Welcome to the 2017 Western Sydney University Equity and Diversity Calendar.

The theme for this year’s calendar is ‘Diversity Unlimited’ focusing on the diversity of our students and the wonderful work done by various people around the university to ensure that all our students get the best possible university experience.

Western Sydney University aims to ensure that all of our students have access to the highest quality education no matter their background, beliefs, sexual preference or whether they have a disability or not. In return we are rewarded with a richly diverse student population that reflects our region and enhances the experience for everyone.

The calendar celebrates those rich cultures evident across our campus network. We are committed to ensuring that our students and staff benefit from the multitude of perspectives and life experiences that cultural diversity brings.

I hope you enjoy the ‘Diversity Unlimited’ calendar for 2017.

Professor Barney Glover
Vice-Chancellor and University President
Western Sydney University
Western Sydney University has a wonderfully culturally and linguistically diverse student cohort. Nearly 150 languages are spoken at home by our students and a significant percentage of our students speak another language at home.

Most of the world’s religions are represented here and Western Sydney University provides prayer rooms as well the opportunity for students to participate in and promote cultural events through our clubs and associations.

This diversity is a reflection of our region and our commitment to it.
Western prides itself in supporting the diverse range of student groups on campus. These groups are made up of clubs, societies, collectives and Student Campus Councils. From sporting, cultural, political and special interest groups, clubs and societies enhance campus life by uniting like-minded students and running events.

Collectives such as the Women's Collective and Queer Collective provide a supportive network and safe-space for students.

Student Campus Councils are elected on each campus to facilitate the student voice, and members of each campus council form the university-wide Student Representative Council which is the peak representative body of students.

For more information about Campus Life and Student Clubs: www.westernsydney.edu.au/campuslife/campus_life
For information about Student Representation & Participation: www.westernsydney.edu.au/studentrepresentation
LGBTIQ ACCEPTANCE

“I was in the crowd and so pleased to see my University, where I study and work, represented in the parade. It was a very proud moment and so good to feel accepted in my workplace. Well done WSU Mardi Gras team!” Western Sydney University student Facebook post.

In 2015 and 2016 Western Sydney University entered floats in the annual Sydney Mardi Gras. Staff and students from across the University were engaged in the design and creation of the floats with great success. Over 100 expressions to participate were submitted in less than 4 hours after the email invitation was sent. Following the 2016 parade, the University float received an avalanche of positive feedback on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Yammer. In addition to over 27K views and 850 likes on Facebook many students expressed their pride in the University float on Facebook.
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<td>National Day - Bangladesh</td>
<td>Ugadi (Yugadi) - Hindi New Year</td>
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Western Sydney University offers an array of equity scholarships that are designed to make education more accessible for students irrespective of their background or experiences.

Currently we are proud to offer over 117 donor-funded equity scholarship opportunities to students. Our equity scholarships are diverse and we have specific scholarships for students who have lived in out-of-home care, arrived in Australia as a refugee, are single parents or who have a disability, just to name a few.

At Western we are proud of the diversity of scholarships we offer and the transformative impact that an equity scholarship has on a student’s educational experience.

For more information about either supporting our students with scholarships, or applying for them, please go to our website at www.westernsydney.edu.au/scholarships
Psychology graduate and Miss Universe Australia 2015 winner, Ms Monika Radulovic wanted to study psychology ever since she was in High School, “I saw it as a way to help people”. Monika is a Western Sydney University graduate but what makes her story special is that Monika and her family fled Bosnia as refugees when she was four.

Monika was glad of the opportunity to study at Western Sydney and enjoyed her time here and she plans to return to do her masters. “I’ll come back dedicated and inspired to learn again.”

Monika is one of the many success stories generated by Western Sydney University’s culture of embracing diversity.
Within the reflective and examining setting of Western Sydney University, the Multi-faith Chaplaincy facilitates practices of authentic self-worth, mutual respect and inter-faith dialogue. We seek to strengthen a vision of service within our community. Our goal is to infuse kindness and confidence, whether it is in response to a personal crisis or choosing a career path and life purpose.

