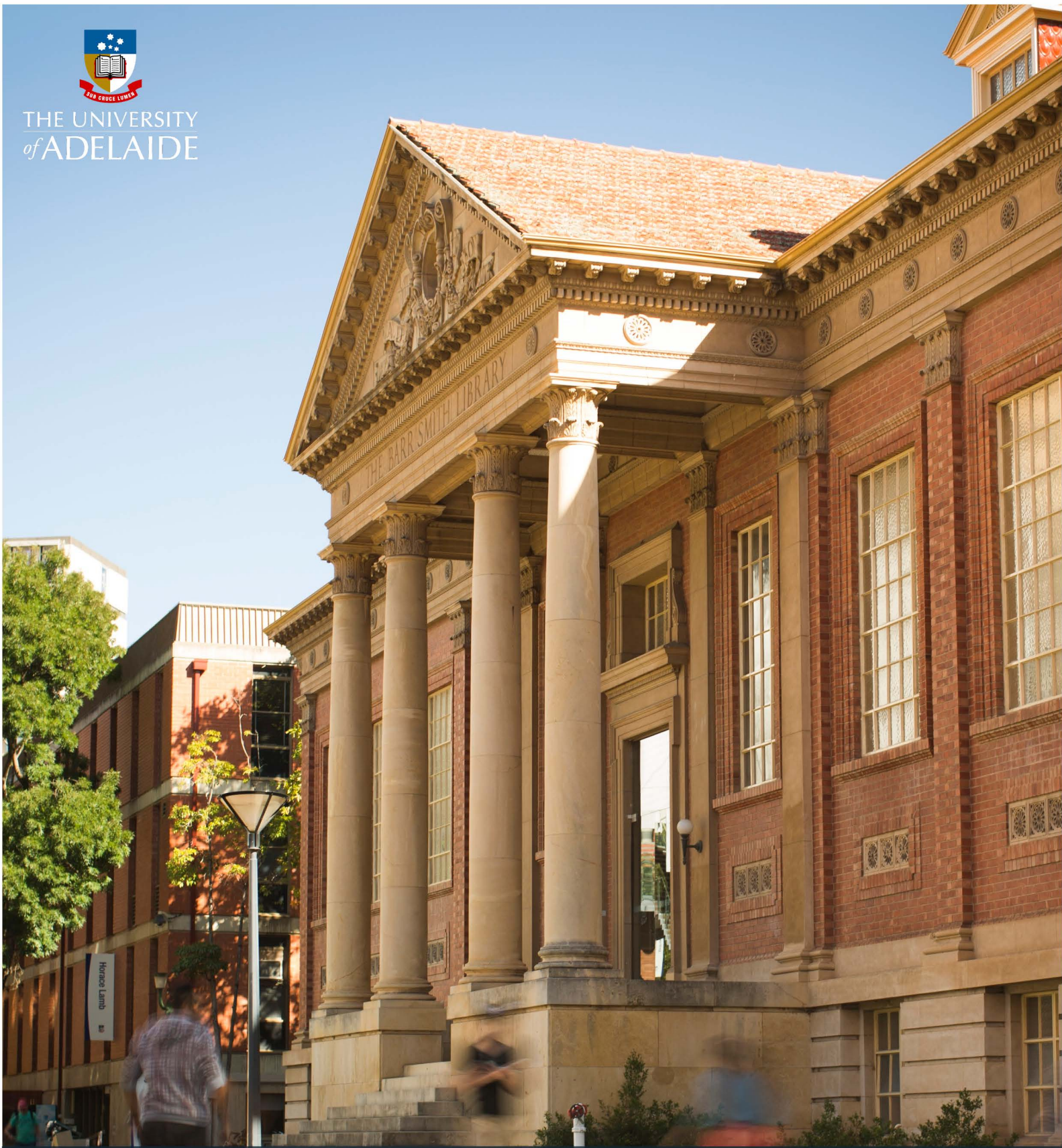




THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* ADELAIDE



# University Library **2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

# From the UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN



This report presents highlights of achievements and activities in 2020 under the four themes articulated in the University Library's current strategic plan 'Beyond the Library of the Future':

- Leaders in Information Management
- Staff who are highly skilled, motivated and innovative
- Quality facilities, resources, systems and services
- Proactive partnerships.

