

Reconciliation Statement

The University of Adelaide has a mission to advance knowledge, understanding and culture. It commits itself to pursue this mission in the context of a vision of a united Australia, which respects its land, provides justice and equity for all its people, and values the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage.

Accordingly, the University of Adelaide affirms a commitment to an informed respect for the Indigenous peoples of Australia, their rich culture and the unique importance of land and waters to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. We recognise this land and its waters were colonised without treaties or consent.

The University acknowledges that the Kurna People are the original inhabitants of the land where the first campus of the University was built and further recognises that the colonisation of Australia in the past two centuries has led to the dispossession, alienation and impoverishment of the Indigenous peoples. We acknowledge that Australian Indigenous peoples continue to face social and economic disadvantage, accentuated by prejudice and racism and that the forced separation of children from their families continues to have a profound impact on Indigenous communities.

The University of Adelaide is deeply sorry for all these injustices.

The University of Adelaide values the presence of Indigenous peoples from across Australia as part of its community. In pursuing our educational mission we are dedicated to the principles of social justice. We will act in consultation with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to ensure that prejudice, racism and harassment in any form are not experienced in this community.

Education is one way for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to overcome the disadvantages they experience, and we are committed to playing a role in that process.

In particular, the University of Adelaide commits itself to the following:

- i. promoting an understanding of Indigenous issues, culture and history in programs and courses;
- ii. directing strategies toward the increased participation of Indigenous peoples as students and staff in the full range of university activities; and
- iii. contributing to the process of reconciliation by educating the Australian community about the cultures, languages, history and contemporary experiences of Australia's Indigenous peoples.

The University of Adelaide is committed to the process of reconciliation and the elimination of injustice and disadvantage in respect of the rights of Australia's Indigenous peoples and to their self-determination within the life of the nation.

Signed on 8th July 2003

Kurna Acknowledgement

'We, the Indigenous people of the Adelaide Plains acknowledge the University of Adelaide's statement. These words on this paper recognise injustice (bad/evil) for Indigenous people. The University is making a statement to Indigenous people so as to not allow injustice (bad/evil) to continue, in order to make things better and work towards reconciliation.'

Ngadlu, yaiya meyunna womma Tarndanyangkorlo, University of Adelaideko pudloriappi tampendi. Itto warrarlo, yaintya pepangga, wakkina yaiya meyunnaitya, tampendi. Universitidlo yaiya meyunna pudloriappendi, wakkina muinmonittoai, manniniappititya, warpulaiendi nguyanguya murritya.

'Welcome to Kurna Country, I welcome you to the University of Adelaide. Thank you. Let's all walk together.'

I am the Ambassador of the Adelaide Plains People Lewis Warritya O'Brien.'

Martuityangga Kurna meyunna, ngai wanggandi, "marni naa Kurna yertaanna budni." "Marni naa University of Adelaidilla budni." Padniadlu wadu. Ngai birko - mankolankola Tarndanya meyunna Lewis Warritya O'Brien

Professor James McWha
Vice Chancellor, The University of Adelaide

Mr Lewis O'Brien
Kurna Elder

Mr Roger Thomas
Director, Centre for Australian Indigenous Research & Studies
Wilto Yerlo / CASM

Ms Shirley Peisley AM
Co-Chair Reconciliation SA

The Honourable Justice E P Mullighan
Co-Chair Reconciliation SA

The Honourable Terry Roberts MLC
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation