



/14

# DEAKIN UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

# INTRODUCTION



## **I am delighted to introduce Deakin University's second Sustainability Report.**

Of the megatrends confronting the world today, the need for sustainable development is one of the most important. Corporate social responsibility is not the panacea to the world's problems, but it does move us closer to the sort of world we all want to live in. In an increasingly complex and uncertain world, systematic sustainability reporting will help us to measure the impacts we cause or experience, to set goals, and to manage change.

The key to success is integrating sustainability into all that we do. While embedding sustainability can be challenging for a large multi-campus university like Deakin, the support at the highest level of University decision-making was demonstrated immediately following the release of the 2013 Sustainability Report. The University Council approved a \$10 million investment in a new Environment, Social and Governance pool within the Deakin Future Fund. The Council also approved an

*Sustainability is fundamentally about doing the right thing and it's what our students, our staff, our partners and our communities expect of us.*

increase in the annual allotment of cash flows from \$10 million to \$15 million in recognition of the University's desire to increase annual flow to ESG investments in the Future Fund.

Deakin has achieved a number of successes in reducing its carbon impact; our intercampus bus service, the introduction of DeakinSync, carpooling booking systems – have all contributed to a significant reduction. Our Transit Hub was a first for the sector with its multimodal transportation infrastructure supporting students and staff to travel sustainably.

We are all familiar with the axiom that what gets measured gets acted on. Sustainable business practices start with transparency and accountability, and regular and authentic reporting on sustainability is an important tool in our decision making. It is a powerful driver of improved performance, helping Deakin develop an environment in which it can continue to innovate and grow.

Sustainability is fundamentally about doing the right thing and it's what our students, our staff, our partners and our communities expect of us.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane den Hollander". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J'.

**Jane den Hollander**  
Vice-Chancellor

## OUR REPORTING APPROACH

Deakin University's 2014 Sustainability Report is our second such report, following our inaugural Sustainability Report in 2013. This annual report covers activity in 2014 and is 'In Accordance' with the GRI G4 Guidelines[1] – Core option. The GRI G4 Content Index can be found on page 44 of this report and shows where we have responded to the GRI indicators and there are no significant changes in the Scope and Aspect Boundaries to note in this report.

We aim to keep the Sustainability Report focussed on 'what matters most' to our stakeholders, in keeping with the intent of GRI G4. For the first time, this report is also informed by the

guiding principles of the International Integrated Reporting Framework (IIRF) published in December 2013.

The sustainability reporting strategy has been endorsed by the University Executive and the 2014 Sustainability Report approved by the Executive Director Campus Services, who ensures the 'material Aspects' are addressed on behalf of the University Executive and University Council.

# HIGHLIGHTS



## STUDENT SATISFACTION

First in Victoria for the fourth consecutive year



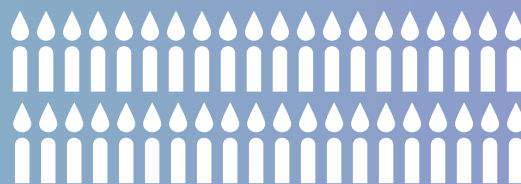
## LEADER IN TELEWORKING

Laptop leases, ergonomically sound 'hot office spaces', city centres, cafes, video-conferencing, Connected Deakin Wi-Fi Project, **DEAKIN SYNC** and Deakin Anywhere



## AWARDED

The Oceania Regional Prize



## 40TH BIRTHDAY FOR DEAKIN UNIVERSITY



**FIRST UNIVERSITY** in Australia and fourth in the world to produce a GRI G4 sustainability report



## DEAKIN SMOKEFREE

The University transitioned to a smoke-free environment in April 2014



## FAIR TRADE SEED TO STITCHES

## FOCUS AREAS

- Embarking on the student journey program
- Courses enhanced for employability and Graduate Learning Outcomes
- Creating Sustainable Futures unit in T3 at Warrnambool



