
\$720,001 to \$730,000	1	-	1	-
\$730,001 to \$740,000	-	1	-	1
\$740,001 to \$750,000	1	-	1	-
\$750,001 to \$760,000	-	1	-	1
\$760,001 to \$770,000	1	-	1	-
\$770,001 to \$780,000	-	1	-	1
\$780,001 to \$790,000	1	-	1	-
\$790,001 to \$800,000	-	1	-	1
\$800,001 to \$810,000	1	-	1	-
\$810,001 to \$820,000	-	1	-	1
\$820,001 to \$830,000	1	-	1	-
\$830,001 to \$840,000	-	1	-	1
\$840,001 to \$850,000	1	-	1	-
\$850,001 to \$860,000	-	1	-	1
\$860,001 to \$870,000	1	-	1	-
\$870,001 to \$880,000	-	1	-	1
\$880,001 to \$890,000	1	-	1	-
\$890,001 to \$900,000	-	1	-	1
\$900,001 to \$910,000	1	-	1	-
Total	39	39	39	39

	Consolidated		Parent Entity	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Short-term employee benefits	7,159	6,812	7,159	6,812
Other long-term employee benefits	566	561	566	561
Post-employment benefits	1,048	1,012	1,048	1,012
Total key management personnel compensation	8,773	8,385	8,773	8,385

The total remuneration includes superannuation expense incurred by the University in respect of Council members and senior officers.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

25 Key management personnel disclosures (continued)

No Council member or senior officer is a member of the pension scheme.

26 Remuneration of auditors

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

	Consolidated		Parent Entity	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Audit of the financial statements				
Audit fees - OAG	267	267	267	267
Other audit and assurance services				
Audit fees - OAG	29	29	14	14
Audit fees - Non-OAG firms	68	29	42	6
Total	364	325	323	287

27 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:

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Property, plant and equipment				
Within one year	4,445	4,592	4,445	4,592
	4,445	4,592	4,445	4,592

City Campus Project

Edith Cowan University will develop a Creative Industries, Business and Technology Campus in the centre of Perth, as part of a transformational deal for the University that will also support Western Australia's economic recovery. The Federal and State Governments have committed capital funding towards this project as part of the Perth City Deal with ECU funding of \$300 million towards the City Campus. However, as at the reporting date, the agreements are yet to be finalised with no formal contractual commitments in place.

b) Operating expenditure commitments

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

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Within one year	12	-	-	-
	12	-	-	-

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:

	Consolidated		Parent	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Within one year	12,018	10,170	12,018	10,170
Between one year and five years	5,488	5,286	5,488	5,286
	17,506	15,456	17,506	15,456

28 Related parties

a) Parent entities

The ultimate parent entity within the Group is Edith Cowan University. Transactions between parent company and its subsidiaries are eliminated on consolidation and are not disclosed in this note.

b) Subsidiaries

Interests in subsidiaries are set out in Note 29 Subsidiaries.

c) Joint Ventures and Associates

The University's interests in joint ventures and associates are set out in Note 15 Investments accounted for using the equity method.

d) Key management personnel

The University had no material related party transaction with Key Management Personnel or their close family members or their controlled (or jointly controlled) entities for disclosure.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

28 Related parties (continued)

e) Transactions with related parties

The following transactions occurred with related parties:

	Joint venture		Associates	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Sale of goods and services	2,804	2,351	119	271
Purchase of goods and services	283	460	185	-

In addition to the above transaction, an associate, Sapien Cyber Limited, granted 21,000 options to acquire shares exercisable at \$6.00 each on or before 30 June 2022 to ECU's nominated director under the company's Share Ownership Plan, and all of these options were subsequently assigned to ECU.

f) Outstanding balances

The following balances are outstanding at the reporting date in relation to transactions with related parties:

	Joint venture		Associates	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Trade amounts owing from related parties	2	22	-	-
Trade amounts owing to related parties	-	79	8	-

No provisions for doubtful debts have been raised in relation to any outstanding balances, and no expense has been recognised in respect of bad or doubtful debts due from related parties.

29 Subsidiaries

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets, liabilities and results of the following subsidiaries:

Name of Entity	Principal place of business	Ownership interest	
		2020 %	2019 %
Edith Cowan Accommodation Holdings Pty Ltd	Western Australia	100.00	100.00
Australian Pathway Education Group Pty Ltd	Western Australia	100.00	100.00
ECU Holdings Pty Ltd as trustee for The Edith Cowan University Hold Trust	Western Australia	100.00	100.00

Edith Cowan Accommodation Holdings \$'000	Australian Pathway Education Group \$'000	The Edith Cowan University Hold Trust \$'000
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At 31 December 2019

Cost	11,206	2,609	-
Carrying amount	11,206	2,609	-

Year ended 31 December 2020

Opening carrying amount	11,206	2,609	-
Additions	-	2,010	-
Return of capital	(1,000)	-	-
Impairment	(6,654)	(3,360)	-
Carrying amount	3,552	1,259	-

On 12 November 2019, the University established The Edith Cowan University Hold Trust with the University as its sole beneficiary. ECU Holdings Pty Ltd as trustee for The Edith Cowan University Hold Trust will hold interests in assets for the benefits of the University.

On 31 August 2020, the Trustee allotted and issued 100 fully paid ordinary units in the Trust, at an application price of \$1.00 per Unit, to Edith Cowan University for a total subscription price of \$100.

The Trust commenced operations on 3 October 2020.

