# ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION PLAN 2018

## The Australian National University – Activities, outcomes and strategies

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Initiative | Strategies | *Outcomes* |
| ASA – Admissions, Scholarships and Accommodation Project | The university will be launching a new admissions model, targeting a national outreach for students from a diverse range of backgrounds. This will involve a national model, making a place available for the most academically capable students from each school in Australia, using their preferences and the university’s quality floor to determine the appropriate program for them.  Extensive modelling has been undertaken to ensure that the proportion of students taken captures low SES students.  In addition, subject to the quality floor, in the current capped funding environment the university has committed to making a place available for all students from schools with an ICSEA below 900. Whilst not directly low SES, ICSEA is being used as a transparent admissions signifier to attract increased low SES students. | ANU currently trails the sector in attracting low-SES students. By providing these students with the message that there is a place for them at ANU, we hope to raise their aspirations to the point where they may come to ANU. When here, they will then be advantaged by one of the lowest attrition rates in the sector.  Modelling the increase in low-SES students has been challenging as a national approach to admissions has not been undertaken in Australia before. We do however expect to see a marked increase in participation.  Increased engagement with LSES schools and communities. Over 2018, a minimum of 8 engagements by a member of the ANU executive will take place within LSES communities.  Pathway programs will also be enhanced, noting that uncertainty of sub-Bachelor and enabling funding may limit our capacity to drive real outcomes in this space.  This is a longer view project (not funded in any way by HEPPP) and is currently underway with implementation of the new model to be ready for the 2020 intake. |
| Outreach | In partnerships with 4 ACT High schools and 2 Schools located in Goulburn, delivery of the ANU Homework Centres and the School to Tertiary Outreach Mentoring Program (STOMP) | Raise awareness of and build aspiration for higher education as well as provide academic enrichment for participants. These programs are also designed to provide valuable information and support to students who express an interest in higher education. Mentors provide information about how to navigate the admissions process when applying to any institution. |
| Financial support | ANU is also looking to almost double its currently available scholarships, in collaboration with donors, focusing these scholarships on socioeconomic disadvantage to realise our goal of educating students on the basis of their capacity to succeed. | Increases in:   * The number of scholarships available for undergraduate students from LSES backgrounds. * Retention and success rates of students from LSES backgrounds. * Completion of students from LSES backgrounds. |
| Transition and Support  Set4ANU  Strengths4Success  ANU RRR Mentoring Program  Student Leadership Programs | Promote student engagement through the development of needs based programs and services.Develop and strengthen mentoring and student support programs and expand student involvement in co-curricular programs and activities for students entering via alternative admission and/or pathway programs. | * Increase in the number of students from LSES backgrounds involved in mentoring and career development activities. * Increase the number of ANU student mentors from the LSES backgrounds involved in participating and delivering support. * Enrolment, retention, success and completion rates monitored and reported. |
| Progress and Attainment Participation and Success | Through virtual halls and learning communities, develop high quality peer support structures and programs that provide support for transitioning into the university’s academic and social culture. | Increase engagement of students from the LSES backgrounds through the availability of leadership opportunities for students and recognition through internships, volunteering and extracurricular activities. |
| Reporting | Further refine and develop strategies and actions that promote a culture of inclusion. | Through data analysis, research and consultation, develop a reporting framework to inform an annual review of progress.  Review and report progress at the part of the planning cycle. |

**2. Evaluation Plan**

Reporting will compare data each year and describe the annual impact for each of the equity groups. Quantitative data relating to current enrolments, commencing enrolments, retention rates and completions will be tracked and analysed. Additional relevant quantitative and qualitative data will be provided where appropriate.

**3. Partnerships and collaboration**

The university will collaborate with:

* Schools
* The University of Canberra
* The Smith Family
* Country Education Fund Association (CEFA)