## DEAKIN IMMERSION LAUNCHED

in October 2014 – Deakin's first digital, interactive alumni magazine

## KEY PARTNERSHIPS

Carbon Nexus

Centre for Emerging & Infectious Diseases

Centre for Advanced Design in Engineering Training

# CHALLENGES

## SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT OPTIONS



**STUDENT NUMBERS** at Warrnambool campus



Managing increasing **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF GROWTH**



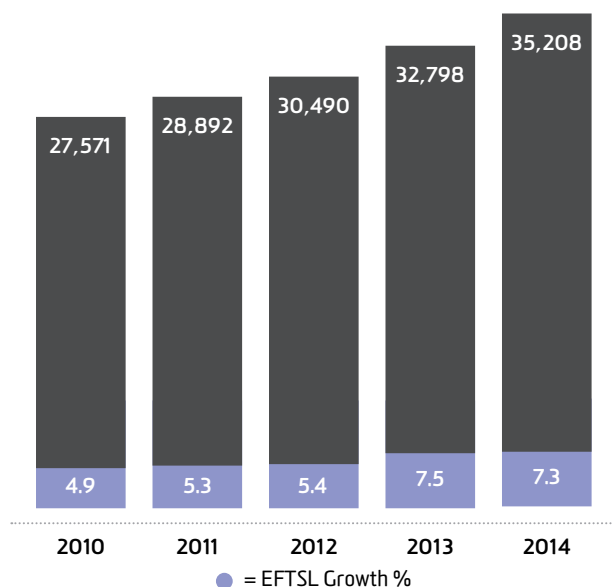
**BALANCING STAKEHOLDER EXPECTATIONS**  
paper procurement and parking

# OUR SUSTAINABILITY JOURNEY CONTINUES

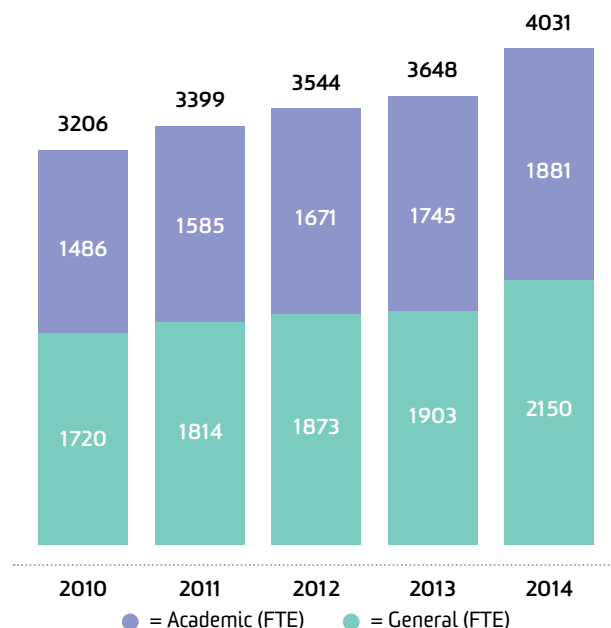
## WE'VE ENJOYED A PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANT AND PROLONGED GROWTH

### STUDENT LOAD

Equivalent Full-time Student Load (EFTSL)



