The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (NATSIHEC) Executive is hosting a national forum on 13-14 October 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 into measurable actions to progress national policy and funding in these priorities.

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**Professor Peter Buckskin**  
University of South Australia  
Forum Convenor  
Chair, NATSIHEC

**Dr Peter Anderson**  
Monash University  
STEM Convenor

**Professor Steven Larkin**  
University of Newcastle  
Academic Workforce Convenor

**Ms Leanne Holt**  
Macquarie University  
Whole-of-University Reform Convenor

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www.natsihec.edu.au/forum
INDIGENOUS HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM QUESTIONS

1. What's the evidence telling us?
2. What gaps exist in data and evidence?
3. Where are successful programs currently operating?
4. What are success factors - can they be replicated?
5. What are the main barriers - how can their effects be minimised?
6. Which are the top priorities for reform - short/long term?
7. What are influential policy drivers after 2016?
8. What are connections between the 3 priorities?
9. Implementing strategies: What, how, who, when, $ required?
10. What are indicators of success?
11. How to use project findings to influence reform?

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Accelerating Indigenous Higher Education Implementation Plan
# Roundtable Forum Program

**ACCELERATING INDIGENOUS HIGHER EDUCATION**

**Forum registration** available from 9.00am, Level 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>9.30 Plenary: Terrace 1-2</strong></td>
<td>Welcome to Kaurna Country: Stephen Goldsmith</td>
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<td>Forum purpose and outline: Accelerating Indigenous Higher Education project leaders</td>
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<td>Opening remarks:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- NATSIHEC: Professor Peter Buckskin, Chair</td>
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<td>- Department of Education and Training: (tba)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Universities Australia: Indigenous Education Strategy, Dr Nathan Cassidy, Policy Analyst</td>
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<td><strong>10.30 Morning tea – Level 1</strong></td>
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<td><strong>11. Concurrent workshops: Presenting the evidence</strong></td>
<td>Forum workshop plans for each project stream</td>
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<td>Confirm research questions / what problem is being solved?</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1. <em>What’s the evidence in each priority telling us?</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. <em>What gaps exist in the available data and evidence?</em></td>
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<th>Workshop 3: WoU</th>
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<td>Clare Room (Level 6)</td>
<td>Barossa Room (Level 7)</td>
<td>Terrace 1-2 (Level 1)</td>
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THURSDAY 13 OCTOBER (PM)

12.30 Lunch / networking – Ground floor restaurant

1.30 Concurrent workshops: Effective practices
   3. Where are successful programs currently operating?
   4. What are the success factors – can they be replicated?
   5. What are the main barriers to good practice - how can their effects be minimised?

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3.30 Break

4. Plenary
Priorities for action: Report back on evidence and practice:
   • STEM
   • Academic workforce
   • Whole of University reform
Day 1 wrap-up, dinner & day 2 arrangements

5. Day 1 forum concludes

6.30 FORUM DINNER

Terrace 1-2 (Level 1)
Dinner concludes 9.30pm
DAY 2. FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER

9.00 Plenary  
Senator the Hon. Simon Birmingham, Minister for Education and Training (tbc)  
Higher education funding reforms  
Project leaders: Day 1 review, Plans for Day 2  
Plenary forum discussion on initial project priorities

10.30 Morning tea

11. Concurrent workshops: Priorities and strategies for reform
   1. Which are the top priorities for reform - short/long term?  
   2. What are the most influential policy (& funding) drivers after 2016?  
   3. What are the connections between the 3 priorities?

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12.30 Lunch / networking – Ground floor restaurant
FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER (PM)

12.30 Lunch / networking – Ground floor restaurant

1.15 Concurrent workshops: Priorities for ACTION
   1. Implementing strategies: What, how, who, when, $ required?
   2. What are indicators of success?
   3. A communication strategy – how to use project findings to influence future reform?

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2.30 Break / evaluation

3.00 Plenary
   Delegate recommendations from workshops Project
   Panel: NATSIHEC, DET, UA, PMC
   Future actions / conference statement
   Next steps
   Forum conclusion

4.00 pm Delegates depart forum