



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**



**McCusker Centre
for Citizenship**



IMPACT STATEMENT

OUR STORY SO FAR

facebook.com/mccuskercentreforcitizenship
mccuskercentre.uwa.edu.au

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

The Centre was established in late 2015 with a generous endowment from the McCusker Charitable Foundation. It collaborates with students and the broader UWA community, not-for-profit and community organisations, government and business to make a difference in our communities locally, nationally and globally.



Michelle Scott,
Director

At the end of 2020, I am sure that many of us were reflecting on a year that we could never have imagined in January 2020. There have been challenges faced by everyone and particularly those individuals and families who are vulnerable in our community.

At the McCusker Centre for Citizenship we adapted during the shutdown to students undertaking their internships working from home with great support from their organisations and staff at the Centre. We continued this in winter, and in Semester 2 we saw more students returning to the workplace with COVID-safe practices in place.

In July 2020 the Centre marked an important milestone with **1,000 interns**. By the end of 2020 more than **1,200 students** had undertaken internships with our **300 partners** over the last five years. Students have now contributed more than **130,000 hours in service** to the community. In June 2019 we commenced our partnership with the WA Public Sector Commission which has now seen **93 students** undertake internships with public sector organisations. In November 2019 the Centre entered into a partnership with the WA Local Government Association and Local Government Professionals which has seen **23 students** undertake internships with local governments throughout the State.

It is pleasing to see that as we continue to expand the program the quality of the program remains high with **97% of organisations** in 2020 indicating that they would recommend internships to other organisations and **97% of students** in 2020 indicating that they would recommend internships to other students.

In 2020, two students, **Madelene Booth** and **Joseph Ross**, were awarded joint recipients of the Centre's **Outstanding Intern of the Year Award**.

The Centre also piloted a unique mentoring program with six senior leaders in the community and six students. The feedback from all of the participants was very positive and we are continuing the program in 2021.

In summer the Centre offered for the first time the undergraduate unit Approaches to Wicked Problems in partnership with the WA Alliance to End Homelessness. **100% of students** who enrolled in this unit said they would recommend this unit to other students.

The Centre has recently had approval to offer a new Minor in Active Citizenship to students commencing in 2021.

Our aim through the McCusker Centre for Citizenship remains to build the capacity of our community for active and engaged citizenship. This is only possible with the support of our valued partners in the community.

I would like to thank all of our students and our partner organisations. I would especially like to acknowledge the Hon Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC CitWA, who is the Chair of the Centre's Advisory Committee.

I would like to thank our Student Advisory Committee, chaired by Helena Trang, and our Alumni Committee, chaired by Dillon Wong. The achievements of the Centre would not be possible without your personal support and the support of our many partners.

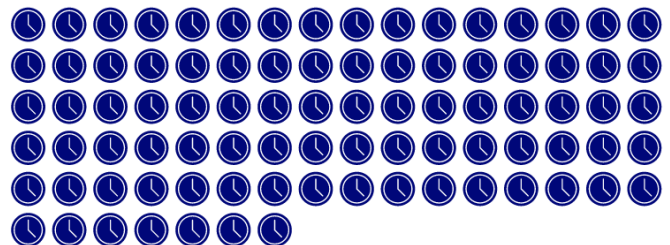
I look forward to continuing to work with you all in 2021.



STATISTICS

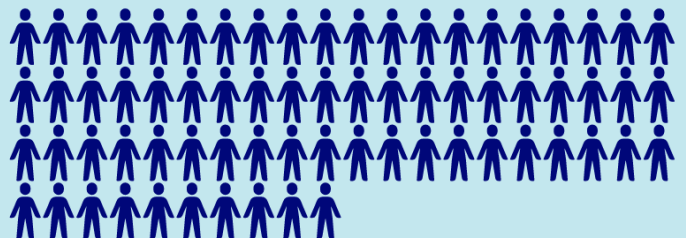
FEBRUARY 2016 - DECEMBER 2020

A TOTAL OF 133,552 HOURS CONTRIBUTED TO THE COMMUNITY



INTERSHIPS

1,212 INTERNS



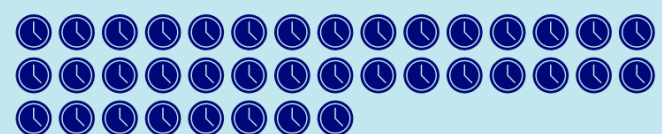
300+ HOST ORGANISATIONS



WICKED PROBLEMS UNIT

Students' work in collaboration with community organisations to address complex problems

