



21C PROJECT: Stream Three: TRANSFORMING TEACHING

AIM:

The aim of the **Transforming Teaching** stream of work in the 21C Project is to achieve consistently high-quality contemporary (HyFlex) teaching.

To ensure the investment in 21C delivers lasting value to the University we will develop a fit-for-purpose academic workforce and establish a resilient and innovative teaching culture to nurture innovation. We will build on our genuine partnership with students and industry to deliver a distinctive institutional culture and to create an internal and external reputation for collaboration and engagement. We will develop new quality enhancement strategies to improve the student experience measured through performance on national indicators.

SCOPE:

This work is organised around a new centre for excellence for university teaching and learning called – in Darug – *Badugulang* ‘Waterhole’ that will bring together expert and aspiring teachers and will provide the leadership of a series of initiatives designed to develop a confident, critical and empowered workforce with the capabilities and motivation to design and deliver engaging contemporary HyFlex curricula.

THE TEAM:

Badugulang Membership

The membership will shape and form the activities undertaken by the centre, accessing expertise but also providing a deep understanding of the culture of teaching and learning in the Schools. *Badugulang* will invite participation by staff with specific L&T teaching leadership responsibilities and/or expertise via a nomination process (e.g., 21C Curriculum Champions’ national, and University-wide teaching awards/citations recipients, Peer Review Mentors (PRM) and Western AdvanceHE Fellows and students working in educational partnership with the University). As the Centre matures, industry, community, and government partners may be invited to join in an honorary capacity.

Membership will be for a fixed term and an *active contribution* to the work of transforming the culture of learning and teaching at Western is required to maintain membership. The size of the Centre is expected to expand through the work staff/students will engage in to build capability aligned with the distinctive teaching culture at Western.

The Centre will undertake the following:

- (a) *Strategic L&T collaborations*: Members will have an opportunity to lead a range of empowering activities and initiatives to drive University initiatives, forming and supporting collaborative communities internal and external to the Centre.
- (b) *Peer Review Mentors (PRM)*: The Centre will deliver Western’s Peer Review of Teaching and Curriculum strategy by providing access to a pool of trained and experienced, centre-based PRMs. The Peer Review Champion (PRC) initiative that drives peer review at scale in

Schools, will also access the expertise of the PRMs to further support them to drive quality impact in teaching and learning.

- (c) *Sessional Staff Mentorship Scheme*: Members will provide mentorship opportunities for sessional staff (up to 200) to enhance their career progression and support Western to develop and retain high quality sessional staff.
- (d) *Teaching Innovation Week*: The Centre will host talks, events, symposia, and practice showcases highlighting the best of Western's teaching.
- (e) *Western Educational Fellowship Scheme (WEFS)*: Until full consideration for the move to Strategic membership of Advance HE takes place, the Centre (with Learning Futures) will oversee WEFS, especially the training of mentors likely to be needed from Round 5 onwards.
- (f) *Partnership XChange Hub (PXHub)*: The PXHub will allow Schools to pitch for transformational curriculum projects to be undertaken in partnership with students supporting Western's commitment to Partnership Pedagogy.

OUTPUTS:

- New T&L partnerships and communities of practice that evaluate, engage, and create new knowledge.
- More staff (including Sessional Staff) with the confidence and skills to engage with modern and innovative teaching and curriculum methodologies.
- Identified PRMs (one per cluster) with increased expertise to work with staff and support the development of a further round of PRCs (Spring 2021).
- Peer review strategies embedded in School based T&L quality enhancing practices.
- 50 AdvancedHE Fellowship applications submitted in 2021, with reduced reliance on external mentors.
- A suite of evaluated 50 XR/TEL HyFlex exemplars/resources showcased to Schools.
- New School based educational/curriculum projects with the student-staff partnership central to pedagogy.
- Resources/artefacts to build the capacity of future projects, and the reputation of the University in their commitment to partnership pedagogy.

IMPACT:

The success of Transforming Teaching will:

- Increase staff recognition of an institutional culture supporting T&L
- Strengthen the external visibility of Western's distinctive T&L culture through dissemination of our work via our staff, students, industry and community engagement, publications and presentations.
- Develop and retain high-quality T&L staff (including Sessional staff) and provide opportunities to support career progression.
- Increase the number of our staff developing and delivering accessible curriculum elements for high quality learning via flexible delivery (HyFlex) with our graduates successfully meeting the needs of future society.
- Increase the use of diversified data sets (including Peer Review) by Schools to evaluate T&L quality and for use in staff evaluation, recognition and reward processes.
- Improved T&L quality indicators (e.g., QILT data) by Schools identifying and targeting appropriate metrics and making impact through best practice interventions.