



EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY

2023 ECU Foundation Report

Your support is making a difference



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Vice-Chancellor's message



It is an honour to share the 2023 Edith Cowan University (ECU) Foundation Report, celebrating the contributions of our valued philanthropic community.

The stories in these pages demonstrate the transformational impact of the support ECU receives each year from our staff, students, alumni, and supporters. We extend heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your dedication and commitment to the power of education as a force for positive change.

Thanks to your assistance, our ground-breaking research projects continue to make significant impact, shaping the society we live in by improving quality of life and safeguarding our communities.

With the new ECU City campus now under construction, we have begun to reshape the landscape of the Perth CBD and redefine higher education in Western Australia.

I am also happy to report that in 2023, ECU was the only Western Australian university to be named in the top 10 in The Australian Financial Review's inaugural Best Universities Ranking, coming in at an impressive sixth place out of 40 Australian institutions.

During my nine years as Vice-Chancellor, close to 500 students have successfully graduated with the assistance of a scholarship funded through the gift of philanthropy. Many of these students would not have made it to graduation without this help.

As I prepare to bid farewell in July this year, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all university staff, friends, donors, and supporters. The impact you have helped to create will continue to shape the lives of countless individuals, enriching the academic experience for our students and raising ECU's reputation to new heights.

I depart with an overwhelming sense of confidence in ECU's future; I know that the visionary leaders I have had the privilege to work with will continue to inspire and drive the university forward.

Professor Steve Chapman CBE

Vice-Chancellor, Edith Cowan University

"I wouldn't have been able to finish my nine-week professional practicum without the assistance of a scholarship. This generosity has inspired me to help others and to give back to the community. I hope that one day I will be able to help students succeed in their education, just as you have helped me."

Brooke Cuthbertson

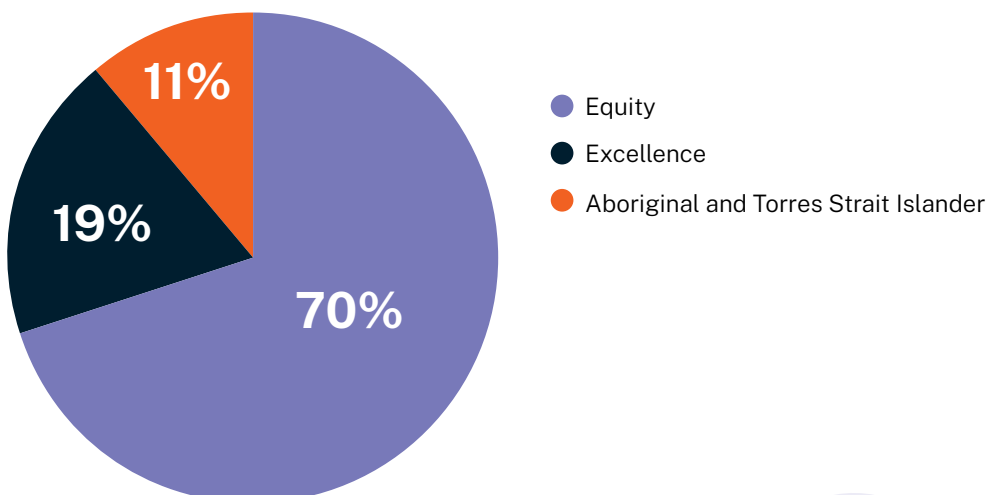




2023 Snapshot of support



2023 Donor-Funded Scholarships





Pursuing excellence in the arts

Generous supporters make it possible

From jazz to contemporary dance and from acting to music theatre, students at ECU's Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) are dedicated to the art of performance. For them, there is no greater honour than honing their craft with the ultimate goal of creating enjoyment for Perth audiences.

ECU is grateful for the support that enables us to cultivate our students' growth in their pursuit of excellence.

Valued partnerships with individuals and institutions enable ECU to provide students with a wider range of performance opportunities as well as world-class training from internationally acclaimed arts practitioners.

For audiences, this translates to greater access to exceptional performances – which will be amplified by the opening of our transformational ECU City campus in early 2026.





The world's best at WAAPA

Thanks to the Minderoo Visiting Artists program, now in its eighth year, the Academy has initiated two exciting residency programs that will culminate in performance seasons marking the opening of ECU City.

Music Theatre students are working with Australian musical theatre legend and WAAPA graduate (2001) Eddie Perfect, who has been commissioned to create a brand-new Australian musical to debut at ECU City.

Perfect is one of Australia's most diverse and prolific writers, composers and performers, recognised with many industry awards. In 2019, he received a Tony nomination for Best Original Score for the musical *Beetlejuice*.

Joining Perfect is accomplished director, writer and WAAPA graduate (1999) Dean Bryant, as well as award-winning music director and composer, Zara Stanton. Together, this trio provides a unique opportunity for students to develop their craft with some of Australia's most accomplished artists.

In addition, our acting students have begun to collaborate with the founders of the internationally acclaimed UK theatre company *Cheek by Jowl*. Director Declan Donnellan and designer Nick Ormerod will lead workshops and rehearsals culminating in the performance of a classic text from the Elizabethan and Jacobean period.

"Minderoo Foundation is excited that high calibre international artists are coming to Perth to work with WAAPA students on unique and major projects over a sustained period. We're proud to support WAAPA to offer such incredible opportunities for our best emerging artists as they embark on careers in the creative industries."

says Andrew Baker, Minderoo Foundation's Head of Social Activation & Connection.

WAAPA performances hit new heights

In a first for Perth, in 2023 the CBD got a taste of what's to come at ECU City with the WAAPA Live Artist Series at Brookfield Place.

Held weekly for two months, the free lunchtime concerts featured performances by contemporary, jazz and classical music artists. WAAPA's talented students were provided a paid opportunity to perform to a large audience of city-workers.

For WAAPA student and saxophonist, Grace Kay, it was an incredible opportunity.

“Performing is what I love to do and being able to share the stage with our friends we have made through WAAPA, and share our music with Perth, is so special for us,” she said.





Enriching student learning through the WAAPA visiting artist program

The Brookfield partnership will further enrich student learning by assisting WAAPA to bring renowned visiting artists to Perth, working and performing with students to deepen their academic experience.

Visiting artists enrich the educational experience of our performing arts students by inspiring creativity and helping students develop a deeper appreciation for their craft.

With their fresh perspective and expertise, visiting artists offer valuable insight into industry practices, trends, and techniques. Exposure to diverse perspectives encourages students to embrace innovation in their artistic endeavours.

Jazz students were given the opportunity of a lifetime thanks to Brigid and Ronald W. Woss AM of the Woss Group of Companies. Their generous support of WAAPA's visiting artist program helped bring Grammy award winning guitar virtuoso Frank Gambale to Perth to perform with the students.

Gambale spent 36 years as part of Chick Corea's Elektric Band, and his musical depth was on display as he led WAAPA's jazz students in a show-stopping display of technical mastery and profound, joyful musicality.



These exciting performance experiences are another indication of the new era of dynamic performance programs we can expect when ECU City opens in 2026, offering an even more immersive experience for the Perth community.