All the Library's events and activities in 2020 were, of course, informed, impacted and influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic. While there were many challenges to overcome, some positive aspects are worth noting:

- investment in digital collections paid off and much of the last vestiges of print were transitioned
- online services provided through the Virtual Library also came into their own as effective alternatives to face-to-face service delivery and/or engagement
- staff adopted new, flexible ways of working and interacting with each other
- while services and resources were provided online, the University Library remained open, providing a safe and secure destination for students who continued to visit the campuses.

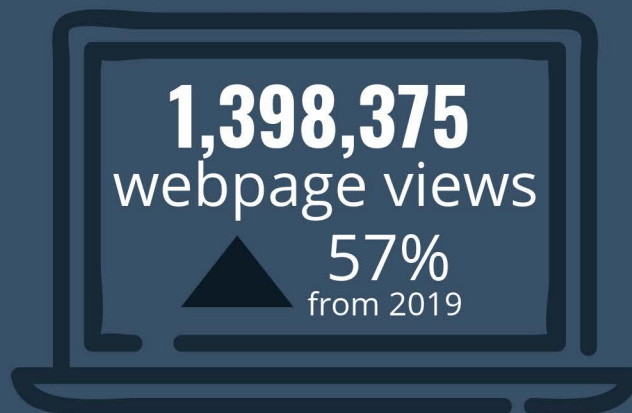
I would like to take this opportunity to formally acknowledge and thank the Library staff for their flexibility and forbearance throughout the year. That we have so many achievements to highlight in this report is a direct result of their hard work and dedication.

Teresa Chitty  
University Librarian  
March 2021

# 2020 STATISTICS

Statistics and data usually provided in this report were significantly impacted by changes in usage and behaviour as a consequence of COVID-19 and do not provide a useful picture of library use and engagement or allow for any kind of trends analysis to inform future programs and priorities.

There are however some positive stories to be told with the following statistics:



**98%**

of collection expenditure spent on online resources



## Course Readings

695 reading lists  
15,542 readings  
17,879 students used readings  
197,586 citation views  
398,561 full-text views  
3,081 files downloaded



# STRATEGIC PLAN CONTRIBUTIONS



# Leaders in information management



A significant project was commenced to address metadata clean-up work as part of the Library's wider Discovery Project. This is an important project that will have direct impact on improving access to and discovery of information resources. The Metadata team also commenced a project to apply Austlang codes to library collection records to improve discovery of Indigenous knowledge resources.

Along with 38 other universities, the University of Adelaide was involved in Copyright Tribunal Proceedings against the Copyright Agency regarding the educational statutory licence. The University supported the proceedings by providing an affidavit detailing the procedures and systems used to manage statutory licensed material along with evidence regarding the availability and use of commercially and openly licensed resources. The University was also required to respond to summons and provide documents to the Copyright Agency. This included information about reading lists, commercial licenses, TEQSA registration, and potential communication of copyright materials outside of central systems for defined courses. A three week hearing was conducted in September with the decision still pending.

The University's new [Information Management Policy](#), which replaces the Records Policy, was developed and approved. An Information Management Roadmap and Procedure Manual were also prepared to support implementation of the policy and related governance framework.

A new collection discovery platform, [Adelaide Connect](#) (using the Recollect product), was developed to enable online promotion of and engagement with the University's diverse special collections.

The position of Manager, Digital Innovations with a focus on digital humanities and digital preservation, was established and an appointment made. A number of events were consequently organised including:

- workshops on building the Digital Humanities Lab aimed at developing a program for 2020-21. Participants contributed to priority setting and identifying opportunities
- workshops on using the Gale Digital Scholar Lab, a valuable resource in digital humanities research
- a Digital Humanities Informal provided the opportunity for those interested in digital humanities to gather for an unstructured networking event. Participants included undergraduates, postgraduates and staff, and a range of disciplines were represented, including history, geography, public health, education, data science and others
- World Digital Preservation Day event with presentations on preservation activities and the challenge of managing digital resources.