7,350 HOURS OF SERVICE



GLOBAL EXCHANGE

26 EXCHANGE & GLOBAL INTERSHIP STUDENTS SINCE 2016

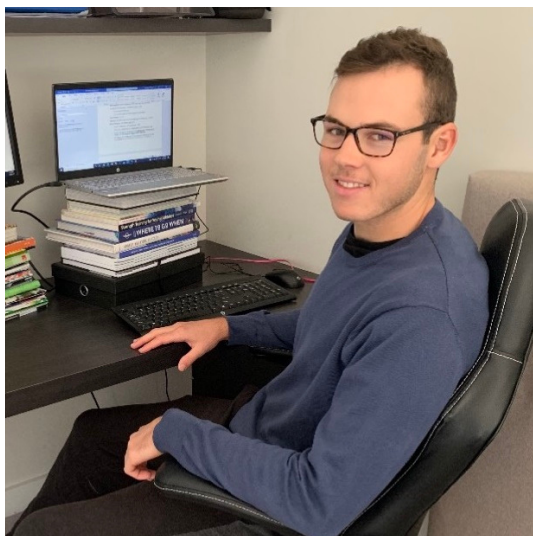


EVENTS

50,266 EVENT PARTICIPANTS



INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Christopher Simpson

During his internship at Gosnells Community Legal Centre (GCLS), Juris Doctor student Christopher Simpson worked on a project to help secure long-term funding to provide legal advice to victims of family and domestic violence.

“If funding can be assured, our Centre will be able to continue our services to very vulnerable groups.”

– Patrick Mungar, Gosnells Community Legal Centre Managing Lawyer

Intern Alice White worked on multiple research projects run by the Telethon Kids Youth Mental Health team, including literature reviews for projects concerning the mental health of pregnant women and culturally and linguistically diverse young people. She also trialled a digital mental health intervention for trans and gender diverse young people.

The UWA Biomedical Science student was “amazing” at adapting to completing her Telethon Kids Institute internship from home during the COVID-19 pandemic, said intern supervisor Jacinta Freeman.



Alice White

97% of student interns would recommend the internship program to other students

“My internship at the Institute has showed me the importance of continued research, and its ability to benefit all members of the community.”

– Alice White, Telethon Kids Institute intern

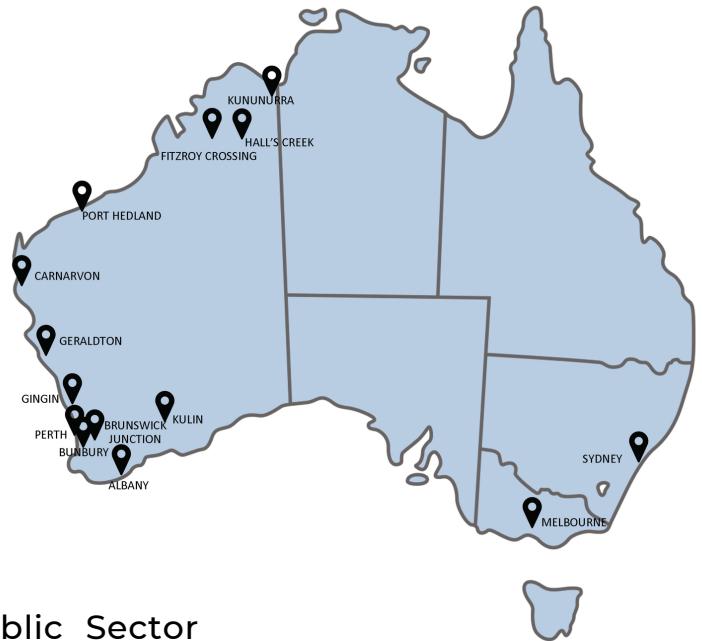
Regional internships

In 2020 the Centre offered 10 regional internships and partnered with the following organisations:

- Regional Alliance West (Geraldton)
- Shire of Gingin
- WA Centre for Rural Health (Geraldton)
- Brunswick Junction Community Resource Centre
- Social Reinvestment WA (Kununurra)

Since 2016, 39 students have undertaken WA regional internships.

REGIONAL INTERNSHIPS SINCE 2016



Government internships

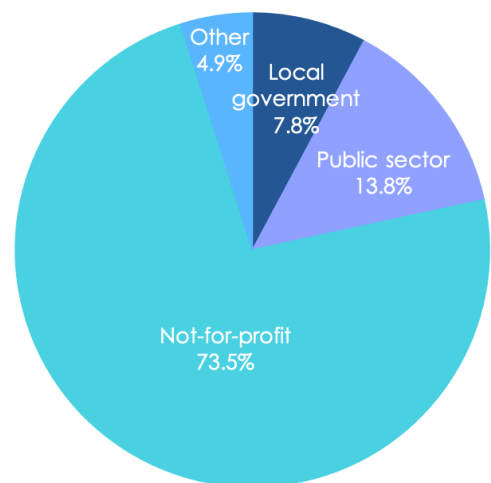
Since our partnership with the **WA Public Sector Commission** began in June 2019, **93 students** have completed their internship in the public sector.