"By enabling our students to benefit from working with accomplished and highly acclaimed artists and performance practitioners, WAAPA inspire and empower the next generation of performance makers," explains WAAPA's Executive Dean, Professor David Shirley.



Celebrating 100 scholarship recipients

20 years of Fogarty Foundation Scholarships

At ECU we have been producing exceptional educators since 1902. We are committed to equipping aspiring teachers with the skills, knowledge and experiences to positively impact the lives of students and communities.

For the past 20 years, we have been fortunate to have the generous support of The Fogarty Foundation to help us transform lives through education.

The Foundation is the longest standing donor of an ECU scholarship, providing support for more than 100 teachers who are undertaking postgraduate studies at the university.

Chairperson Dr Annie Fogarty AM says the Foundation supports education because it is the best avenue for helping individuals to achieve their potential and lead purposeful lives.

"We support scholarships in particular, because through helping people to achieve their goals, they will go on to be good contributors to our society and better teachers," says Dr Fogarty.

Enduring advocate for education

In a world where the pace of change is accelerating, enriching the educators of tomorrow to provide high-quality teaching is the key to providing children with the skills they need to thrive.

The Fogarty Foundation scholarships support students enrolled in a postgraduate Certificate or Master of Education, specialising in Learning Difficulties or Special Education.

The scholarships enable teachers to upgrade their qualifications and build a specialised skillset they can bring to the classroom.

ECU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Steve Chapman, acknowledged the milestone at a special event in 2023 to celebrate 20 years and 100+ Fogarty Foundation scholarships.

"The Fogarty Foundation's commitment to the future of teaching is truly appreciated throughout our entire School of Education cohort. The Foundation's support will have a lasting effect on both the local and broader community, inspiring and influencing education for generations to come," Professor Chapman said.

Fogarty scholars join an esteemed cohort who continue to support and learn from each other during and after completing their degrees.

The newest in the cohort are Hayley Laing, Belinda Tomlins, and Jonelle Lorantas.

"I speak for all of us when saying we are honoured to be the three students selected as scholarship recipients," Jonelle said.

Through applying her specialist studies to the classroom, Jonelle said she is already seeing gains in student achievement, especially for children with specific learning disorders.



Supporting tomorrow's teachers

Executive Dean of ECU's School of Education, Professor Caroline Mansfield said the social and financial support offered at ECU, coupled with the world class education provided, is what makes ECU the top university for aspiring teachers in Australia.

"Out of 800 final year education students that graduate each year, more than 220 report being negatively impacted by their financial circumstances in their final year of study (2021 National Student Experience Survey)," said Professor Mansfield.

ECU has launched the Future Teachers Fund, that will see \$5,000 scholarships awarded to Education students most in need of financial help to complete their final year full-time professional experience placement.

"Every donation will truly make a difference for our future teachers and will be a big step forward in answering the call for more qualified teachers needed in classrooms," says Professor Mansfield.





"This scholarship will have a longterm positive impact on my career opportunities and personal growth. Through this support I could focus more on my studies and I could afford to take the leap into a regional professional experience placement, which has been a long-term aspiration of mine. I feel honoured to have been chosen as a recipient."

Joel Eyre



Scholarships at ECU: Encouraging students to reach their full potential

At ECU, we have seen time and again that a scholarship is a life-changing gift: one that we are privileged to offer students undertaking a wide range of courses, thanks to the support of our valued donors.

We believe that all students should have the opportunity to reach their full potential. We're proud that we can offer a variety of scholarships to assist those who have shown outstanding excellence and endeavour, as well as those who require financial assistance to reach their academic goals.

Philanthropic support of scholarships is a direct investment in the future, as they change lives and enrich society through the accomplishments of outstanding recipients.

In 2023, 91 students were able to fulfil their educational aspirations, thanks to the generosity of our donor community.

Supporting our future

Proud Palawa woman, Brooke Cuthbertson, was the recipient of the inaugural Kate Mullin Education Scholarship in 2023. The scholarship aims to encourage more literacy teachers to work in remote or rural Aboriginal communities.

Inspired by her own family and experiences in education, Brooke was the first in her family to complete high school and go to university. Being awarded the Kate Mullin Scholarship meant she was able to complete her final-year, unpaid, nine week professional experience placement as part of her degree.

"I was absolutely honoured to receive this scholarship; it had a big impact on me and my family. It enabled me to complete my studies whilst balancing family responsibilities and not going into debt," says Brooke.

"The work that Kate Mullin did, including working closely with Aboriginal children, aligns with what I'm passionate about and what I aspire to achieve."

Bachelor of Education student, Joel Eyre was in a similar position when he was awarded the Lincoln McCashney Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship recognises a third-year Education student who demonstrates the qualities that made the late Lincoln McCashney such an outstanding teacher, educator, and beloved mentor to many ECU students.

The scholarship made it easier for Joel to prioritise his Bachelor of Education studies.

"It has enabled me to leave my retail job so that I can focus on my studies and continue working as a relief Education Assistant – which is significantly more in line with my goals and values," he said.

As well as reducing financial stress for students, scholarships also inspire a sense of accomplishment and pride in recipients for being recognised for their hard work.

"These scholarships give recipients the encouragement and helping hand to achieve their dreams," says ECU Vice-Chancellor Professor Steve Chapman.

"Our valued donors make a tremendous impact in supporting our students who are our future."

Whether your donation is to help students overcome barriers to education or to reward high achievers, it is a gift that helps to ensure our students reach their full potential.



Celebrating the remarkable success of ECU graduates

ECU Alumni Awards recognise outstanding achievement

Every year we celebrate our graduating students as they mark the successful completion of their academic journey with one of ECU's eight teaching Schools.

Each graduate is the embodiment of ECU's purpose: to transform lives and enrich society through education and research.

The ECU Alumni Awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding professional achievements, community service and personal journeys of graduates, sometimes decades after they've completed their university course.

"We are proud to acknowledge the remarkable ECU Alumni who have paved the way to achieve great things for their communities," says ECU Vice-Chancellor Professor Steve Chapman.

2023 Alumni Award Winners



Distinguished Alumni Award - Sharyn O'Neill PSM

Diploma of Teaching (Primary), 1985, Bachelor of Education, 1990, Master of Education, 2001

Sharyn O'Neill PSM was the first woman to be appointed as Public Sector Commissioner, and received the Public Service Medal in the 2023 Australia Day Honours for her leadership and management as State Recovery Controller during the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout her career, Sharyn has been a shining example of ECU's values in action and how these can generate significant positive impact.



International Alumni Award - Dr Nick Winkelman

Master of Exercise Science (Strength and Conditioning), 2010

Dr Nick Winkelman is the Head of Athletic Performance and Science at Irish Rugby Football Union. He previously served as the Director of Movement and Education for EXOS where he delivered educational services in 20 countries and developed innovative online educational services to coaches throughout the world.



Community and Impact Alumni Award - Janine Wood JP

Master of Business Administration, 2021

Janine Wood JP is the Chairperson of No Limits Perth, a not-for-profit organisation she founded with two police officers in 2015 after witnessing the plight of domestic violence and crisis victims. No Limits Perth provides emergency support services to vulnerable community members including victims of domestic violence, seniors facing hardship, homeless and rural families relocated for access to metro health services.