Accounting Policy

Subsidiaries are all those entities (including structured entities) over which the University has control. The University has control over an investee when it is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee and has the ability to affect those returns

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

29 Subsidiaries (continued)

through its power over the investee. Power over the investee exists when the University has existing rights that give it current ability to direct the relevant activities of the investee. The existence and effect of potential voting rights that are currently exercisable or convertible are considered when assessing whether the University controls another entity. Returns are not necessarily monetary and can be only positive, only negative, or both positive and negative.

Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the University. They are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases.

Intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between Group companies are eliminated. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of the impairment of the asset transferred. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the University.

The acquisition method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of a subsidiary by the University.

Non-controlling interests in the results and equity of subsidiaries are shown separately in the consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Changes in Equity respectively.

Where the consolidated entity loses control over a subsidiary, it derecognises the assets including goodwill, liabilities and non-controlling interest in the subsidiary together with any cumulative translation differences recognised in equity. The consolidated entity recognises the fair value of the consideration received and the fair value of any investment retained together with any gain or loss in profit or loss.

Interests in subsidiaries is accounted for at cost, less any impairment, in the parent entity. Dividends received from subsidiaries are recognised as other income by the parent entity and its receipt may be an indicator of an impairment of the investment.

30 Events occurring after the reporting date

The University has established The Edith Cowan University Hold Trust (and ECU Holdings Pty Ltd as Trustee Company) with ECU as its sole beneficiary. The Edith Cowan University Hold Trust will hold interests in assets for the benefit of the University. Effective 1 January 2021, all its shares and options in Edith Cowan Accommodation Holdings Pty Ltd, Sapient Cyber Limited and some of its investments in listed and unlisted Shares were transferred to ECU Holdings Pty Ltd be held on trust for the Edith Cowan University Hold Trust.

This transaction will have no impact on the Consolidated Entity. The Parent Entity will cease to recognise the transferred investments but will instead recognise its investment in ECU Hold Trust, which will initially be at the same value as the investments.

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

	Consolidated		Parent Entity	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Net result for the period	23,384	35,375	23,662	36,491
Non-cash items				
Depreciation and amortisation	31,237	25,355	30,806	24,903
Fair Value Gains/(Losses) on investments	1,581	(13,234)	1,581	(13,234)
Impairment of intangible assets	8,757	-	-	-
Bad debt recovered	-	(74)	-	(74)
Bad debt written off	753	-	753	-
Impairment of investments	-	-	10,014	-
(Gain)/loss on sale of asset	(17)	25	(16)	25
Net loss on asset write-offs	70	-	70	-
Operating rights income	-	-	(710)	(1,438)
Share of profit on investments accounted for using the equity method not received as dividends or distributions	(1,244)	(3,129)	(1,244)	(3,129)
Borrowing costs	71	114	70	114
	64,592	44,432	64,986	43,658
(Increase)/decrease in receivables and non-financial assets	1,721	(1,665)	1,655	(3,068)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	1,574	(1,739)	910	(1,098)
Increase/(decrease) in contract liabilities	4,115	19,013	4,115	19,013
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	10,585	(3,833)	10,595	(3,860)
	17,995	11,776	17,275	10,987
Net cash inflow from operating activities	82,587	56,208	82,261	54,645

32 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.

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's investment portfolio is 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 an 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.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

32 Financial risk management (continued)

a) Market risk (continued)

	Interest rate risk				Foreign exchange risk				Other price risk			
	-0.10%	0.10%	-10%	10%	-10%	10%	-10%	10%	-10%	10%	-10%	10%
Carrying Amount	Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity
\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
31 December 2020												
Financial Assets												
Cash and cash equivalents	(46)	(46)	-	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trade receivable	-	-	17	-	17	(17)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial assets at amortised cost	(146)	(146)	-	146	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial assets - through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5,669)	(5,669)	5,669	5,669	-
Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(13,873)	(13,873)	13,873	13,873	-
Sub-total	(192)	(192)	17	192	17	(17)	(17)	(19,542)	(19,542)	19,542	19,542	19,542
Financial Liabilities												
Trade payables	-	-	(25)	-	(25)	25	-	-	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accrued expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other financial liabilities	-	-	(11)	-	(11)	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-total	-	-	(36)	-	(36)	36	36	-	-	-	-	-
Total increase/(decrease)	(192)	(192)	192	192	(19)	19	19	(19,542)	(19,542)	19,542	19,542	19,542

Edith Cowan University
Notes to financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

32 Financial risk management (continued)

a) Market risk (continued)

	Carrying Amount \$'000	Interest rate risk			Foreign exchange risk			Other price risk		
		-1%	1%		-10%			-10%		10%
		Profit \$'000	Profit \$'000	Equity \$'000	Profit \$'000	Equity \$'000	Profit \$'000	Profit \$'000	Equity \$'000	Equity \$'000
31 December 2019										
Financial Assets										
Cash and cash equivalents	60,823	(389)	389	389	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trade receivable	6,552	-	-	-	7	(7)	-	-	-	-
Financial assets at amortised cost	217,911	(1,274)	1,274	1,274	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial assets - through other comprehensive income	45,958	-	-	-	-	-	(4,596)	4,596	(4,596)	4,596
Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss	133,092	-	-	-	-	-	(13,309)	13,309	(13,309)	13,309
Sub-total		(1,663)	1,663	1,663	7	(7)	(17,905)	17,905	(17,905)	17,905
Financial Liabilities										
Trade payables	13,768	-	-	-	(7)	(7)	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	182,085	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accrued expenses	20,371	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other financial liabilities	35	-	-	-	(4)	(4)	-	-	-	-
Sub-total		-	-	-	(11)	(11)	11	-	-	-
Total increase/(decrease)		(1,663)	1,663	1,663	(4)	(4)	(17,905)	17,905	(17,905)	17,905

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

32 Financial risk management (continued)

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.