The University's *Copyright Compliance Policy* was revised and new procedures for using copyright material in teaching introduced. The policy and procedures were approved in July and communicated via email, newsletters and meetings. This led to an increase in copyright queries and engagement with teaching staff, in particular from the Faculty of Health & Medical Sciences. A Library Bites for Teaching session focusing on copyright and the new procedures was presented in November.

# Staff who are highly skilled, motivated and innovative



Exhibitions Coordinator, Amy Dale's, 'Show Us Your Workspace'

Throughout the peak of the COVID-19 response, library staff responded well in transitioning to working from home, with just a few staff whose roles centred around the management of the physical collection remaining on site.

Staff interaction and connection was fostered through Zoom meetings, use of Jabber, Slack and Microsoft Teams and contributions to themed social media postings including Library Pets, Formal Friday, Show Us Your Workspace and Show Us Your Bookcase.

Upskilling@Home was launched, using the University's newly acquired LinkedIn Learning. A series of modules were curated specifically for library staff to undertake personal and professional development as identified in their Planning, Development & Review (PDR) and in response to the library-wide skills audit which had been completed earlier in the year.

The University Library's volunteers won Community Volunteer Group of the Year for 2020.



Sandra Gates, Volunteer Coordinator, University Library, Ron Layton, President of the Friends of the Library & University Library Volunteer, and Jenny Treloar, University Library Volunteer

# Quality facilities, resources, systems and services



The Library's first service catalogue was developed, listing the high level, user facing services and resources available to University students, researchers, staff and other users of the Library under four headings:

- expert information management advice and support
- expert advice and support for the discovery of information resources
- expert advice and support for the management of collections
- access to flexible facilities and spaces for learning and study.

A [Research Support Framework](#) was developed to provide a structure for library research support and communicates the range of library services which support the University's research activities.

The Library's newly developed [Learning and Teaching Principles](#) align information literacy activities with the strategic direction of the University. The principles provide guidance for collaborating with academics and other partners to equip students with lifelong information skills.

Traditional library orientation tours were replaced with the interactive GooseChase app for library self-guided tours aimed at Year 11/12 students and Pre-enrolment English Program (PEP) students.

The Library Essentials suite of faculty courses was published for use in Semester One, 2020. Since initial publication, the courses have been evaluated with reviews completed by the Academic Liaison team, Ask Library staff, students and Learning, Enhancement and Innovation (LEI) Learning Designers. Additional courses were developed as requested including Library Music Essentials and Library Health Essentials (Advanced).

Library Bites and Library Bites for Teaching were launched as new webinar series, targeting students, teaching academics and support staff, demonstrating how library services can assist with teaching across the University.

The closure of the eBooks@Adelaide website was formalised with a public facing Library news article advising alternative and reputable free eBook providers. The eBooks@Adelaide collection was established in 1998 and was one of the first open access databases of eBooks to emerge during a time when electronic resources were just beginning to be popularised. A review of the resourcing and technical expertise needed to maintain the website, coupled with the increasing availability of other sources of free eBooks led to the decision to permanently close the site.

A review process was completed to manage the collections budget within the reduced allocation provided by the University. The process of analysis included checking for duplication, usage, price increases and the size of the user group. A balance between content used by HASS and STEM disciplines was achieved for an equitable outcome.

In spite of budget pressure some positive collection development activity included:

- upgrading the subscription to Business Source Complete, now Business Source Ultimate. This resulted in a significant increase in content, almost doubling the online content available in the previous package
- completing the collection of Adam Matthew digitised primary resources to include all publications up to 2020, Food and Drink Module 2, Foreign Office Files South East Asia Modules 1 & 2, 19th century Literary Society, Mass Observation Project 1980s, Sex & Sexuality Module 2
- negotiating a subscription to the Journal of Medical Insights with a 93% discount
- in partnership with Research Services, the successful delivery of a SciVal trial and subsequent acquisition.