Young Alumni Award (Posthumous) - Jordan Foster

Master of Psychology, 2015

Jordan Foster has been acknowledged for her pioneering contributions in the field of cyber safety, through her work as a Clinical Psychologist and later as the founder of Australia's leading provider of cyber safety training and education, ySafe.

Jordan has been celebrated for using her extensive clinical expertise to work with children and adolescents in managing problematic use of technology, including cyber bullying, image-based abuse, and internet gaming addiction.



Young Alumni Award Commendation - Mikayla King

Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Studies), 2018

Mikayla King is a Kalkadoon, Indjalandi-Dhidhanu woman with Dutch heritage who is an early childhood teacher, private Aboriginal education consultant and PhD student.

When she was 18, Mikayla began working as an Aboriginal Islander Education Officer at the Department of Education where she gained first-hand knowledge of the gaps prevalent in Aboriginal education. Today she works closely with school teachers to assist them in becoming culturally responsible educators.



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"I didn't realise how much of a struggle it would be to juggle full time study whilst caring for my children and working. Receiving a scholarship has made such a difference to me, I can focus on my study as a priority and reach the goals I set for myself. I have never been more motivated to graduate and begin my teaching career."

Lacey O'Brien



ECU staff paying it forward

Inspiring Minds Scholarships change lives

ECU staff member Gina Susca knows firsthand how hard it is to balance work and study amid the pressure of raising children and worrying about finances.

A former single parent, Gina is now giving back as part of ECU's staff giving program, recognising that every donation has the potential to make a significant difference in a student's life.

"For many students, education can be seen as a luxury, and put on hold. Especially if they had to decide between study and paying for medication, rent, and the general costs of living. By 'paying it forward', together we make the world a better place," says Gina.

Since the inception of the Staff Giving program in 2014, ECU staff have raised more than \$250,000 for the Inspiring Minds Equity Scholarship Fund.

"That is equivalent to 83 fully funded equity scholarships," says ECU Vice-President (Engagement) Sonia Mackay-Coghill. "That is an extraordinary achievement that we should all be proud to play a part in."

Each year, Inspiring Minds Equity Scholarships provide \$3,000 to students who face significant challenging personal circumstances, and barriers to study. It is a valuable support in enabling them to complete their degrees and fulfil their potential.

ECU student Rani Briscoe said the scholarship has made a significant difference as she juggles life as a single parent with studying for a Bachelor of Psychology, Criminology and Justice.

"The gratitude I have cannot be fully articulated; the stress relief has been significant. I am a single mother

of two young children and hold the sole responsibility for raising them while supporting them financially. Doing this whilst studying, and managing my ADHD is mentally and physically exhausting," she says.

"This scholarship has assisted me with textbooks, parking permits, childcare and transportation costs. You have no idea how much of a relief this has been; this support is the only way I could continue studying."

More than financial support

ECU's Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Susan Schofield, is delighted to recognise the generosity of our staff donors and showcase the impact their donations make for scholarship recipients.

"Although these are Inspiring Minds Scholarships, please know that it is our students and scholarship recipients who are inspiring to us, and no doubt the many people they will go on to motivate and encourage in their future careers."

Vice-President Sonia Mackay-Coghill says every donation counts.

"At less than the cost of a coffee per fortnight, ECU staff can make a remarkable difference. It is our hope that our staff who give so generously, will share just how meaningful and rewarding it is to support these scholarships with their colleagues, and that next year we will be able to impact the lives of even more students," she said.



Investing in the future of healthcare

Philanthropy's vital role in supporting aspiring nurses

Nurses play a critical role in the Australian healthcare system, ensuring the care and well-being of patients and contributing to the smooth functioning of the overall system. As the largest group of health professionals in Australia, nurses provide indispensable services to the community – a fact widely acknowledged during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we navigate the complexities of modern healthcare, the role of philanthropy in supporting aspiring nursing students becomes increasingly vital.

ECU is grateful to have dedicated supporters who are committed to recognising and nurturing aspiring nurses. Through scholarships and bequests, they enable our students to realise their ambitions and help us ensure continued growth and excellence for the nursing community.

Supporting diversity in the nursing industry

Dr Christopher Churchouse is passionate about increasing the number of registered male nurses in Australia and has made provision in his will for \$300,000 to assist male students enrolled in an undergraduate degree with ECU's School of Nursing and Midwifery.

Dr Churchouse is both an alumnus and former staff member, completing a Diploma in Health Science at ECU's School of Nursing and Midwifery, followed by a PhD within the School's Research Organisational Unit: International, Cultural and Community Studies.

Dr Churchouse worked as the Associate Professor of International Nursing in the School, and was instrumental in setting up the international program, particularly in the Philippines.

Through the establishment of a scholarship in perpetuity, Dr Churchouse will leave an ongoing legacy, with long-term benefits for future generations.



Honouring a beloved lecturer

Doreen Collyer was a respected senior nursing lecturer at ECU who had been studying for her doctorate when she sadly passed away as a result of a shark attack in 2016.

Her tragic death led to a fundraising campaign dedicated to honouring the much-loved lecturer's contribution to the School of Nursing. The money raised has enabled the establishment of the Doreen Collyer Inaugural Scholarship, an award of \$3,000 to help a nursing student improve their learning experience.

For Mrs Collyer's daughter, Sarah Foo-Ryland, the scholarship is a lasting reminder of her mum's determination.

"What we want to achieve with this scholarship is to give a little help to someone who demonstrates the same passion, drive, and commitment as my mum," she says.

Ongoing assistance

One of ECU's longest-running scholarships is the Dorothea Swift Nursing Scholarship, supporting nursing students since 2011.

Established in memory of a loving mother and friend, this scholarship reflects Dorothea Swift's unwavering commitment to nursing and helping those in need. Dorothea strived for excellence in nursing after being deeply affected by the suffering she witnessed during World War II.

Each year, there are two scholarships available to students in the Bachelor of Science (Nursing) course. One is for students who have relocated to Perth from a rural or regional town in Western Australia, and the other is open to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students.

Each scholarship is valued at \$24,000 over three years of study.

For each recipient, the scholarship has a significant impact on helping them achieve their career goals.

Says Angel Cosape, 2023 Dorothea Swift Scholarship Recipient, "Your faith in my abilities has boosted my confidence and motivated me to strive for excellence in all aspects of my academic journey. This support will enable me to focus on my studies and reach my goals without the stress of financial concerns."

"I will be forever grateful for your contribution to my nursing career," says Tanisha Dhu, 2021 Scholarship Recipient.

"I was able to set aside more time for my studies and I found this positively impacted my overall grades throughout the years."

Investing in nursing education is an investment in the well-being of communities. Thanks to the assistance of philanthropic donors, we not only support individual students but contribute to building a strong workforce of highly skilled, empathetic, and dedicated nursing professionals.



Empowering regional students

Enriching the vibrancy of our South West

The South West region of Western Australia is developing a reputation for more than picturesque tourism hotspots.

ECU is continuing to transform the academic landscape of this region, and we're committed to empowering students in regional areas, ensuring that geographic location does not hinder access to a world-class education.