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

	Within 1 year		1 - 2 years		2 - 5 years		5+ years		Total	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial Assets										
Cash and cash equivalents	71,732	60,823	-	-	-	-	-	-	71,732	60,823
Trade and other receivables	4,666	6,552	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,666	6,552
Financial assets at amortised cost	239,958	197,539	-	20,372	-	-	-	-	239,958	217,911
Financial assets - through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	-	56,693	45,958	56,693	45,958
Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	-	-	-	-	138,726	133,092	138,726	133,092
Total financial assets	316,356	264,914	-	20,372	-	-	195,419	179,050	511,775	464,336
Financial Liabilities										
Trade and other payables	20,858	13,768	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,858	13,768
Borrowings	2,623	23,770	2,341	1,941	5,827	5,767	149,224	151,218	160,015	182,696
Accrued expenses	16,222	20,371	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,222	20,371
Derivative financial instruments	105	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	105	35
Total financial liabilities	39,808	57,944	2,341	1,941	5,827	5,767	149,224	151,218	197,200	216,870

33 Fair value measurements

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:

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

33 Fair value measurements (continued)

a) Fair value measurements (continued)

Consolidated

	Notes	Carrying Amount		Fair Value	
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	10	71,732	60,823	71,732	60,823
Trade receivables	11	4,666	6,552	4,666	6,552
Financial assets at amortised cost	12	239,958	217,911	239,958	217,911
Financial assets through other comprehensive income	12	56,693	45,958	56,693	45,958
Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss	12	138,726	133,092	138,726	133,092
Total financial assets		511,775	464,336	511,775	464,336
Financial Liabilities					
Trade payables	18	20,858	13,768	20,858	13,768
Borrowings	19	159,470	182,085	167,122	188,034
Other financial liabilities	20	105	35	105	35
Accrued expense	22	16,222	20,371	16,222	20,371
Total financial liabilities		196,655	216,259	204,307	222,208

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 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)

c) Recognised fair value measurements

Fair value measurements recognised in the statement of financial position are categorised into the following levels at 31 December 2020.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

33 Fair value measurements (continued)

Fair value measurements at 31 December 2020

Note	2020 \$'000	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000
Consolidated				
Recurring fair value measurements				
Financial assets				
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	12			
Listed shares	639	639	-	-
Unlisted shares	56,054	-	-	56,054
Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss	12			
Funds under management	138,726	-	138,726	-
Total financial assets	195,419	639	138,726	56,054
Non-financial assets				
Investment properties	14	-	19,179	-
Land	16	-	172,258	-
Buildings	16	-	-	521,496
Leasehold improvements	16	-	-	2,977
Artworks	16	-	15,309	-
Total non-financial assets	731,219	-	206,746	524,473

Fair value measurements at 31 December 2019

Note	2019 \$'000	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000
Consolidated				
Recurring fair value measurements				
Financial assets				
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	12			
Listed shares	486	486	-	-
Unlisted shares	45,472	-	-	45,472
Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss	12			
Funds under management	133,092	-	133,092	-
Total financial assets	179,050	486	133,092	45,472
Non-financial assets				
Investment properties	14	-	18,760	-
Land	16	-	167,069	-
Buildings	16	-	-	593,801
Leasehold improvements	16	-	-	3,069
Artworks	16	-	15,354	-
Total non-financial assets	798,053	-	201,183	596,870

There were no transfers between levels 1 and 2.

d) *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.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

33 Fair value measurements (continued)

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; and
- 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 (e) 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; and
- 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.

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

The following table is a reconciliation of level 3 items for the periods ended 31 December 2020 and 2019.

Consolidated Level 3 Fair Value Measurements 2020

Opening balance

Recognised in other comprehensive income

Closing balance

Unlisted
Shares
\$'000

45,472

10,582

56,054

Consolidated Level 3 Fair Value Measurements 2019

Opening balance

Recognised in other comprehensive income

Closing balance

Unlisted
Shares
\$'000

28,856

16,616

45,472

i) There were no transfers between levels 2 and 3 and changes in valuation techniques.

ii) Valuation inputs and relationships to fair value

Management has engaged an independent external valuation to determine the fair value of the unlisted shares which has determined that an asset-based approach is the most appropriate method given the nature of these entities. In using this approach, the net assets of the entities has formed the basis for the valuation without the need for any adjustments as the net assets and liabilities of the entities are either measured at fair value or approximate fair value.

*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.

33 Fair value measurements (continued)

Accounting Policy

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 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 the characteristics of the asset and the assumptions made by market participants.

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 publicly traded derivatives, and trading and available-for-sale securities) is based on quoted market prices for identical assets or liabilities at the end of the reporting period (level 1). The quoted market price used for assets held by the University is the most representative of 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) 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 fair value of unlisted shares, buildings and leasehold improvements (level 3).

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 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 of financial assets and liabilities for disclosure purposes 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.

34 Contingencies

Employee entitlements – casual employees

The University utilises casual employees to provide support to both academic and non-academic activities as required.

During the year, uncertainty has arisen as to the accurate interpretation of existing legislation with regards the entitlements of casual employees.

After considering the available information with regards to the legislation and the processes underway to assess and consider these changes/uncertainties, the University has concluded that no provision or liability should be recognised in this regard on the grounds that the legal position is not sufficiently certain at this point. Determination of the potential magnitude of any future liability is not currently possible, as it would be dependent on an assessment of the specific circumstances of each individual casual employee compared to as yet unclear criteria.