Audits and reviews of the Library's physical collections and facilities resulted in the development of two plans, the Physical Collection Management Plan and the Library Facilities Plan. These plans capture the current situation and state of collections and facilities and include recommendations for short and long term actions to address issues and improve management for a sustainable future state.



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## Transformative Agreements

The Library committed to three of these agreements, which allow University authors to publish open access in specified journals without paying an article processing charge (APC). Agreements have been made with the Microbiology Society, the Portland Press Biochemical Society and the Company of Biologists.

The new publishing model flags a shift away from a traditional subscription-based model of access to open access with corresponding potential implications for traditional budget models.

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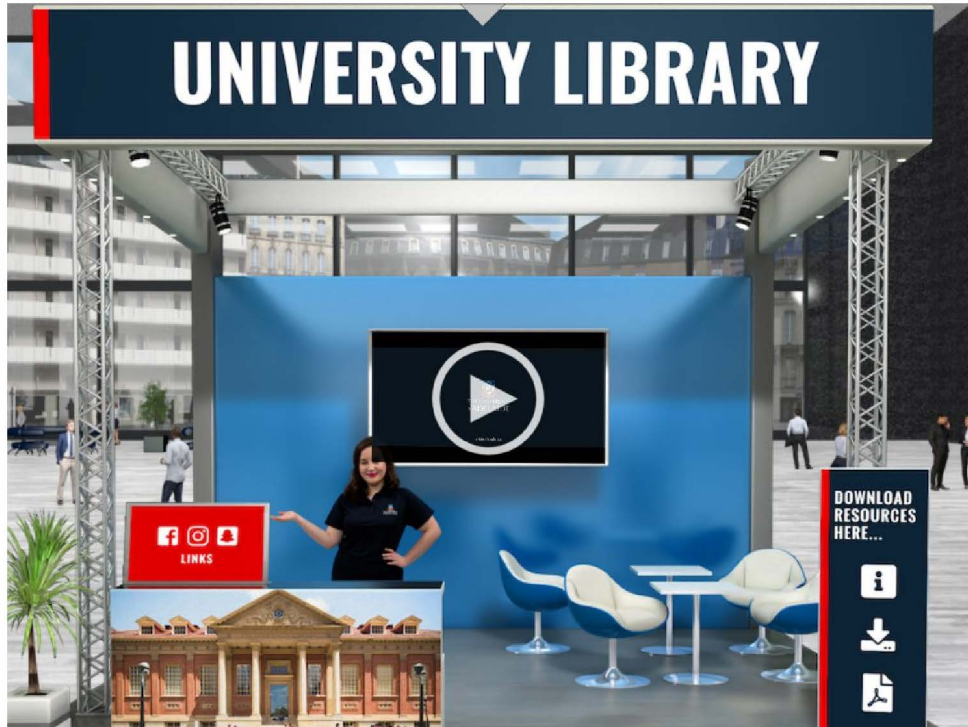


# Proactive partnerships

The Visualise Your Thesis competition was successfully delivered for the second year with 16 entries from Higher Degree Research (HDR) students. The People's Choice Award went virtual with over 800 members of the University Community selecting the winner.

A [framework](#) was developed to support and direct the Library's engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and staff, and to guide the fulfilment of the Library's responsibilities as collection custodians with cultural sensitivities.

A 3D Reading Room Experience, a virtual library booth, and an introduction video were created for the Virtual Open Day 2020.



University Library booth for Virtual Open Day



Renee Johnson, Indigenous Support Librarian, Uncle Rod O'Brien, Cultural Advisor Wirltu Yarlu Aboriginal Education, Cheryl Hoskin, former Special Collections Librarian Special Collections, Archives & Recordkeeping, pictured here 26 February at the inscription ceremony for the Karna Children's Letters, which are now on the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register.

A successful application of the Karna Children's Letters into the UNESCO Memory of the World Register was made in collaboration with Uncle Rod O'Brien, Cultural Advisor, and Karna Warra Karpnanthi Aboriginal Corporation (KWK).