Our commitment to quality education and professional development in the region is strengthened by generous funding initiatives, helping us change lives.

Boost to regional scholarship funding

PhD candidate Cecilia Chitukula was one of 25 students from our South West campus in Bunbury to receive a 2023 scholarship through the Australian Government's Destination Australia program.

"This funding means a lot to me as an international student from a financially unstable background. I can pursue a doctorate that focuses on empowering young girls on the margins of society," said Cecilia.

ECU Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Regional Futures) Professor Cobie Rudd said the grant was a great win for the region.

"The 2023 grant is almost three times what we had last year, so it will really help build enrolments into key areas where local employers are seeking graduates," said Professor Rudd.

"The support from the Australian Government enables us to prioritise domestic students in the greatest need of support in accessing tertiary education in regional Australia, so we can engage with those students from underrepresented groups."

The scholarships provide full-time students with \$7,500 per semester for the duration of their course.

"My goal at the end of my studies is to be a remote teacher. I want to give children from all aspects of life, especially those from a low socioeconomic background, an opportunity to see and reach their full potential. To receive this scholarship means that I will be able to cut down my work responsibilities and concentrate more on my studies," said undergraduate recipient Lacey O'Brien.



Cultivating creativity

While Destination Australia funding supports South West campus students to access a world-class education in the region, for performing arts students there is no alternative other than travelling to the Perth metropolitan area.

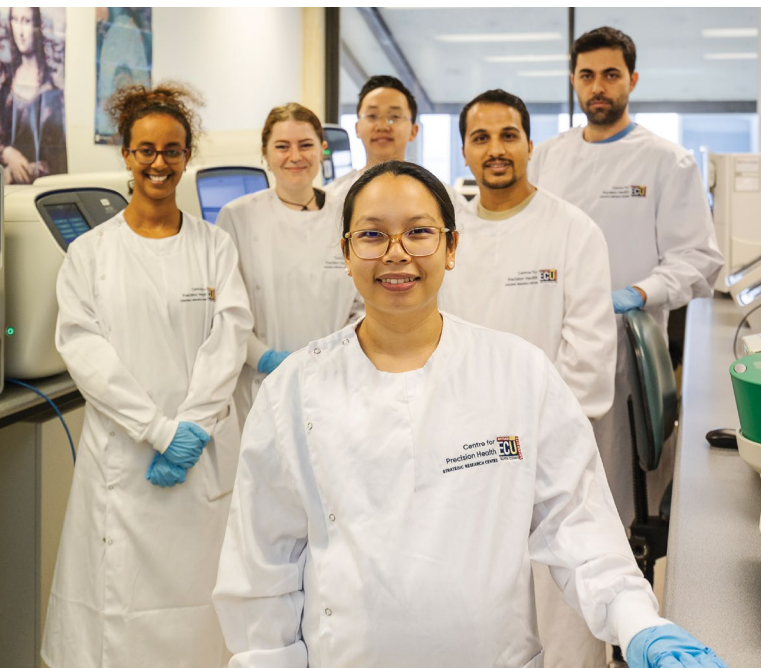
“Living in the Peel region during my studies made travel difficult, especially in the Music Theatre course where there are many late-night rehearsals and I was unable to rely on public transport,” said WAAPA student Matthew Manning (pictured left).

This is why ECU is grateful to The Hon. David Templeman MLA and Carole Dhu for establishing four scholarships for students currently enrolled full-time in any course at WAAPA.

“This scholarship is an amazing opportunity for young students living in the Peel region and I am very lucky to be selected to receive this support,” says Matthew.

Eligible students will either currently reside in the Peel Region or have relocated from their home address in the Peel Region to study at WAAPA.

“The cost of living crisis is real, and these scholarships make such a huge difference to students living in the Peel region, to be able to study at WAAPA. Thank you again for supporting us, it is so greatly appreciated,” says WAAPA student Haruka Smyth.



Breaking new ground in cancer research

The ECU supporters making it possible

Donor support has a significant impact on cancer research in Western Australia, helping the advancement of innovative studies, facilitating the development of new procedures and treatments, and supporting crucial initiatives aimed at improving patient outcomes.

ECU acknowledges and is grateful for the ongoing financial support given to our researchers as they work tirelessly to improve outcomes and lives.



A powerful tool for discovery in cancer research

Cancer is still the leading cause of death by disease in Australia, and while there have been advances in treatments, many still take a harsh toll on the body and limit survivability.

Now ECU is investing in new technology that could lead to radical improvements in these and other outcomes.

Thanks to the support of the Ian Potter Foundation, the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research and Telethon, ECU is purchasing the PhenoCycler-Fusion System: a machine that will enable cutting-edge research on cancers, infections and dementia, contributing to the development of innovative treatments and interventions.

The first of its kind in Western Australia, the PhenoCycler-Fusion System will allow researchers to map the spatial distribution of cells and molecules, revealing hidden patterns in tissues and organs, and leading to insights about diseases like cancer, autoimmune, and neurological conditions.

This, in turn, can lead to more precise diagnostic tools, targeted therapies and improved outcomes for patients.

The system will be hosted by the Centre for Precision Health at the School of Medical and Health Sciences at ECU. This will provide access to researchers from all Research Institutes and Universities throughout Western Australia.

The new facility will impact thousands of people in Western Australia, including indirectly, the children and family members of those diagnosed with these conditions.



When donating is personal

A very personal reason prompted Kate James to use her time – and legs – to raise money for ECU's quest to develop a ground-breaking test for eye cancer.

Kate took part in the Cape to Cape mountain bike race in October 2023 to raise money for ECU's research, after her husband Rhys James was diagnosed with a uveal (ocular) melanoma following a routine optometrist visit.

This rare form of eye cancer only affects around 150 Australians each year and early detection is vital, according to ECU Professor of Cancer Research, Elin Gray.

"Half of people diagnosed with uveal melanoma will have the cancer spread to other parts of the body, and of those with detectable spread, 92 per cent will die within two years," she says.

"It's important to determine which patients fall within this 50 per cent for closer clinical follow-up and early treatment to prevent the spread of the cancer."

Currently diagnosis and treatment can require intrusive and risky procedures, often declined by patients due to potential complications.

ECU's researchers hope to develop a world-first blood test that's less risky and intimidating.

For Kate, supporting their work was an easy decision.



"They're pretty much the leading researchers in this field, which is phenomenal to have in our backyard," she says.

"They're doing so much work, so if we could help someone else to go through this process easier, it's worth it."

The best start in life

Stan Perron Charitable Foundation partners with ECU in world-leading child development program

ECU's commitment to helping eliminate the gap in early childhood outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children received a significant boost in 2023, with generous funding from the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation.

The funding supports ECU researchers involved in the Maawit Maladjiny Clinical Trial. This research aims to address childhood development vulnerabilities in WA's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. Maawit means young people, babies. Maladjiny means growing, raising, developing.

The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation Chair, Elizabeth Perron, has acknowledged the impact this will have on the health of children across Western Australia.

"We're very pleased to support this vital effort in bolstering research capacity in Western Australia as part of our commitment to improving children's health, particularly among those most vulnerable to illness and disadvantage," Ms Perron said.