The University continues to monitor developments in this area;

35 Write-offs

	Consolidated		Parent Entity	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Total write-offs as approved by the University council during the financial year				
Receivables written-off against provision	182	144	182	142
Property, plant and equipment	70	-	70	-
Total write-offs	252	144	252	142

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

36 Deferred government benefit for superannuation

a) Government Employees Superannuation Board

Pension scheme

	Change in assumption	Impact on defined benefit obligation (\$'000)	
		Increase in assumption	Decrease in assumption
Discount rate	0.5% p.a	(722)	776
Pension increase rate	0.5% p.a	676	(717)

Gold State Super (transferred) benefits

	Change in assumption	Impact on defined benefit obligation (\$'000)	
		Increase in assumption	Decrease in assumption
Discount rate	0.5% p.a	(5)	6
Salary increase rate	0.5% p.a	6	(5)

Reconciliation of the net defined benefit liability/(asset)

	Pension scheme		Gold State Super	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Defined benefit obligation	19,378	20,353	378	367
Deficit	19,378	20,353	378	367
Net deferred benefit/(asset)	19,378	20,353	378	367

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

	Pension scheme		Gold State Super		Total	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current	1,993	2,060	82	66	2,075	2,126
Non-current	17,385	18,293	296	301	17,681	18,594
Total	19,378	20,353	378	367	19,756	20,720

Reconciliation of the defined benefit obligation:

	Pension scheme		Gold State Super	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Present value of defined benefit obligations at the beginning of the year	20,353	20,338	367	343
Interest cost	186	473	3	7
Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions	1,246	(644)	(1)	2
Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	(450)	2,160	(4)	18
Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from liability experience	122	96	13	(3)
Benefits paid	(2,079)	(2,070)	-	-
Balance at the end of the year	19,378	20,353	378	367

Reconciliation of the fair value of Scheme assets:

	Pension scheme	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Employer contributions	2,079	2,070
Benefits paid	(2,079)	(2,070)
Balance at the end of the year	-	-

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

36 Deferred government benefit for superannuation (continued)

Significant Actuarial assumptions at the reporting date:

	Pension scheme		Gold State Super	
	2020 % p.a	2019 % p.a	2020 % p.a	2019 % p.a
Discount rate (active members)	0.79	0.96	0.79	0.96
Discount rate (pensioners)	0.79	0.96	0.79	0.96
Expected salary increase rates	-	-	2.0% for the first two years, then 3.5% pa	1.5% for the first two years, then 4.2% p.a
Expected pension increase rates	2.00	2.50	2.00	2.50

b) Expected Contributions

	Pension scheme 2020 \$'000	Gold State Super 2020 \$'000
Expected employer contributions in the next financial year	1,993	82

Accounting Policy

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 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 12).

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.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

36 Deferred government benefit for superannuation (continued)

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; and
- **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; and
- **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

Sensitivity analyses are based on a change in an assumption while holding all the other assumptions constant. In practice this 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

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

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; and
- No asset-liability matching strategies.

Discount Rate

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.

Maturity Profile

Pension Scheme

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation for the whole of the Pension Scheme is 7.8 years (2019: 7.9 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 3.1 years (2019: 3.4 years).

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

37 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance

a) Education - CGS and other Education grants

Parent entity (University) only

Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the program)

Net accrual adjustment

Revenue for the period

Total revenue including

accrued revenue

Less expenses including

accrued expenses

Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period

Notes	Commonwealth Grants Scheme ^{#1}		Higher Education Participation Funding		Disability Performance Funding ^{#2}		National Priorities Pool		Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Teaching		Academic Centres of Cyber Security Excellence		Indigenous Student Success Program ^{#3}		Total	
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	149,121	148,764	3,072	3,177	294	233	1,766	-	-	13	244	240	1,371	1,406	155,868	153,833
	(790)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	(67)	(48)	316	(443)	(529)	(491)
2.1(a)	148,331	148,764	3,072	3,177	294	233	1,766	-	12	13	177	192	1,687	963	155,339	153,342
	148,331	148,764	3,072	3,177	294	233	1,766	-	12	13	177	192	1,687	963	155,339	153,342
	(148,331)	(148,764)	(3,072)	(3,177)	(294)	(233)	(1,766)	-	(12)	(13)	(177)	(192)	(1,687)	(963)	(155,339)	(153,342)
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

#1 Includes the basic CGS grant amount, CGS – Regional Loading, CGS – Enabling Loading, CGS – Medical Student Loading, Allocated Places, Non Designated Courses and CGS – Special Advances from Future Years.

#2 Disability Performance Funding includes Additional Support for Students with Disabilities and Australian Disability Clearinghouse on Education & Training

#3 Indigenous Student Success Program has replaced the Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships Program and the Indigenous Support Program as of 1 January 2018.

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

37 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)

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

Notes	HECS-HELP Australian Gov't Payments Only				FEE-HELP				VET FEE HELP				SA-HELP				Total			
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Parent entity (University) only																				
Cash payable / (receivable) at beginning of year	(227)	(185)	(687)	(92)	-	(4)	9	(10)									(905)		(291)	
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period	90,122	86,880	16,783	14,006	1,783	1,466	2,980	3,002									111,668		105,354	
Cash available for period	89,895	86,695	16,096	13,914	1,783	1,462	2,989	2,992									110,763		105,063	
Revenue earned	91,277	86,922	18,470	14,601	1,741	1,462	2,061	2,983									113,549		105,968	
Cash payable / (receivable) at end of year	(1,382)	(227)	(2,374)	(687)	42	-	928	9									(2,786)		(905)	

c) Department of Education, Skills and Employment and Training Research^{#4}

Notes	Research Training Program		Research Support Program		Total	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Parent entity (University) only						
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the program)	6,747	6,773	3,847	3,978	10,594	10,751
Revenue for the period	6,747	6,773	3,847	3,978	10,594	10,751
Total revenue including accrued revenue	6,747	6,773	3,847	3,978	10,594	10,751
Less expenses including accrued expenses	(6,747)	(6,773)	(3,847)	(3,978)	(10,594)	(10,751)
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period	-	-	-	-	-	-