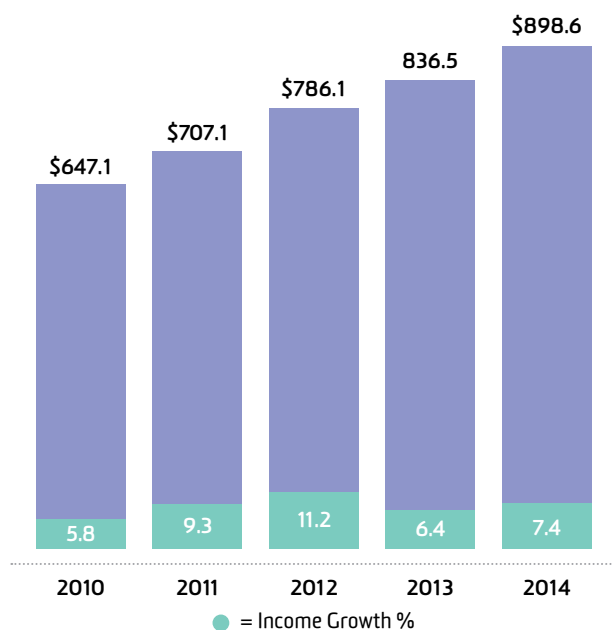
### STAFF



## DEAKIN HAS IMPROVED ITS FINANCIAL STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE

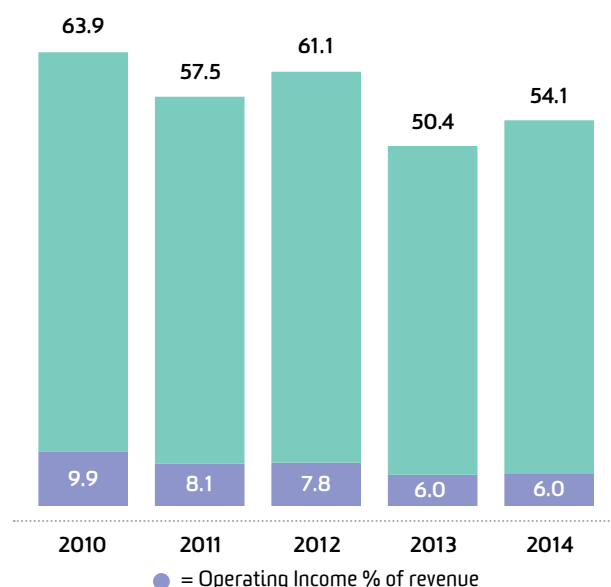
### OPERATING INCOME

(Millions) \$



### UNDERLYING SURPLUS

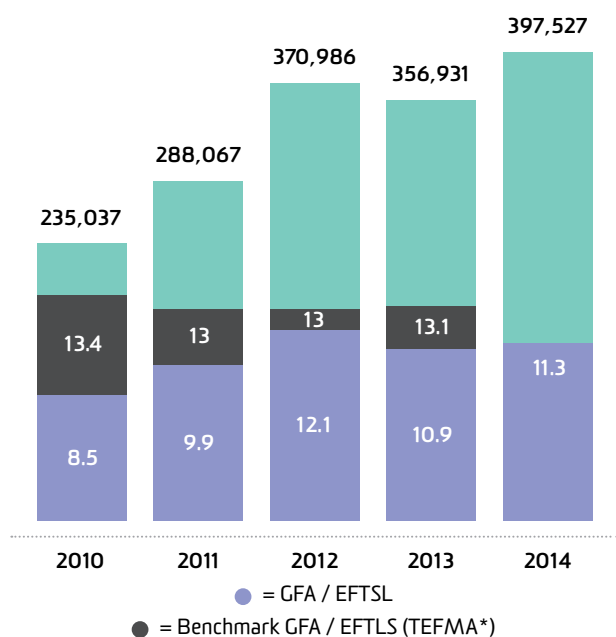
(Millions) \$



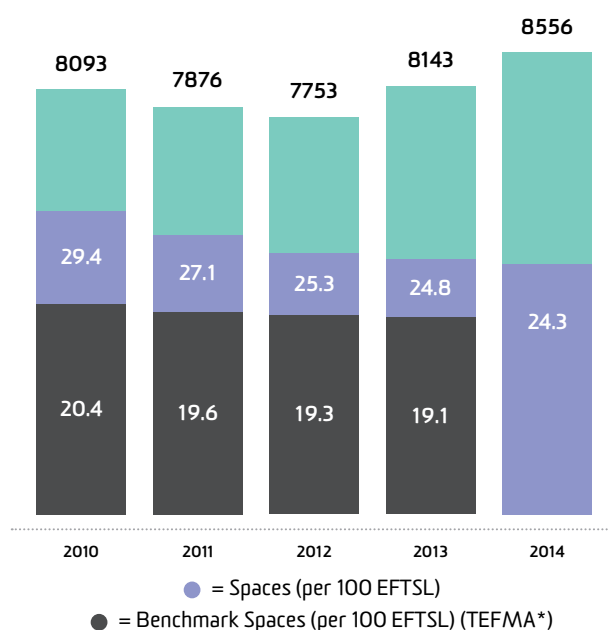
## WE CONTINUE TO BUILD AND RENEW FACILITIES TO ACCOMMODATE FURTHER GROWTH

### SPACE

GROSS FLOOR AREA (GFA m<sup>2</sup>)



