ACCELERATING INDIGENOUS HIGHER EDUCATION

National Roundtable Forum

13-14 October 2016, Stamford Plaza, Tandanya (Adelaide)

Day 1 (Thursday) commences 9.30am, Day 2 (Friday) concludes 4pm

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (NATSIHEC) Executive is hosting a national roundtable forum on 13-14 October 2016 to improve education and employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the higher education sector.

The forum will engage experts and leaders in university and industry to determine the most effective reform strategies in three priority areas:

• Indigenous student participation and outcomes in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM);
• The number and capacity of the Indigenous academic workforce; and
• Whole-of-university approaches to improving Indigenous higher education outcomes.

The roundtable will build upon the latest available evidence, and strategise findings into measurable actions to progress national policy and funding in these priorities.

The evidence will build upon previous reviews including Behrendt¹ and ATSIEAC² to address ‘unfinished business’ in the Indigenous higher education sector.

DELEGATE INVITATIONS

A limited number of delegates from higher education and industry will be invited to the NATSIHEC forum:

• with expertise and/or influence in one or more of the three priorities – STEM, Indigenous academic workforce and whole-of-university reform;
• leaders in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander higher education;
• Representatives from peak education and industry advocacy bodies.

FORUM REGISTRATION

Invited delegates can register at www.natsihec.edu.au/forum
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PROGRAM

The NATSIHEC forum program will include plenary and concurrent streams:

- Presentation of the most recent higher education evidence and data;
- Showcase of effective higher education interventions;
- Opportunity to shape propositions for future higher education reforms;
- Networking across disciplines and sectors, including forum dinner.

CONVENORS

The roundtable forum will be facilitated by NATSIHEC Executive and Members:

- Professor Peter Buckskin, University of SA, NATSIHEC Chair, Project Director;
- Dr Peter Anderson, Monash University, Co-convener (STEM);
- Professor Steven Larkin, University of Newcastle, Co-convener (Workforce);
- Ms Leanne Holt, University of Newcastle, Co-convener (Whole-of-University).

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Identify effective policies and strategies to increase enrolments, participation and completion of Indigenous people in STEM-related higher education studies;
- Identify strategies to increase the recruitment and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff in Australian universities;
- Provide definition and principles that will provide clarity and transparency for a national approach to Whole-of-University initiatives in Indigenous Higher Education.

Further information about the NATSIHEC Accelerating Indigenous Higher Education Project is available at www.natsihec.edu.au/projects, email info@natsihec.edu.au or by telephoning Kerryn Taylor on (08) 8302 0036.

The Accelerating Indigenous Higher Education Initiative is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Education and Training.

1 Review of Higher Education Access and Outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, 2012
2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Advisory Council, 2015

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