#4 Includes Joint Research Engagement, JRE Engineering Cadetships, Research Block Grants, and Sustainable Research Excellence in Universities

d) Total Higher Education Provider Research Training Program expenditure^{#5}

		Total Domestic Students \$'000	Total Overseas Students \$'000
Research Training Program Fee Offsets		4,723	-
Research Training Program Stipends		2,009	15
Total for all types of support		6,732	15

#5 Please refer to the Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines for expenditure definitions for the Research Training Program

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

37 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)

e) Australian Research Council Grants

	Notes	Discovery		Linkages		Total	
		2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Parent entity (University) only							
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the program)	2.1(f)	811 (478)	703 (146)	65 (53)	128 (4)	876 (531)	831 (150)
Net accrual adjustment							
Revenue for the period	2.1(d)	333	557	12	124	345	681
Total revenue including accrued revenue		333	557	12	124	345	681
Less expenses including accrued expenses		(333)	(557)	(12)	(124)	(345)	(681)
Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period		-	-	-	-	-	-

Edith Cowan University

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

37 Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)

f) Other Australian Government Financial Assistance

Parent entity (University) only

Cash received during the reporting period

Cash spent during the reporting period

Cash surplus / (deficit) for the reporting period

Notes	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
2.1(f)	6,891	7,140
	(6,891)	(7,140)
	-	-

g) OS-HELP

Cash received during the reporting period

Cash spent during the reporting period

Net cash received

Cash surplus / (deficit) from the previous period

Cash surplus / (deficit) for the reporting period

Notes	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
	3,797	1,816
	(114)	(2,190)
2.1(f)	3,683	(374)
	1,017	1,391
18	4,700	1,017

h) Superannuation Supplementation

Cash received during the reporting period

University contribution in respect of current employees

Cash available

Cash surplus/(deficit) from the previous period

Cash available for current period

Contributions to specified defined benefit funds

Cash surplus/(deficit) this period

Notes	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
2.1(f)	1,707	2,067
	69	123
	1,776	2,190
	438	427
	2,214	2,617
	(2,058)	(2,179)
	156	438

i) Student Services and Amenities Fee

SA-HELP revenue earned

Previous year adjustment

Student services and amenities fees direct from students

Total revenue expendable in period

Student services expenses during the period

Unspent/(overspent) student services revenue

Notes	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
2.3	2,061	2,983
	(20)	(19)
	802	951
	2,843	3,915
	(2,940)	(3,915)
	(97)	-

Key performance indicators

Certification of key performance indicators

We hereby certify that the key performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess Edith Cowan University's performance, and fairly represent the performance of ECU for the financial year ended 31 December 2020.



The Hon Kerry Sanderson AC CVO
Chancellor
9 March 2021



Professor Steve Chapman CBE
Vice-Chancellor
8 March 2021

Introduction

Edith Cowan University's vision is to be recognised for our world ready graduates and leading-edge research, and the *ECU Strategic Plan 2017-2021: World Ready* sets our path forward. The four Strategic Goals direct the University's progress towards our vision, while staying true to our purpose: *to transform lives and enrich society through education and research*. Each goal is linked to objectives.

The seven key performance indicators in this report are a sub-set of the performance indicators in the Strategic Plan.

For each key performance indicator, a time series of results is shown, together with comparative results (national or State averages) where possible. Explanations of variances between results and targets are given where the variance is more than ten per cent.

As per the Treasurer's Instruction 904U, KPIs have been classified as 'effectiveness' or 'efficiency' indicators. 'Effectiveness' indicators relate to the services delivered, and 'efficiency' to the resources required to deliver the services.

Strategic goals and key performance indicators

1. Enhancing learning and teaching

Objectives	Key performance indicators
1. Teaching that inspires	1. Satisfaction with the educational experience
2. Transformative learning experiences	2. Graduates in full-time employment
3. A globally relevant and innovative curriculum	3. Retention of commencing students
4. Improved learning outcomes and career readiness	

Three of the effectiveness key performance indicators are directly linked to Strategic Goal 1 and outcomes relating to the first four objectives of that Strategic Goal. These three KPIs are benchmarked against other universities' results, allowing us to further assess and analyse our relative progress over time.

KPI 1 Satisfaction with the educational experience is based on feedback from students and measures outcomes in terms of the quality of our teaching and curriculum (Objective 1 and Objective 3) and the overall learning experience (Objective 2).

KPI 2 Graduates in full-time employment enables us to assess our progress with improving graduate career readiness and employment outcomes (Objective 3 and Objective 4).

KPI 3 Retention of commencing students measures the effectiveness of our academic and support operations to engage new learners and support them in their first year of university study (Objective 2).

2. Advancing research and knowledge translation

Objectives	Key performance indicators
5. Growth in research capacity and culture	4. Weighted research publications
6. Extensive research collaboration	5. Higher degree by research completions
7. Increased knowledge translation	
8. Growth in research training	

Two of ECU's audited key performance indicators measure the University's progress in advancing research and knowledge translation, as specified in Strategic Goal 2. The KPIs are effectiveness, and efficiency, indicators.

KPI 4 Weighted research publications measures the key output of research and knowledge translation activity – the production of research publications. KPI 4 therefore provides a composite measure of outcomes in terms of ECU's research capacity, collaboration, and knowledge translation (Objective 5, Objective 6, and Objective 7). Measuring our research outputs per ten full-time equivalent staff provides a measure of research productivity.