### PARKING SPACES

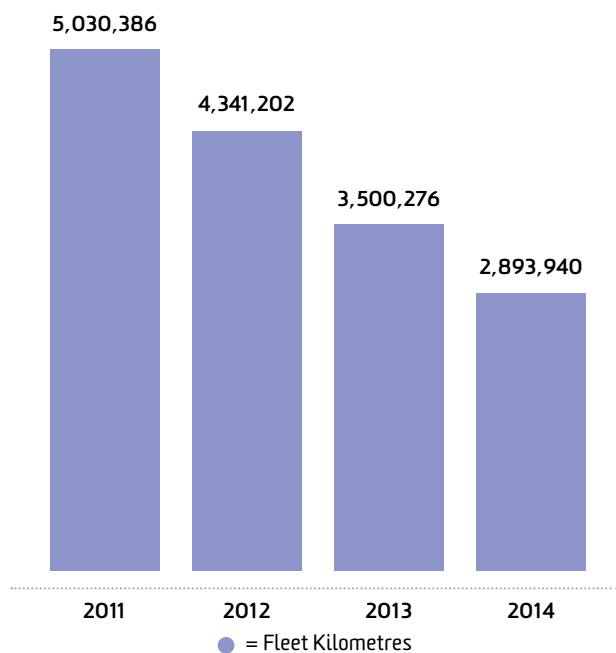


\* 2014 TEFMA data not available at time of publication.

