

## VISION AND MISSION

The creation of the First Nations Portfolio represents an opportunity to reframe the ANU as a world leader in teaching and research of First Nations issues, as well as the 'National University' making a leading contribution to national policy in the relationship between Indigenous Australians and the nation.

### Vision

The Vision of the First Nations Portfolio is to raise the University's position as a world leader on First Nations issues, and to contribute to the nation's relationship with Indigenous Australians in three important elements of the national agenda:

1. Democratic Participation
2. Societal Equity
3. Economic Opportunity.

The Vision relies on the establishment of two core concepts:

1. ANU should be the national and international leader in First Nations issues teaching and research, and provide leadership on national policy discourse and decisions;
2. Indigenous equity and engagement is not the preserve of any one unit in the ANU, but should be 'normal business' throughout the University.

The second concept is central to the University's commitments and success of the First Nations Portfolio model and requires negotiation and commitment from all parties.

The University's Strategic Plan 2020-2023 states: *"As Australia's national university one of our defining roles has been to contribute to the advancement of Australia's Indigenous people."*

ANU will know it has succeeded in fulfilling its responsibility when improving equity for Indigenous Australians has become a core responsibility – *'normal business'* – across the university.

To attain this, issues relevant to Indigenous Australians cannot be solely the preserve of an individual unit within the university. The recognition and integration of Indigenous cultural knowledge and approaches must become 'normal business' and integrated into all our standard planning and decision-making processes.

The opportunity to deliver on the University's vision can only be realised if the challenge is taken on across the University, where each College, School and Unit benefits from and adopts the principle of 'nothing about us, without us'.

The First Nations Portfolio's role will be to help every unit across the university take up our responsibility as a national institution charged with shaping Australia's future.

### Mission

To achieve this Vision, the First Nations Portfolio's mission is to see:

- ANU incorporating the best First Nations teaching methods and research content, incorporating cutting-edge approaches from around the globe and becoming the educator of choice for First Nations people across all disciplines offered by ANU;
- Australian Indigenous communities viewing the ANU as the leading national institution for conducting academic research that is translatable to practical, on-the-ground benefits;
- each College, School and business unit incorporating equity for, and engagement with, First Nations peoples into their governance and operational responsibilities through the ANU Strategic Framework;
- greater participation and educational achievements of First Nation students at the ANU;
- ANU become the university of choice for government departments and agencies (Federal and State) for consultation on Indigenous issues;
- Indigenous knowledge and intellectual property come to prominent national awareness, with national appreciation of the advantages of incorporating non-European approaches to intellectual capital.
- ANU contributing to strategic nation building by establishing a national Centre of Excellence for the equitable participation of Indigenous Australians in mainstream policy development, public discourse and engagement, following the model of 'nothing about us, without us'; and
- ANU becoming an employer of choice for Indigenous Australian staff.