KPI 5 Higher degree by research completions reports graduates in masters by research and doctorates by research, as a direct outcome of the research training function and activities such as attracting research students, and providing supervision and support tailored to the research training environment (Objective 8). Measuring this output per ten full-time equivalent staff allows results to be compared to those of other Australian universities regardless of size, for meaningful benchmarking.

3. Growing internationalisation

Objectives	Key performance indicators
9. Growth in international enrolments	6. Income from international student fees
10. Strong partnerships and international relations	
11. Global education delivery	
12. An internationalised student experience	

KPI 6 is an effectiveness indicator that evaluates ECU's overall outcomes relative to the objectives of Strategic Goal 3.

KPI 6 Income from international student fees demonstrates how strongly ECU is competing in international markets (Objective 9), the impact of joint training programs and student transfer arrangements on student intake (Objective 10), and the growth of offshore education delivery (Objective 11). Fee income quantifies the consequences of changes to international student load as a result of these activities. Diversifying revenue streams by growing international student fee income is an important contribution to the sustainability of universities.

Objective 12 relates to improving student experiences and graduate outcomes through opportunities for international study and an internationalised curriculum, and is measured by *KPI 1 Satisfaction with the educational experience*. The objective is embedded in Strategic Goal 3 due to its strong emphasis on building partnerships with overseas institutions, as a way of contributing to this Strategic Goal.

4. Ensuring organisational sustainability

Objectives	Key performance indicators
13. High-performance culture	7. Operating margin
14. Service excellence	
15. Infrastructure that supports our goals	
16. A strong financial base	

The final KPI is both an effectiveness, and efficiency, indicator for Strategic Goal 4.

KPI 7 Operating margin directly measures the financial outcome relating to the objective of a strong financial base (Objective 16).

The achievement of the other objectives under Strategic Goal 4 is evidenced in other KPIs. Objective 13 is supported through the recruitment of academic staff with strong research backgrounds and hence improved research publications (*KPI 4 Weighted research publications*) and research staff capacity (*KPI 5 Higher degree by research completions*). Other elements of this objective are measured through external mechanisms, e.g. Athena SWAN and the Workplace Gender Equality Agency endorsements, reported on elsewhere in the Annual Report.

Efficient student support and professional services (Objective 14) are evidenced in performance against *KPI 1 Satisfaction with the educational experience*, *KPI 2 Graduates in full-time employment*, *KPI 3 Retention of commencing students*, *KPI 5 Higher degree by research completions*, *KPI 6 Income from international student fees*, and *KPI 7 Operating margin*. The wide range of administrative functions at ECU means that Objective 14 has a broad impact across the organisation.

ECU's supporting infrastructure (Objective 15) is reflected in several KPIs, including *KPI 1 Satisfaction with the educational experience*, *KPI 6 Income from international student fees*, and *KPI 7 Operating margin*.

KPI 1 Satisfaction with the educational experience

Strategic Goal 1: Enhancing learning and teaching

Edith Cowan University has a strong tradition of high quality teaching: students and graduates have for many years recorded high levels of satisfaction with their learning experiences at ECU. We maintain this focus on the student experience and teaching excellence in the *ECU Strategic Plan 2017-2021*.

Measure

The Student Experience Survey (SES) collects feedback from students on their learning experiences and the national results are published on the Commonwealth Government's Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) website, which encourages prospective students to compare Australian institutions on such indicators.

This effectiveness indicator measures the satisfaction of undergraduate students with the overall quality of their educational experience, as derived from the SES results.

Performance result

ECU's performance for the latest reporting year represents a continuation of strong performance on student and graduate satisfaction measures over many years. Overall satisfaction reduced slightly (from 83.8 per cent in 2018 to 83.3 per cent in 2019) but remains above the national average (78.4 per cent in 2019). ECU's performance ranking remained steady at fourth rank in the 2019 survey, the second highest level of overall student satisfaction of the 37 Australian public universities.

Year of survey	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ECU (%)	85.7	84.9	83.8	83.3	
National average (%)	79.9	78.5	79.2	78.4	
ECU national rank	3	3	4	4	
Target national rank	-	top 10	top 10	top 10	top 10

Source: Social Research Centre – Student Experience Survey (SES) 2016-2019.

Definition: The percentage of undergraduate domestic and onshore international students who were satisfied with their overall educational experience in response to the single question: 'Overall quality of education experience' in the SES.

Notes: All Table A and B providers are included in the published survey data except the Batchelor Institute, the University of Divinity and Torrens University.

Data for the 2020 survey year is not yet available.

KPI 2 Graduates in full-time employment

Strategic Goal 1: Enhancing learning and teaching

Good employment outcomes are fundamental to the wellbeing and livelihood of our graduates and their communities. ECU continues to improve the career-readiness of our graduates through work-integrated learning, internships, volunteering, student exchange programs, and targeted career advice and support.

Measure

The Graduate Outcomes Survey (GOS) collects feedback from graduates approximately four months after graduation and the national results are published on the Commonwealth Government's Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) website, which encourages prospective students to compare Australian institutions on such indicators.

This effectiveness indicator measures the full-time graduate employment rate for domestic students graduating from all undergraduate courses, as derived from the GOS and GDS results.

Performance result

ECU's full-time graduate employment rate declined from 58.9 per cent in 2019 to 57.1 per cent in 2020, a decrease of 1.8 percentage points. The results are based on graduates surveyed in November 2019 and May 2020. This second cohort in particular would have experienced more limited employment opportunities as a result of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. The State average decline (2.8 percentage points) is greater than for ECU and while ECU's performance for 2020 was 6.4 percentage points below target, this is a lesser margin than for any year since 2017.