## WE RECOGNISE THE NEED TO CHANGE PRACTICES TO REDUCE OUR IMPACTS WHERE WE CAN

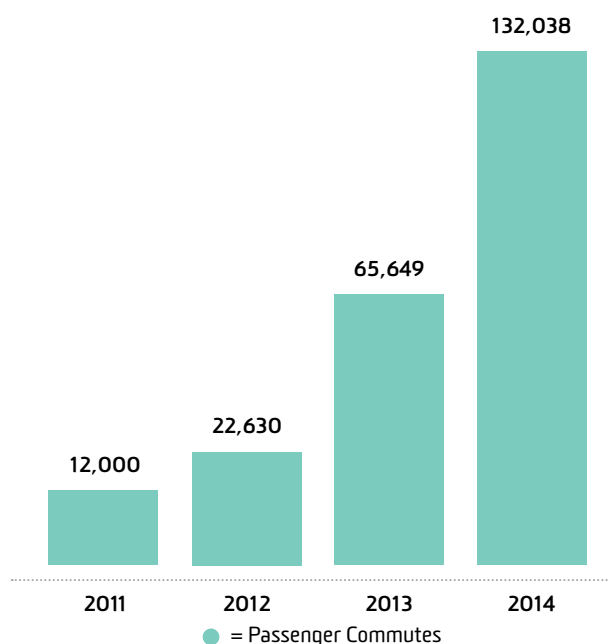
### VEHICLE FLEET

Kilometres



### SHUTTLE BUS PATRONAGE

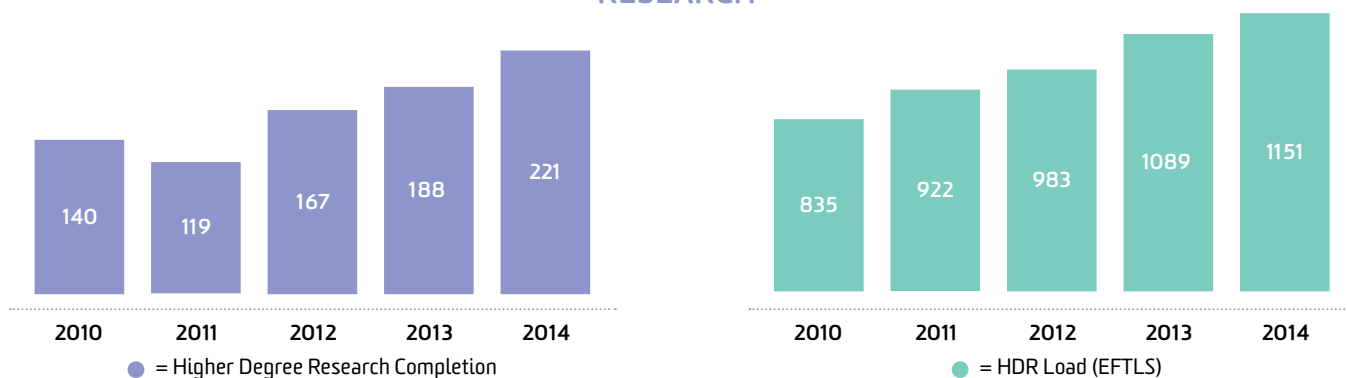
Passenger Commutes



# OUR SUSTAINABILITY JOURNEY CONTINUES

WE CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON OUR CORE BUSINESS AND STRIVE TO IMPROVE

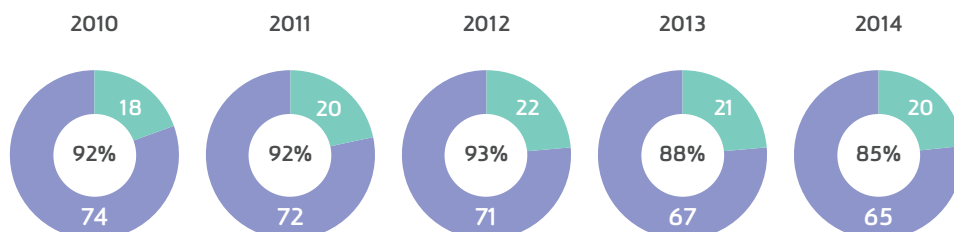
## RESEARCH



## GRADUATE OUTCOMES

(employed or further study)

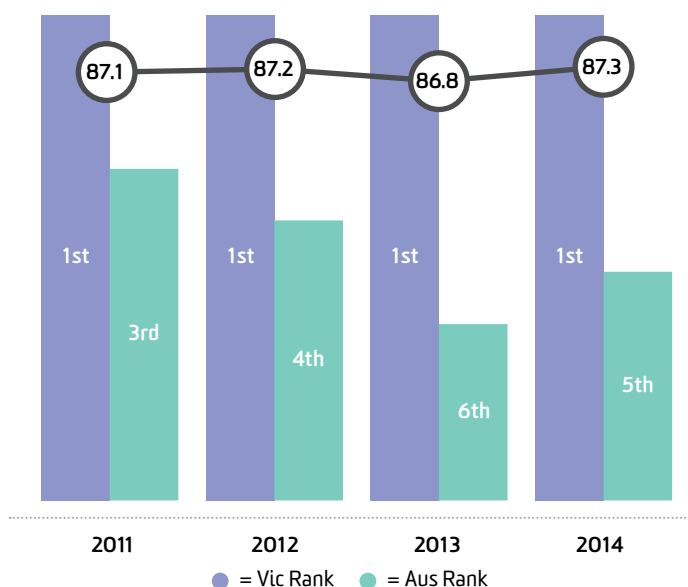
- = Employed %
- = Further Study %



IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE EXCEL IN DELIVERING ON OUR PURPOSE