"The Foundation's focus is on supporting initiatives that enable children to have the best start in life and allow them to look forward to a brighter future and reach their full potential."

The new funding adds to a grant of \$3 million from the National Health and Medical Research Centre announced in 2022, furthering ECU's research to create lifelong benefits for Aboriginal children in Perth, Western Australia.



Addressing the outcomes gap

Currently almost one in three Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children start school in Western Australia with at least two of what researchers call 'developmental vulnerabilities', according to ECU's Director of Aboriginal Research, Professor Dan McAullay (pictured left).

"The long-term effects of having poor early child development means children don't live up to their potential. That then influences their educational attainments, and their social and emotional wellbeing going into adulthood," he says.

"Despite the high level of developmental issues in Aboriginal babies, there's a lack of child assistance programs available. Primary health care providers are seeking programs to offer vital assistance to early-life vulnerabilities."

The Maawit Maladjiny Clinical Trial seeks to address this by implementing the Care of Child Development (CCD) program, an evidence-based approach developed by the World Health Organisation and UNICEF to promote early learning and responsive caregiving.

Life-changing support

The internationally successful CCD program has been implemented in 19 countries and 23 sites, resulting in substantial improvements in infants aged 0 - 24 months.

In Perth, the two-year community-based trial will pair 514 mothers and infants with a team of experts to provide them with life-changing support.

Led by Professor McAullay, the global research team seeks to improve child and caregiver relations through responsive stimulation, mother-child interaction, and maternal depression, starting in the first month of life. This will be implemented through strong partnerships, engagement with families, and a sustainable evidence-based program for early Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child development.

Professor McAullay says the Maawit Maladjiny Clinical Trial addresses one of the targets set in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, which states that 'Aboriginal children should thrive in their early years'.

"This is a crucial first step to 'Closing the Gap' in early childhood development with expected lifelong benefits," he says.





Unlocking the power of education

Boost to Sir Frank Ledger Engineering Scholarship

The School of Engineering at ECU is one of the fastest-growing in Australia, and a substantial donation from the Sir Frank Ledger Charitable Trust has ensured that more students benefit from the School's internationally recognised education.

The Trust provided a transformational gift of \$1 million dollars that has enabled the establishment of an endowed fund, the Sir Frank Ledger Scholarship Fund for Engineering, to provide financial support for exceptional students from underprivileged backgrounds to help them reach their full potential.

Executive Dean of the School of Engineering, Professor Daryoush Habibi said the School was humbled to have been chosen as the recipient.

"This generous donation reflects the trust they have placed in the School to continue to deliver high quality educational outcomes for our students through our innovative programs and world class facilities. We believe that it is a testament to the very strong commitment of the School and the University to providing exceptional student support and transformative student experiences."

An engineer's legacy

Sir Joseph Francis (Frank) Ledger (1899 – 1993) was an engineer, an industrialist and a philanthropist. Throughout his life, he demonstrated a commitment to a greater purpose, using his talents and resources to build a stronger and more resilient community.

Central to Sir Frank's worldview was the importance of ideas, technology, education, and training opportunities. In 1971 he established a trust to support people in achieving their potential through education.

The Sir Frank Ledger Charitable Trust continues to reflect Sir Frank's ethos and values, providing benefit to the community well beyond his lifetime.



Addressing a growing need

The Sir Frank Ledger Engineering Scholarship does more than unlock the power of education for individual engineering students.

Professor Habibi says it is also helping ECU address Australia's critical need for more professional engineers and the growing skills gap across a range of industries.

"Engineers are essential to maintain and upgrade Australia's infrastructure, to support and accelerate the transition to a net zero future, and to ensure that Australia can capitalise on its huge potential to become a green energy superpower," he said.

Engineering innovation is vital to overcoming global challenges relating to sustainability, food security, and climate change among others. The support offered by the Sir Frank Ledger Scholarship recognises this vital area of education.

ECU Vice-Chancellor Professor Steve Chapman says while it is life-changing for recipients, the impact of the scholarship extends far beyond financial benefit.

"The scholarship will have a lasting impact on both the local and broader community, creating further growth opportunities for future engineering leaders," Professor Chapman says.

The scholarship assists and encourages commencing students in ECU's School of Engineering who have demonstrated drive and commitment to achieve academically, despite financial need or other personal difficulties. The scholarship provides the recipient with \$10,000 per year for the duration of their three or four year course.





Supporting the future of the performing arts

The legacy of D'Arcy Slater Scholarships at WAAPA

Scholarships play an important role in enabling students to develop the skills and knowledge needed to achieve their goals despite the financial constraints they may face.

ECU is fortunate to have many generous donors whose unwavering commitment throughout the years has established a legacy of scholarship support for our students. These scholarships can have a profound influence on shaping the future of the performing arts.

Third year acting student Liam Hickey is one of more than 30 students at WAAPA to have benefited from a scholarship through the D'Arcy Slater Foundation since it was established in 2009.

Liam says, "I would like to express my immense gratitude and appreciation for being the recipient of the D'Arcy Slater Scholarship of 2023."

The Foundation was established in memory of D'Arcy Slater, the only son of Bill and Christina Slater.

When he died at just 13 years old, D'Arcy had established himself as a strong academic and sporting student. His parents set up the D'Arcy Slater Foundation in his honour to offer a wide range of scholarships to encourage youth to pursue their aspirations in education, sport and the arts.

The support of the Foundation has been invaluable to WAAPA in helping foster the unique talents of students across a range of courses.

Encouraging excellence

The recipient of the 2023 D'Arcy Slater Scholarship for Production and Design, Barnabas Le Grand, says receiving the scholarship has reduced much of the mental and financial pressure that can come from undertaking a demanding course.

"The course often requires us to be on campus 40+ hours per week. I have struggled to balance the workload: working full-time during breaks and holidays, living off instant noodles for weeks after buying materials for class assignments," he says.

The scholarship helps with cost of living expenses and enables Barnabas to purchase the tools and materials he needs to widen his opportunities.

"I aspire to be a prop maker for theatre, film, and television, contributing my weird, complex, and engaging objects to projects that bring entertainment and joy to people's lives. This scholarship will give me a huge helping hand in achieving that goal," says Barnabas.

For acting student Liam Hickey, the scholarship has inspired a feeling of motivation and a strong sense of appreciation for his course, made more meaningful by a personal discovery.

"It's interesting to note that D'Arcy Slater attended a primary school where I used to teach drums. I thought this small thing we have in common was wonderful to acknowledge and made it feel all the more special to be a recipient of this scholarship," says Liam.

ECU is grateful to the D'Arcy Slater Foundation for their ongoing support of WAAPA through these important scholarships.





Elevating voices and fostering excellence

Helping Aboriginal Performance students reach their full potential

Immersing yourself in the world of WAAPA is a uniquely intense experience. The demanding schedule of classes, rehearsals, and performances often leaves little time for outside work, making it difficult for students to support themselves while studying.

This challenge can be particularly pronounced for Aboriginal Performance students, where the dream of graduating can sometimes seem unattainable.

Fortunately, thanks to the support of our generous donor community, ECU is committed to helping these students reach their full potential.

Supporting Aboriginal Performance

We are very thankful for the ongoing support from dedicated donors to Aboriginal Performance studies at WAAPA.

