

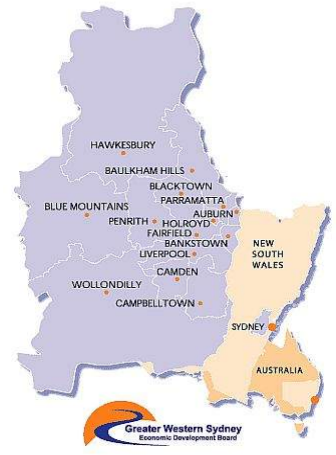
***“A higher education model for  
Indigenous Success”***

**5<sup>th</sup> National Indigenous Education Conference**

**Maree Graham**  
Manager, Indigenous Outreach  
University of Western Sydney



**Demography of GWS**



## Overview of Indigenous Education @ UWS



- 339 U/G & P/G students\* 0.98% of UWS Student population
- Indigenous alternative entry program
- Large suite of Indigenous scholarships
- Dedicated support services for the Indigenous cohort

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## Trends & Statistics @ UWS



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### Initiatives for Indigenous Success

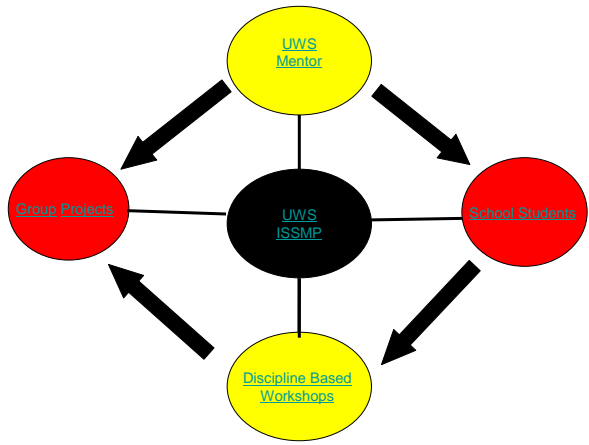
- ✎ Indigenous Transition Program
- ✎ Indigenous Rural Student Program
- ✎ Indigenous Information Sessions
- ✎ Cultural Celebrations
- ✎ Honouring our Elders
- ✎ Koori Life Publication
- ✎ ISSMP



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### Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program





## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

### Objectives of the Program

- ✎ to increase students' engagement in learning;
- ✎ to increase year 12 completion rates;
- ✎ greater exposure to a range of role models
- ✎ to raise awareness of Indigenous Australian culture
- ✎ to increase students' higher education aspirations; and
- ✎ to increase the number of Indigenous students enrolling and completing degrees at UWS.



## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

### Mentee Selection

- ✎ Open to all Indigenous students in Yr 10
- ✎ School Principals nominate
- ✎ Several informal interviews
- ✎ Completion survey to be matched with mentors



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## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

### Mentor Selection

- ✎ Nominations for UWS students
- ✎ Students to submit EOI against PD
- ✎ Interview process
- ✎ Rigorous training workshop
- ✎ Mentor / Mentee matching

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## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

### Enrichment workshops

- ✎ Attended by all students
- ✎ Across a range of disciplines
- ✎ Engaging and hands-on
- ✎ Relates to school KLA's



Industrial Design Workshop



Mathematics Workshop



## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

### One-on-one mentoring sessions

- ✎ On-school campus sessions
- ✎ 90 min sessions
  - ✎ 45 mins one-on-one with mentor
  - ✎ 45 mins group project



## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

### Group Projects

Leadership  
Skills

Civic  
Responsibility

Communication  
Skills

Project  
Management



Team Work  
Skills





## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

Ambarvale High School



## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

Ambarvale High School



## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

### Leumeah High School



## Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program

### Feedback to date

- ✦ “The structure of the mentoring program allowed students who were disengaging to focus and renew their interest in the realization of their educational goals”
- ✦ “Their attendance improved and participation in school life also improved significantly”.
- ✦ “Through the mentoring program students started to believe that there were possibilities that they hadn’t considered for themselves...that suddenly they could achieve... and more importantly that they were worthy of success”

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## Program Coordinators

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