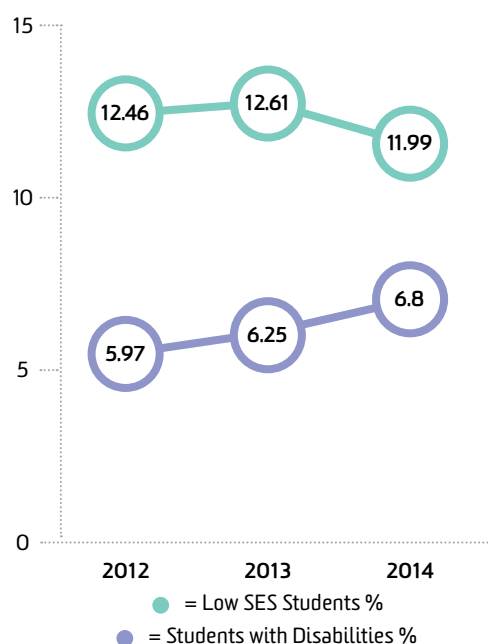
## COURSE SATISFACTION

(Overall %)



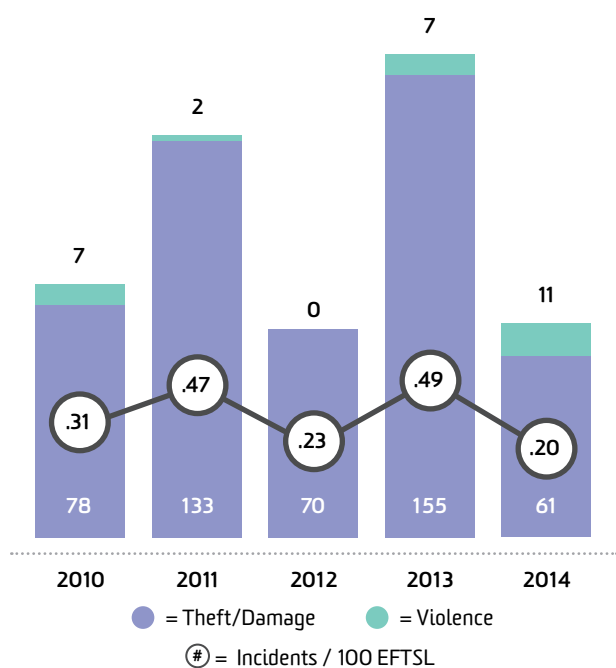
## PARTICIPATION RATE

(Compact Equity Groups)