The Bass Family Foundation has been a steadfast advocate, extending financial support to Aboriginal Performance and facilitating access to enriching learning experiences for students since 2015.

In 2023, the Foundation's support extended to offering bursaries for career development that enabled an international study tour and contributed to the creation of a compelling showreel. This impactful support proved instrumental for talented graduate Tyren Maclou, propelling him to secure coveted film and television roles alongside Nicholas Cage and Sam Neil.

WAAPA also welcomed Ruby Williams as assistant director for *Coranderrk*, the 2023 graduating production for Aboriginal Performance students. A 2018 course alumna, Ruby brought invaluable experience, providing valuable insight not only as a director but also as a mentor, helping students navigate the potential of their emerging careers.

Also facilitated through this support was a collaboration between Aboriginal Performance students and ECU's WA Screen Academy, resulting in the production of a series of compelling short films that were showcased at the Luna Palace Cinema in Leederville.

This ongoing dedication to Aboriginal Performance is undeniably transformative, significantly impacting the lives of our students.



Recognising outstanding achievement: Tyren Maclou

Tyren completed his Certificate IV in Aboriginal Performance at WAAPA in 2020, paving the way for his subsequent journey through the Bachelor of Arts (Acting) program, graduating in 2023.

The three-year acting degree at WAAPA is renowned for shaping confident and resilient actors, with admission being highly competitive. Only the most exceptional students secure a position, and Tyren's unwavering dedication and undeniable talent set him apart.

His outstanding achievements were recognised when he became the recipient of the prestigious WAAPA Scholarship for Excellence in 2023, generously awarded by Dr Patrick and Mrs Tina Tan.

Tyren left no doubt as to what this recognition meant to him.

“Thank you for investing in my future and for supporting my dreams,” he said. “I am deeply appreciative of the time, effort, and resources dedicated to supporting students like me through the gift of a scholarship.

“This generosity has had a profound impact on my life. It has shown me that hard work and dedication can be recognised and rewarded and has given me a renewed sense of determination to succeed. I am excited to see where this journey takes me.”



ECU City on the rise

As main construction works commenced on ECU City in early 2023, the Perth landmark began to head skywards.

The state-of-the-art 65,000-square-metre campus is set to redefine higher education in Western Australia when it opens in semester one, 2026.

Pushing the boundaries of design and construction, it is expected to attract around 10,000 staff and students, working, learning, creating and performing in the heart of the city.

Last year delivered some significant milestones for the transformational ECU City project as the campus began to take shape.

Piling works commenced in January 2023, and the sod was officially turned in February 2023, signalling the start of main construction works by Head Contractor, Multiplex.

The first slabs soon followed, and by the end of the year, slab works had progressed to level four, with service works already underway on several floors.

In December 2023, a truss for the first skywalk bridge over Karak Walk – the public walkway between Yagan Square and Queen Street – was installed, connecting the two sides of the campus for the first time.

ECU Vice-Chancellor Professor Steve Chapman said ECU City would be a world-class and immersive campus that would enable inquiring and creative minds to flourish.

“The campus will be the launchpad for the future creators, innovators and problem solvers of tomorrow, while strengthening our university’s, and Western Australia’s, position as a leader in higher education,” he added.

“ECU City will provide an anchor for future-focused learning, new discoveries and creative expression, while connecting our university with the community and industry in a new way.”

ECU City will be home to courses and disciplines that will shape the careers of the future.

The internationally recognised Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA), with its world-leading courses in areas such as Dance, Aboriginal Performance, Music Theatre, Acting, Music, and Production and Design, will offer more than 300 public performances each year.



Joining WAAPA are the university's creative industries programs from the School of Arts and Humanities such as visual arts, design, communications, broadcasting, plus the WA Screen Academy.

Programs will be delivered in leading-edge film, television, broadcasting, and art production facilities.

Kurongkurl Katitjin, ECU's Centre for Indigenous Australian Education and Research will also be based at ECU City, reinforcing the University's commitment to recognition and respect of Noongar culture and knowledge.

The School of Business and Law will connect thousands of world-ready graduates with the industry engine-room of Perth's CBD, enriching an education program already rated as one of Australia's finest for undergraduate student experience.

ECU City will also represent some of the advanced technology programs from the School of Science, leveraging the university's highly respected Security Research Institute.

ECU's University Pathway Programs will also be offered at ECU City.

2024 promises to be another significant year, with more exciting milestones ahead as ECU City moves closer to welcoming students and staff.

The 11 super-level structure is expected to 'top out' by the end of 2024, with internal fit-out and commissioning works to follow in 2025.

The landmark, \$853 million ECU City project is part of the \$1.66 billion Perth City Deal, a collaboration between the Australian Government, the Western Australian Government and ECU to deliver Perth's first inner-city comprehensive university campus.

Learn more at citycampus.ecu.edu.au.

ECU CITY FAST FACTS

11,000+	Community
9,200	Students and staff from 2026
11,500+	Students and staff by 2030
\$7.5b	Total Economic Impact
\$1.5b	(construction phase)
\$7.5b	(longer term)
\$853m	Perth City Deal
\$294m	From the Aus. Government
\$199m	Cash and in-kind from the Western Australian Government
\$360m	Investment from ECU

ECU CITY FEATURES

- Over 65,000m² of campus built over 11 super-level
- A fully integrated design spanning 8,000m² of the Perth City Link precinct adjacent to Yagan Square
- Six state-of-the-art WAAPA public performance venues
- World-class technology labs and teaching and learning spaces
- Motion capture film studio, spatial sound lab, film and screen production studios
- Creative arts and design studios and galleries
- Industry innovation hub and Moot Court
- Located at the nexus of Perth's public transport network, making it the most transport-accessible university campus in WA.



Empowering our next generation of professionals

A decade of alumni mentoring at ECU

In our rapidly changing world, the tradition of mentoring has taken on renewed importance, not only in the fostering of professional growth, but also in the building of confidence and resilience in the face of uncertainty.

There are many ways that current ECU students and recent graduates benefit from the experience, insights and knowledge of those who have gone before them.

Alumni Mentoring Program expands

ECU's Alumni Mentoring Program has thrived since it started with 30 participants in 2014.

It began as a way for alumni to mentor ECU students in their final years of study, by sharing valuable knowledge and industry experience with mentees, exploring their career goals and preparing them for a smooth transition into the workforce.

The success of the program has led to its expansion, with recent graduates now able to be mentored in the four-month program. This means that new graduates at the start of their career journey also stand to gain valuable insights and guidance from experienced alumni.

In 2023, 74 mentor-mentee pairs successfully completed the program with many of them continuing to connect.

School of Business and Law graduate, Marina Sarkoski, was a mentee of the program after completing her Master of Business Administration in 2021, and is now a mentor herself.

“If it wasn’t for this program, I wouldn’t have the job I’ve got today and I’m 100% grateful for it. It’s a feeling that I can’t explain. I get huge satisfaction out of giving back to the university because I got so much out of ECU,” says Marina.

In 2023, Marina’s mentee was Pearl Pyae, who is expecting to graduate with a Master of Business Administration in 2024.