The Multi-faith Chaplaincy can be contacted on chaplaincy@westernsydney.edu.au
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<td>Men's Health Week (12-18 June) National Day - Philippines, Russia Queen's Birthday</td>
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<td>National Day - Portugal</td>
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<td>National Day - Seychelles</td>
<td>World Refugee Day</td>
<td>Northern Solstice - Pagan</td>
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<td>National Day - Madagascar Inter Session Break starts</td>
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<td>Eid-al-Fitr (Ramadan ends) - Islam National Day - Croatia, Mozambique, Slovenia Autumn Session ends</td>
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<td>National Day - Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
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- **National Day - Samoa**
- **National Day - Italy**
- **Mabo Day - Australia**
- **National Day - Portugal**
- **National Day - Madagascar**
- **National Day - Seychelles**
- **National Day - Djibouti**
- **National Day - Democratic Republic of Congo**
Western Sydney University Indigenous Outreach unit is responsible for marketing the university to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. The unit provides comprehensive admission and course information to prospective students and currently the unit manages the Rural Indigenous Student visits program.

The program invites Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in years 10 - 12 to apply for a five day excursion to Western. Students are accommodated locally and travel to several campuses to attend workshops and other activities. Currently the program offers 22 workshops for participants to choose from. Workshops range from academic enrichment, course specific, cultural awareness to career choices and guest speaker sessions.

A great element of the program is having current Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students act as guides and mentors during the visit providing them an enhanced learning experience that assists with their personal and professional development and aspirations and desires to contribute to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

For information on Indigenous Outreach contact Jo Galea: j.galea@westernsydney.edu.au
Coming of the Light - Torres Strait Islands
National Day - Burundi, Canada, Rwanda, Somalia

NAIDOC Week - Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders (2-9 July)
National Day - Belarus
National Day - USA
National Day - Venezuela
National Day - Comoros, Malawi
National Day - Solomon Islands

Martyrdom of the Báb - Bahá’í
National Day - Palau, South Sudan
National Day - Bahamas
National Day - Mongolia
National Day - Kiribati, São Tomé and Príncipe
National Day - Montenegro
National Day - France

Inter Session Break ends
Spring Session starts
Nelson Mandela International Day
National Day - Colombia
National Day - Belgium

International Day of Friendship
National Day - Egypt
National Day - Mormon Christian
National Day - Liberia, Maldives
National Day - Peru

For information on Indigenous Outreach contact Jo Galea: j.galea@westernsydney.edu.au
Western Sydney University aims to help hundreds of refugee students over the coming years, using the transformative power of a scholarship. Last year we connected with key members of the community, donors, supporters and staff at our inaugural Town and Gown Dinner to raise funds for our Refugee Scholarship Fund. Combined with community support, Western has raised $1.8M for refugee scholarships to date.

One third of our domestic students speak a language other than English when they go home. Acceptance is part of our make-up at Western Sydney University. We are leaders in helping students in need.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The University’s culturally diverse learning environment is enriched by thousands of international students who choose to study with us every year. Connections between local and international students increase cultural understanding and the development of future international networks.

Over 4,500 international students from over 110 countries choose to study at Western Sydney University each year. Countries include India, Nepal, China, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. International students enhance the student experience by creating cross cultural awareness and bringing a wide range of global experiences into the classroom.

The University’s location and strong connection to Australia’s multi-cultural epicentre – Western Sydney, translates to a culturally diverse student population. We use our links with Western Sydney’s multicultural population and our culturally diverse student cohort to grow and enhance our international student community, further strengthening our international profile. Our culture of respect and acceptance allows international students to feel ‘at home’ at Western Sydney University.

www.westernsydney.edu.au/international
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GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY

Situated in the cultural and commercial heart of our region, Western Sydney University’s 14 storey One Parramatta Square (or 1PSQ) campus marks the start of an exciting new era for the University. The new campus will offer world class educational facilities and will be home to the School of Business.

The School of Business has developed an extensive suite of innovative courses designed to equip our students to be the job-makers of the future. Undergraduate students can combine their business program with a non-business major such as environment and sustainability, Chinese, or urban studies, while postgraduate students can choose subjects where they start their own business or practice the first 100-days in an executive role. Every student will have opportunities to engage with industry and government, to connect with the community and learn about research and innovation.