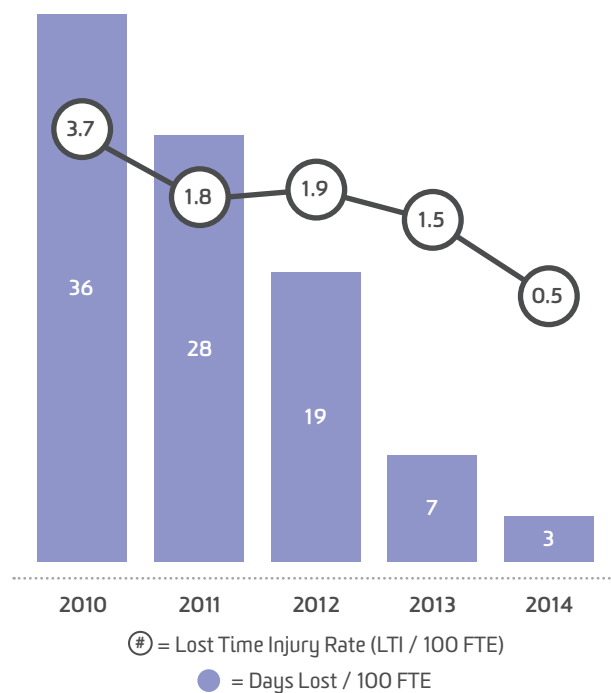


## OUR DEAKIN COMMUNITIES MUST OFFER SAFE AND DELIGHTFUL ENVIRONMENTS

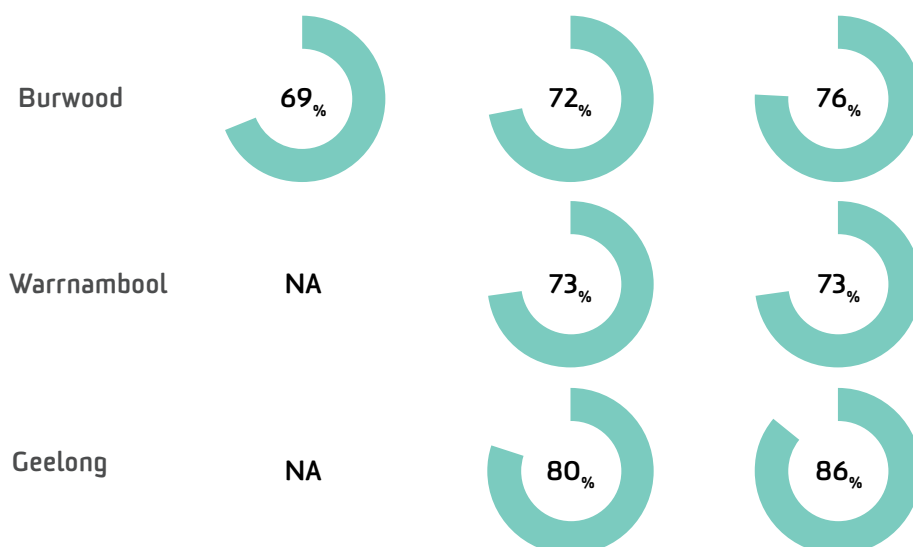
### SECURITY INCIDENTS



### STAFF SAFETY



### CAMPUS FAVOURABILITY TRENDS





# FOCUSING ON 'WHAT MATTERS MOST'

The (GRI) process for identifying the sustainability aspects of most importance and relevance to the University's various stakeholders is called the materiality process. The 'material Aspects', which have been ratified by the University Executive, form the themes of this report as listed on the opposite page.

The themes are a result of engagement methods that include quantitative student, staff and community surveys, annual review of the corporate strategy LIVE the Future: Agenda 2020, analysis of the University risk register, complaints data and improvement suggestions, as well as ongoing media monitoring, staff workshops and student interviews. For the 2014 report, we focused on refining the key issues for each material Aspect, working with our key report contributors.

We are aware there is more work to do to meaningfully engage our stakeholders in the reporting process. A specific sustainability survey has been developed for broad distribution in 2015 to gather more information and provide further opportunities to interact with the people of Deakin.

Our stakeholders, who have been identified by the Executive Director Campus Services as relevant to sustainability reporting 9, confirmed our list of material Aspects and key issues through various means. Complaints data and suggestions for improvement are strong indicators of our performance and the attitudes of our critical stakeholders. Key issues raised during 2014 were consistent with previous years with the most common feedback from staff (18 per cent) relating to staff amenity. Many were compliments such as "great to see water fountains around the campus, would like to see more near lecture theatres." Travel and parking continues to attract significant comment from staff (16 per cent of total) and students.

Our long-term reporting strategy incorporates the GRI framework as a foundation towards integrated reporting at the appropriate time. Through this approach Deakin intends to maintain a relevant and streamlined reporting process that reflects the needs of stakeholders and its investment community.

The IIRC, defines an integrated report as 'a concise communication about how an organisation's strategy, governance, performance and prospects, in the context of its external environment, leads to the creation of value in the short, medium and long term'. A robust sustainability reporting process is considered essential to the preparation of a good integrated report.

The IIRC developed the IR Framework in close consultation with standard-setters from the sustainability, legal, governance and accounting communities of practice. A key distinction between the two reports is the target audience, where the primary audience for an integrated report are providers of financial capital.

The six 'capitals' of IR have been defined as:

- Financial
- Manufactured
- Intellectual
- Human
- Social and relationship
- Natural

Future reports may further explore these terms and introduce the principles of IR into our reporting process..

## 2014 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT THEMES

Education

Access and Opportunity

Financial Capability

Health, Wellbeing and Safety

Workplace

Environmental Impact

Accountability and Transparency

Communities and Partners

Innovation and Research



This summary is supported by the full report available at: [deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/sustainability](http://deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/sustainability)