“This program helped me a lot, because in the end I achieved a scholarship, and I had an internship placement,” says Pearl.



Young Alumni building a sense of community

ECU's Young Alumni Network (YAN) is another way for new and early career ECU graduates can gain valuable support and a sense of connection.

Catering to alumni under the age of thirty-five, or to those who have graduated with an ECU degree within the last ten years, the YAN is made up of passionate volunteers committed to giving back to the University and creating a supportive community for those in the early stages of their career.

They organise a diverse range of activities, including professional development and social events, where participants benefit from professional networks and insights from more experienced alumni, as well as being able to share common experiences with those at a similar career stage.

Chairperson of the current YAN committee is Kamaria Rose, who completed a Master's degree in Marketing and Innovation Management in 2022. Kamaria joined the committee to gain new skills and create new connections with fellow ECU Alumni, but said she also found the concept of giving back to ECU to be particularly appealing.



A helping hand for digital marketing students

Scott Shorter, a 2006 Bachelor of Communications (Interactive Multimedia Technologies) graduate, is supporting current students thanks to the Scott Shorter Prize for Applied Digital Marketing.

Founder of Scott Shorter Pty Ltd, a leading SEO and digital marketing agency based in Perth, Scott recalls starting his business with minimal savings; even resorting to selling his car to cover rent payments. He hopes that his gift assists an outstanding student to reach their goals.

Despite facing initial financial challenges, Scott steadily expanded his client base through word-of-mouth, eventually achieving Google Premier Partner status in 2017.

Scott attributes much of his success to the education he received from ECU, providing him with a comprehensive understanding of web technologies. He strongly believes in the importance of pursuing opportunities aligned with passion.

Scott's advice for new graduates?

"When presented with an opportunity in a field that aligns with your passion, even if the pay is lower, it's worth considering taking it. I personally made the decision to resign from a job and accept a position with lower pay, driven by the desire to learn and work in a field I was genuinely interested in. This choice proved to be a wise one, as it allowed me to grow both professionally and personally."



Forging the path for ethical leadership

Strategic partnership creates new Professorial Chair in Business Ethics

ECU, in collaboration with the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation, has established a pioneering Professorial Chair position aimed at cultivating ethical leadership amongst its School of Business and Law graduates.

This visionary partnership reflects a shared commitment to nurturing ethical values in the next generation of business leaders. Thanks to the generous funding provided by the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation, ECU has inaugurated the Professorial Chair in Business Ethics within the high-achieving School.

Guiding the future of ethical conduct

Professor Edward Wray-Bliss, a seasoned academic with over 25 years' experience, has been appointed as ECU's first Professor of Business Ethics. He will hold a permanent seat within the School's Executive Committee, steering the institution towards a future guided by integrity and ethical conduct.

Elizabeth Perron, Chair of the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation, emphasised the foundation's dedication to promoting ethical conduct, inspired by her father's legacy of integrity and fairness. The appointment of Professor Wray-Bliss reflects the Foundation's commitment to instilling these values in future business and law leaders.

"We would regard his greatest legacy as the culture which now underpins the work of the Foundation and also the Perron Group of companies," Ms Perron says.

"Shortly before Dad passed away in 2018, the company launched our 'Vision and Values', known as 'The Perron Way', which articulated the example he showed over his lifetime.

"The Perron Way has, at its core, the view that the key to commercial success lies in acting with integrity, honesty and fairness, and I know he would have been thrilled to be playing a role in that message being passed onto the next generation of leaders in business and law."

Professor Wray-Bliss highlighted the pressing need for ethics education in today's rapidly evolving business landscape. He emphasised the importance of nurturing empathy and compassion in students, equipping them to navigate complex ethical challenges with integrity and foresight.

"Education in ethics, enabling students to hone their natural empathic and compassionate selves and to apply this critically and reflexively to their place and position in the organised world, is crucial for their own wellbeing and the wellbeing of those around them," says Professor Wray-Bliss.



Bolstering world-leading research and education

The new position adds to the School of Business and Law's team of world-leading researchers and educators, working across areas such as sustainability and tourism, responsible leadership, dignity at work, human rights law, and wellbeing at work.

Professor Maryam Omari, Executive Dean of the School, hailed the partnership with the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation as a significant step towards advancing ethical and responsible business education. She emphasised the School's commitment to making a lasting impact on ethical business practices, not only in Western Australia but also on a national and international stage.



This important appointment comes after the School of Business and Law earned global recognition with accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) in 2022.

This accreditation is held by less than six per cent of the world's schools offering business degree programs.

It also follows ECU taking out top place in the quality category in the Australian Financial Review's inaugural AFR BOSS Best Business Schools list in September 2023.

As ECU continues to pioneer ethical leadership in business education, the establishment of the Professorial Chair marks a significant milestone in our journey towards shaping a future guided by integrity, compassion, and ethical excellence.



ECU among Australia's top ten universities

The Australian Financial Review's Best Universities Ranking

In a significant achievement, ECU has been named one of Australia's top ten universities in the inaugural AFR Best Universities Ranking, published in the Australian Financial Review.

ECU was the only Western Australian institution to be named in this elite grouping.

"This result recognises that being the biggest, oldest or wealthiest university doesn't always equate to high achievement," said ECU Vice-Chancellor Professor Steve Chapman. "For ECU it is, and always will be, the student experience, teaching quality and high levels of satisfaction that guide what we do."

The AFR Best Universities Ranking was developed in consultation with Emeritus Professor Stephen Parker AO, former national lead partner for education with KPMG and former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canberra, together with Professor Tim Brown, former director of the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute and former Deputy Vice-Chancellor of research at La Trobe University.

They evaluated forty Australian institutions for performance under five pillars: student satisfaction, research performance, global reputation, career impact, and equity and access.

In an article in the AFR last November, Professor Parker explained that this allowed them to assess the relative strengths of the institutions on dimensions that matter in the Australian context.

"We say that the measurable quality of a university lies in its teaching, its research, the confidence it engenders in the value of its degrees through its wider reputation, the way it helps people in their careers and how it counteracts disadvantage in the community," he wrote.

A milestone methodology

The 2023 AFR Best Universities Ranking was compiled by drawing from credible, verified and publicly available sources, rather than the traditional data collection and submission by participating institutions.

It's the first time such a methodology has been used in ranking Australian universities, with the aim, according to the AFR, of compiling a ranking table that is different to many international lists that are based on narrower measures.

It's also the first time an Australian ranking system has recognised the traditional notions of excellence, such as research and reputation, as well as student satisfaction and equity.

"By including equity as one of the five pillars, we are giving regional and outer urban universities an opportunity to show their strengths in attracting, supporting and graduating certain kinds of disadvantaged students," Professors Brown and Parker said.

"This counteracts some of the advantages that older, metropolitan universities may have. No ranking can adjust for all the different situations that universities are in, but our broader approach gives all types of universities an opportunity to shine."

Elevating excellence

This latest ranking confirms ECU's national and global reputation as a high-quality university recognised both for research and student satisfaction.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Steve Chapman, said the university's continual upward trajectory is a direct result of its commitment to excellence across the board.