At 1PSQ the campus and the community combine to create a space for learning and knowledge sharing that will shape the future of campus life for Western Sydney University.
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<td><strong>International Day of Older Persons</strong>&lt;br&gt;National Day - China, Cyprus, Nigeria, Tuvalu&lt;br&gt;Daylight saving starts</td>
<td><strong>International Day of Non-Violence</strong>&lt;br&gt;National Day - Guinea&lt;br&gt;<strong>Labour Day</strong></td>
<td>National Day - Germany, Egypt, Iraq&lt;br&gt;National Day - Lesotho</td>
<td>Sukkot - Judaism&lt;br&gt;<strong>World Teachers’ Day</strong></td>
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<td>Mental Health Week (8-14 Oct)</td>
<td>National Day - Uganda</td>
<td>World Mental Health Day&lt;br&gt;National Day - Fiji, Taiwan</td>
<td><strong>Shemini Atzeret</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Judaism&lt;br&gt;National Day - Equatorial Guinea, Spain</td>
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<td><strong>Stuvac starts</strong></td>
<td>United Nations Day&lt;br&gt;National Day - Zambia</td>
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<td>National Day - Austria</td>
<td>National Day - St Vincent &amp; the Grenadines, Turkmenistan</td>
<td>National Day - Czech Republic</td>
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<td>National Day - Turkey&lt;br&gt;<strong>Stuvac ends</strong></td>
<td>Examinations commence</td>
<td>All Hallows Eve - Christian (Halloween)</td>
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My experience as a teacher, academic, senior executive and higher education consultant has taken me to many places across Australia, the UK, Africa and South East Asia, and provided me with insights into higher education in different contexts. What I have seen has confirmed the transformative power of education and its role in building a more equitable and just society. Education really makes a difference. This is the belief that has guided my work and continues to do so as Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Academic) at Western Sydney University.

It is an exciting time to be at the University. We are leading innovation in learning and teaching, leveraging the potential of new technologies, and connecting to industry. We are committed to making university education more accessible and relevant to students wherever they are. Our students and graduates will be inspired and able to change their communities for the better.

Professor Denise Kirkpatrick
Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Vice-President (Academic)
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<td>All Saints Day - Christian</td>
<td>All Souls Day - Christian</td>
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<td>National Day - Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>National Day - Dominica, Federated States of Micronesia, Panama</td>
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<td>Birth of Baha’u’llah - Bahá’í</td>
<td>National Day - Myanmar</td>
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<td>National Day - Cambodia, Morocco, Oman</td>
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<td>Day of Covenant - Bahá’í</td>
<td>Summer A Session starts</td>
<td>National Day - Albania, Mauritania</td>
<td>National Day - Barbados</td>
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The Disability Service is here to support and assist future and current students with disabilities and health conditions to reach their full academic potential and to participate fully in university life.

This includes Disability Advisors developing Academic Integration Plans (AIPs) which outline reasonable education adjustments in consultation with each student registered with the Service. These are based on a formal assessment and supported by medical evidence. We also provide advice and training on assistive technology to students and deliver education and information to raise awareness of disability issues by students and staff.

As one student registered with the Disability Service said “Without such support I doubt whether I could have made it to the finish line”.

For more information contact disability@westernsydney.edu.au
www.westernsydney.edu.au/disabilityservice
Equity and Diversity work in partnership with staff, students and the wider community to promote inclusive practices across the University, including:

- Ally Network
- Cultural Diversity
- Disabilities
- Gender Equality
- Open Fora and Conferences
- Bullying and Discrimination Prevention
- National Disability Coordination Officer Program
- Equity & Diversity Policies and Procedures
- Reports and Resources
- Training

For contact details and to find out more about Equity and Diversity at Western Sydney University go to: www.westernsydney.edu.au/equity_diversity

This calendar was produced by the Equity and Diversity Unit.

Front Cover Design: Chelsea Schofield, Bachelor of Design Student (Visual Communication)

Photography: Sally Tsoutas, University Photographer

Design and Layout: Beate Wildner, Western Sydney University