Year of survey	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ECU (%)	65.4	58.3	57.8	58.9	57.1
State average (%)	68.9	64.9	65.6	66.3	63.5
Target (%)	65.0	State av	State av	State av	State av

Source: Social Research Centre – Graduate Outcomes Survey 2016-2020.

Definition: The proportion of domestic undergraduate graduates who were employed full-time approximately four months after completing their course, as a percentage of those who were available for full-time employment. 'Available' means, in addition to those already in full-time work, those seeking full-time work.

Notes: 'State average' includes all WA institutions, and the University of Notre Dame Australia graduates based in Fremantle and Sydney (except 2015 where respondents were Fremantle only). The survey is conducted in two parts: in November for mid-year completers and in May for end of year completers from the previous year. The 2020 survey national dataset relates to all those who completed their courses in 2019.

KPI 3 Retention of commencing students

Strategic Goal 1: Enhancing learning and teaching

ECU provides a range of support services to help new students in their first year of study. Over 70 per cent of ECU commencing bachelor students are admitted based on prior vocational education and training (VET) study, secondary education, or work and life experience, so many are unfamiliar with university study and the university environment. Supporting students during their first year of study is critical to their overall success.

Measure

Retention of students from the first year to the second year of study is a key indicator of institutional performance and a well-established metric used by the sector and government.

Many factors influence student retention, including some that are outside of a university's control, such as employment and training alternatives, government financial assistance and the availability of places for enabling programs. Other influences include curriculum design, student support services, entry standards and academic staff skills.

Differences in university student demographics also impact on the relative overall retention performance of institutions. For example, mature age students

are more likely to discontinue their courses than school leavers, due to external pressures like caring responsibilities and financial commitments.

This effectiveness indicator measures the proportion of all domestic and international bachelor course students who commence a course and remain enrolled in the institution in the following year.

Performance result

ECU's performance for the latest reporting year is for students commencing in 2018 who continued their studies into 2019. ECU's retention rate has improved slightly, while the national average has increased at a smaller rate. ECU's 2018 retention rate is 3.9 percentage points below the national average.

ECU's student demographics may be impacting performance. The proportion of commencing bachelor course mature age students (aged 25 years and over) at ECU is 15 percentage points above the sector average (34 per cent compared to 19 per cent). The mature age cohort is associated with lower retention rates.

Year of commencement	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
ECU (%)	74.9	75.4	76.3	77.8	
National average (%)	81.2	81.9	81.5	81.7	
Target (%)			National av	National av	National av

Source: Department of Education, Skills and Employment – Education Portal.

Definition: The proportion of all domestic and international bachelor students who commence a course in the specified year and remain enrolled in the following year, excluding students who completed their course.

Notes: The national average is for Table A and Table B providers only. The reference year is the year of commencement in a course. The definition was amended to match that used by Government, so earlier targets are no longer applicable. In 2019 the Government amended the definition to prioritise returning students over those that complete their course. The impact of the change is a slight increase in retention rates in many cases. Data has been restated across the time series using the new definition. The dataset is made available via the Department of Education, Skills and Employment's Selected Higher Education Statistics, Table 15.9: <https://docs.education.gov.au/node/55066>

Data for the 2019 commencement year is not yet available.

KPI 4 Weighted research publications

Strategic Goal 2: Advancing research and knowledge translation

Growing research outputs, and the quality of research, so that all of ECU's research is world class, is critical to the future development and sustainability of the University. This will require a step-change in ECU's research capacity and the development of a strong and supportive research culture. This improvement will build on a firm base: the most recent Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) assessment in 2018, judged ECU's research to be above, or well above, world standard in a number of health and medical science disciplines including: nursing, neuroscience, clinical sciences, nutrition and dietetics, and oncology and carcinogenesis, and in science and engineering disciplines including: ecology, biochemistry and cell biology, environmental science, chemical engineering and materials engineering.

Measure

Research publications are a well-established measure of research output, and through the classification of publications, the quality of those research outputs.

This effectiveness and efficiency indicator measures the research publication output of ECU researchers, adjusted for changes in academic staff full-time equivalence numbers (i.e. per 10 FTE), to allow meaningful comparison over time.

Performance result

ECU's performance for the latest reporting year shows a large increase in weighted and unweighted publications over the time series, although there was also an increase in academic staff FTE. The result for 2019 (15.0) exceeds the target of 14.2 weighted publications per 10 FTE.

Building ECU's research capacity, and therefore our research outputs, will be achieved by recruiting high-achieving researchers in key fields, enhancing succession planning, increasing research support and refining our recognition and incentive mechanisms. At the same time, maintaining and further improving the quality and impact of ECU's result will be a focus.

Publication year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Unweighted publications	532.9	542.4	562.8	656.7	
Authored books	2.2	4.5	3.0	7.8	
Book chapters	29.4	35.0	27.3	37.7	
Journal articles	384.8	407.8	459.5	558.8	
Conference publications	116.4	95.1	73.0	52.5	
Weighted publications	541.7	560.4	574.8	687.7	
Academic staff FTE	434	429	439	459	
ECU publications per 10 FTE	12.5	13.1	13.1	15.0	
Target per 10 FTE	-	12.6	13.4	14.2	

Source: ECU.

Definition: Total traditional research outputs authored by ECU staff, adjunct staff and/or students in the following historical Higher Education Research Data Collection publication categories: 'Book: Authored – Research'; 'Book Chapter: Chapter in a Book: Authored – Research'; 'Journal Article: Refereed Article in a Scholarly Journal'; and, 'Conference Publication: Full Written Paper – Refereed'. All publications are counted, irrespective of the work function of the author(s). Weighted publications refers to each 'Book: Authored – Research' being 5:1 compared with all other publication types. Outputs are also apportioned based on the proportion of co-authorship for each output attributable to ECU.