"Our commitment to innovation, leadership and student experience places us in the very best stead for university education now – and in the future. We are immensely proud to see the likes of the Australian Financial Review, along with some of the finest academics in Australia acknowledge this," said Professor Chapman.

Thank you

The University expresses sincere thanks to you, the sponsors, partners, donors, and friends that have been an integral part of the ECU community.

The journey ahead is made possible by you.

Thank you for your belief in
ECU's students and the impact
they make on our community.

ECU Development and Alumni Relations

T 61 8 6304 2761 | E development@ecu.edu.au

[ECU.EDU.AU/GIVING-TO-ECU](https://ecu.edu.au/giving-to-ecu)

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**Edith Cowan University Foundation
Financial Report
Year ending 31 December 2023**

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Edith Cowan University Foundation
Income Statement
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 \$			2022 \$		
	Non- Discretionary	Discretionary	Total	Non- Discretionary	Discretionary	Total
Revenue						
Bequests	75,000	-	75,000	115,000	-	115,000
Donations	2,957,765	46,134	3,003,899	1,766,748	85,660	1,852,408
Sponsorships/contributions	1,005,708	-	1,005,708	637,479	-	637,479
Interest income	601,985	68,831	670,816	202,194	23,526	225,720
Total Revenue	4,640,458	114,965	4,755,423	2,721,421	109,186	2,830,607
Expenses by Function						
Prizes	188,208	17,500	205,708	107,963	-	107,963
Scholarships	1,135,047	2,700	1,137,747	872,793	59,000	931,793
Teaching and Learning related expenses	388,669	-	388,669	182,355	-	182,355
Research related expenses	601,947	-	601,947	260,857	-	260,857
Sponsorship related expenses	49,220	-	49,220	14,606	-	14,606
Other	163,864	-	163,864	63,575	45,000	108,575
Total Expenses	2,526,955	20,200	2,547,155	1,502,149	104,000	1,606,149
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	2,113,503	94,765	2,208,268	1,219,272	5,186	1,224,458

Edith Cowan University Foundation
Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 December 2023

	2023 \$			2022 \$		
	Non- Discretionary	Discretionary	Total	Non- Discretionary	Discretionary	Total
Assets						
Current Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	16,756,859	1,586,849	18,343,708	14,269,694	1,488,624	15,758,318
Receivables	171,377	1,513	172,890	290,536	4,973	295,509
Total Assets	16,928,236	1,588,362	18,516,598	14,560,230	1,493,597	16,053,827
Liabilities						
Current Liabilities						
Accrued Expense	-	-	-	14,033	-	14,033
Deferred Income	787,118	-	787,118	518,582	-	518,582
Total Liabilities	787,118	-	787,118	532,615	-	532,615
Net Assets	16,141,118	1,588,362	17,729,480	14,027,615	1,493,597	15,521,212
Total Equity	16,141,118	1,588,362	17,729,480	14,027,615	1,493,597	15,521,212

Edith Cowan University Foundation
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 \$			2022 \$		
	Non- Discretionary	Discretionary	Total	Non- Discretionary	Discretionary	Total
Opening Balance	14,027,615	1,493,597	15,521,212	12,808,343	1,488,411	14,296,754
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	2,113,503	94,765	2,208,268	1,219,272	5,186	1,224,458
Closing Balance	<u>16,141,118</u>	<u>1,588,362</u>	<u>17,729,480</u>	<u>14,027,615</u>	<u>1,493,597</u>	<u>15,521,212</u>

Edith Cowan University Foundation
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 \$			2022 \$		
	Non-Discretionary	Discretionary	Total	Non-Discretionary	Discretionary	Total
Cash Flows from Operating Activities						
Receipts from contributions	4,426,169	49,594	4,475,763	2,103,329	80,787	2,184,116
Interest received	601,985	68,831	670,816	202,194	23,526	225,720
Payments to beneficiaries and suppliers	(2,540,989)	(20,200)	(2,561,189)	(1,575,442)	(104,000)	(1,679,442)
Net Cash provided by Operating Activities	<u>2,487,165</u>	<u>98,225</u>	<u>2,585,390</u>	<u>730,081</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>730,394</u>
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,487,165	98,225	2,585,390	730,081	313	730,394
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of Period	14,269,694	1,488,624	15,758,318	13,539,613	1,488,311	15,027,924
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of Period	<u>16,756,859</u>	<u>1,586,849</u>	<u>18,343,708</u>	<u>14,269,694</u>	<u>1,488,624</u>	<u>15,758,318</u>

Edith Cowan University Foundation
Notes to the Financial Statements
31 December 2023

Note 1. Material Accounting Policy Information

Management have prepared the financial statements on the basis that the Edith Cowan University Foundation (“the Foundation”) is a non-reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. The financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to meet the needs of Board.

The Foundation is a component of Edith Cowan University and is not an independent legal entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period, unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

Revenue recognition

Donation and bequest income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt except where invoices for payment is generated as per donor requests.

Interest revenue is recognised in proportion to the amount of the Foundation’s cash held by Edith Cowan University.

Other revenue (including sponsorships) is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

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 Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In this case, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents represent funds at call which are held by Edith Cowan University on behalf of the Foundation.

Fund accounting

The Foundation may receive contributions restricted for particular purposes or activities. To facilitate observance of these limitations, the financial statements list separately those funds which are non-discretionary and those funds which are discretionary.

Non-discretionary funds are available for use, but expendable only for purposes specified by the contributor or by statute.

Discretionary funds are available for use by the Foundation at the discretion of the Board.

Events occurring after the reporting date

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 31 December 2023, which significantly affects, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Foundation in subsequent years.

**Edith Cowan University Foundation
Board of Directors Declaration
31 December 2023**

As described in the basis of preparation accounting policy included in Note 1 to the Financial Statements, the Foundation is not a reporting entity, and these are special purpose financial statements.

The Board of the Foundation declares that the financial statements and notes:

- (a) comply with the accounting policies as detailed in Note 1 to the Financial Statements; and
- (b) present fairly the Foundation's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.

Signed on behalf of the officers



Ms Denise Goldsworthy AO
Chairperson and Chancellor

Date: 26 March 2024
Perth, WA

Independent auditor's report to the Members of Edith Cowan University Foundation Board

Report on the audit of the financial report

Our opinion on the financial report

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Edith Cowan University Foundation (the Foundation), presents fairly, in all material respects:

- the financial position of the Foundation as at 31 December 2023, and
- its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

What was audited?

We have audited the financial report of the Foundation, which comprises:

- the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023,
- the income statement for the year then ended,
- the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended,
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended,
- notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and
- the Board Members' declaration.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Foundation to meet the requirements of the Foundation's financial reporting responsibilities under the accounting policies as described in Note 1 of the financial report. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other information

The Members of the Board are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Foundation's annual report for the year ended 31 December 2023, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Foundation Board and those charged with governance for the financial report

The Members of the Foundation Board are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the accounting policies as described in Note 1 of the financial report, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Members of the Foundation Board are responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those Members of the Foundation Board are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the 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 this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

William Buck

William Buck Audit (WA) Pty Ltd
ABN 67 125 012 124

Amar Nathwani

Amar Nathwani
Director
Dated this 26th day of March 2024