## Karna Children's Letters

Letters written in the 1840s by the Karna schoolchildren, Wailtyi, Kartanya, and Pitpauwe to the Lutheran Mission in Germany. These are three of just five known surviving documents written by Karna people in their language in the 19th Century.

The original letters are held in the University Library's Special Collections: MSS 0186, which are currently on long-term loan to the Barr Smith Library from Evangelisch-Lutherisches Missionswerk Leipzig e.V.



Library participation in the SWOG (Student Wellbeing Operations Group), which was formed in early 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, was found to be invaluable and will continue in 2021.

For the second year running the Student Experience Testers initiative was successfully completed with the Library once again recruiting two students in a consultative role, enabling student feedback to be easily sought on service changes and new initiatives. Due to COVID-19 restrictions at the time, they were managed remotely with students working from home, but still providing invaluable usability testing and feedback on library services and initiatives.

Seven current Roseworthy campus-based students were recruited to join the Library on a casual basis, bringing our student Ask Library casual staff count to 12. Ask Library casual staff are an integral part of our Ask Library service offering both in-person and virtual services to and across all libraries. This also forms part of our ongoing commitment to support students with casual staff opportunities. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, further casual recruitment was curtailed in 2020.



## Exhibitions

In the Library's first year of responsibility for the University's art and heritage collections we were pleased and proud to present a successful exhibition program.

### Reflections (26 October - 27 November 2020)

Connecting to Country through Art Exhibition.

In a collaboration between the Library and Wirritu Yarlu Aboriginal Education, 'Reflections: Connecting to Country through Art' displayed highlights from our Indigenous art collection. Each of the artworks were selected by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and students, and exhibited with their personal thoughts and connections to the artwork. Highlights on display included a watercolour by Albert Namatjira and newly acquired artworks by Jacob Stengle. We celebrated the opening of the exhibition, in the Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, on 11 November 2020, as part of the University's NAIDOC Week 2020 celebrations.

### Community Legends (2 August 2020)

Community Legends was launched in response to the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the initial closure of our campuses. During this time there was much uncertainty regarding our ability to host in-gallery exhibitions, therefore Community Legends was conceived as an online engagement opportunity. From the 15 June 2020, any member of the University community could be nominated as a Community Legend. The aim of the project was to celebrate the small things which made a difference during the recent pandemic. The six selected nominations were honoured with a commissioned portrait by artist Fruzi Kenez. An online exhibition of the portraits was launched on 2 August 2020, and a physical exhibition was curated to open in January 2021, located in Hub Central.

### Australian of the Year Exhibition and Lecture (24 August to 8 November 2020)

This exhibition celebrated eight extraordinary state and territory recipients of the 2020 Australian of the Year Awards, including national winner Dr James Muecke AM. The travelling exhibition from the National Museum of Australia, developed in collaboration with the National Australia Day Council, was hosted on Level 1, Barr Smith Library. The Library was the only touring venue able to overcome the logistical challenges surrounding the pandemic. As part of the exhibition program, alumnus Dr James Muecke AM presented 'Blinded By Sugar', a public lecture for an online and in-person audience.



(L-R) Renee Johnson, Indigenous Support Librarian, Nici Cumpston, AGSA Curator of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art and Artistic Director of Tarnanthi, Chancellor, the Honourable Catherine Branson AC QC pictured here with Winter II (2010) by Nici Cumpston at the Reflections: Connecting to Country through Art Exhibition launch for NAIDOC Week 2020



Community Legends award International Peer Mentor portrait by Fruzi Kenez



Dr James Muecke AM, 2020 Australian of the Year winner, at the Australian of the Year Awards Exhibition



## KAURNA ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Kurna people, the original custodians of the Adelaide Plains and the land on which the University of Adelaide's campuses at North Terrace, Waite, and Roseworthy are built. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of the Kurna people to country and we respect and value their past, present and ongoing connection to the land and cultural beliefs. The University continues to develop respectful and reciprocal relationships with all Indigenous peoples in Australia, and with other Indigenous peoples throughout the world.



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