Notes: Research publications figures for 2020 are unavailable until June 2021. Academic staff FTE is the full-time equivalence of academic staff in work functions 'research only' and 'teaching and research', excluding casual/sessional academic staff. In prior Annual Reports, this figure (and the totals for research outputs) was restricted to staff at Level B and above, and included 'teaching only' staff.

Data for the 2020 publication year is not yet available.

KPI 5 Higher degree by research completions

Strategic Goal 2: Advancing research and knowledge translation

Increasing completions of higher degrees by research (doctorates or masters by research qualifications) benefits academia, industry and society. New ideas open up new research opportunities and discoveries, and the specialised knowledge of these graduates also benefits employers. Higher degrees by research are also the pathway into academia, and producing an increased number of high-quality graduates benefits ECU's objectives to increase the number of research staff and to strengthen succession planning.

Measure

This effectiveness and efficiency indicator measures the doctorates by research and masters by research completions, adjusted for changes in academic staff full-time equivalence numbers (i.e. per 10 FTE), to allow meaningful comparison over time and against national average figures.

Performance result

ECU's performance in the latest reporting year shows a decrease in performance and in national rank. Performance is also below target.

ECU's target is to be in the top 10 nationally on this indicator each year through to 2021. To achieve this, we intend to improve supervision capacity and quality by increasing the number of PhD qualified staff and those who meet criteria for supervision. We will review the skills training embedded in our research training programs, and provide additional support to those completing their research and moving into employment.

Year of completion	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Completions	90	104	114	109	
Doctorate	67	71	78	71	
Masters	23	33	36	38	
Academic staff FTE	434	429	439	459	
ECU completions per 10 FTE	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.4	
National completions per 10 FTE	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.6	
ECU national rank	27	17	12	20	
Target national rank		top 10	top 10	top 10	top 10

Source: Department of Education, Skills and Employment – Higher Education Student Data Collection (HESDC).

Definition: Completions recorded against course levels "Masters by Research" and "Doctorates by Research".

Notes: Academic staff FTE is the full-time equivalence of academic staff in work functions 'research only' and 'teaching and research', excluding casual/sessional academic staff. In prior Annual Reports, this figure was restricted to only staff at Level B and above, and included 'teaching only' staff.

Data for the 2020 completion year is not yet available.

KPI 6 Income from international student fees

Strategic Goal 3: Growing internationalisation

ECU aspires to be a leader in international student education. We will provide opportunities for more overseas students to participate in ECU programs by increasing our onshore enrolments and by expanding our international presence through teaching delivered in locations outside Australia.

Growth in international student numbers and international partnerships, will provide further opportunities for all students, both domestic and international, to experience an internationalised student experience and to become world-ready graduates.

Measure

Income from international student fees is a direct measure of the growth of internationalisation at ECU through onshore and offshore delivery. It is also a measure of the University's diversification of its revenue base and its success in generating income from non-government sources.

This effectiveness indicator measures the total income (or revenue) from fee-paying international students, both onshore and offshore.

Performance result

ECU's international student income growth has accelerated in recent years as part of a renewed focus on diverse and effective student recruitment channels, global education delivery and strong partnerships with sponsoring bodies, agents, institutions and articulation program providers.

ECU's performance in 2020 is above target by \$12 million (11 per cent) and was an increase on income in 2019 by \$3 million (3 per cent).

ECU's 2020 performance is noteworthy given the negative impact of the global pandemic on international student enrolments and revenue across Australia.

The *ECU Strategic Plan 2017-2021* set an annual growth target of 7 per cent (compounding) for the duration of the Strategic Plan.

Accounting year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ECU (\$m)	85	94	101	117	120
Target (\$m)		88	94	101	108

Source: ECU.

Definition: Total income (or revenue) from fee-paying international students onshore and offshore.

Notes: Revenue is interpreted in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

KPI 7 Operating margin

Strategic Goal 4: Ensuring organisational sustainability

In order to meet the objectives of the first three strategic goals, the University needs to maintain a sound financial base. Over the past few years, higher education policy changes have limited recurring government funding and removed government support for capital development. Operating surpluses generated by universities provide for building and maintenance of significant infrastructure, the development of new technologies and other strategic initiatives.

Measure

Operating margin is a key means for the Commonwealth Government to assess the “financial wellbeing” of universities. As an effectiveness indicator, operating margin shows the extent to which a university has effectively planned for the future and possible adverse events or conditions. As an efficiency indicator, the operating margin shows whether a university has sufficient resources to run its services.

This effectiveness and efficiency indicator measures the net operating result as a proportion of total revenue.

Performance result

ECU's performance in 2020 was above target. ECU's prudent financial management yielded a positive result in the challenging fiscal environment created by the COVID pandemic.

ECU has consistently demonstrated that it has a sound financial base, with sustainable revenue streams and controlled costs that consistently deliver moderate operating surpluses, meeting or exceeding the target 4 per cent.

The *ECU Strategic Plan 2017-2021* includes an objective to further strengthen our financial sustainability by growing student enrolments, strategically allocating funding, developing further budget flexibility in ECU schools, achieving productivity gains in service centres, and growing revenue to the ECU Foundation.

Accounting year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ECU (%)	6	7	5	7	5
Target (%)	4	4	4	4	4

Source: ECU.

Definition: Operating margin is the net operating result over total revenue, and therefore a direct measure of the underlying financial efficiency of the University.

Notes: Revenue and expenditure are interpreted in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.





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