In November 2019 we commenced a partnership with the **WA Local Government Association** and **Local Government Professionals** and since then there have been **23 local government** internships.



Renee Nguyen

PARTNERS REPRESENTED BY SECTOR



■ Local government ■ Public sector ■ Not-for-profit ■ Other

Due to COVID-19 border restrictions in WA, not-for-profit organisation Fair Game was briefly unable to visit remote communities such as the Pilbara to deliver recycled sporting equipment, fitness and education programs, so intern Renee Nguyen helped create an activity resource booklet for remote primary-aged children to keep active and healthy.

“We have loved working with the McCusker Centre for Citizenship over the years and the skills the interns bring to our small organisation are ones we just don't have within our small team.”

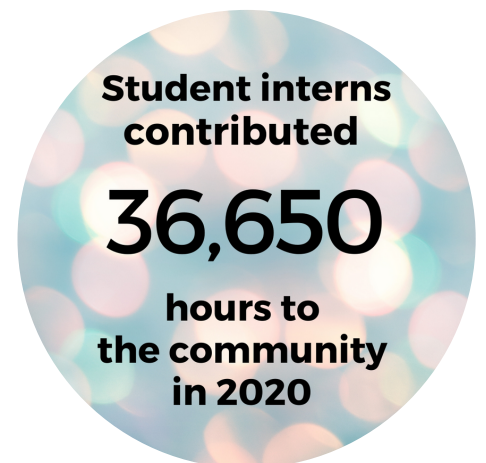
– Fair Game CEO Nicki Bardwell

2020 INTERNS



“I was working with real numbers that represent real people and real change. It was really valuable to be able to look at the pages and pages of data and pull out those important numbers that really show what an important impact Wungening is making.”

– Harry Osbourne, Wungening
Aboriginal Corporation intern



Outstanding Intern of the Year Award 2020

Madelene Booth and Joseph Ross were the joint recipients of the Centre's Outstanding Intern of the Year Award 2020. Madelene undertook her internship at Regional Early Education and Development (REED) and researched the Australian Government's Child Care Subsidy (CCS) to outline the barriers that Indigenous and rural families face in applying for the subsidy through Centrelink.

During his internship, Joseph created and implemented a new in-store marketing experience for Anglicare WA's Op Shops, researched and implemented the use of iPads at the point of sale in stores and was awarded a \$2,000 marketing budget for store improvements.



Madelene Booth and Joseph Ross pictured with the Hon Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC CitWA and His Honour Judge Denis Reynolds.

“It was impressive to see how quickly Madelene gained an understanding of the important role of REED and early childhood education and care in rural communities.”

– Kylie Helgesen, REED General Manager

“Joe exceeded all expectations for the role and achieved an enormous amount in such a short period.”

– Tori Anderson, Anglicare WA
Director of Philanthropy and Enterprise

ACADEMIC UNITS

Minor in Active Citizenship

In 2020, a new Minor in Active Citizenship was approved by the University. The aim of the Minor is to develop students' capacities to be caring, connected and socially engaged contributors in their communities.

Approaches to Wicked Problems

In January 2020, 20 undergraduate UWA students enrolled in the **Approaches to Wicked Problems** unit. The students worked on projects to address homelessness in Western Australia, in partnership with the WA Alliance to End Homelessness, St Patrick's Community Support Centre and Shelter WA.

“This unit really opened my eyes to the fact that homelessness can impact anyone at any time ... (it) made me think about the fact that why someone is homeless shouldn't be important, and that anyone who is experiencing homelessness deserves to have a place to live.”

– Approaches to Wicked Problems student



Academic Coordinator Claire Dodd with Approaches to Wicked Problems students in January 2020

“I previously felt like my capacity to contribute was limited to an extent and didn't feel like my individual efforts matter in the grand scheme of things but this unit has taught me that even small efforts to engage with something do truly matter.”

– Approaches to Wicked Problems student

**100% of students
would recommend
Approaches to Wicked
Problems
to other students**

GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES



Over summer 2019-20, two UWA students, Riley Dolman and Toby Joske, went to the Bader International Study Centre (BISC) at Queens University in the UK as part of the Centre's Global Exchange Program.

The focus of Riley's research was to examine students' experiences of self-care and develop a program to encourage positive mental health among students. Toby's research involved engaging with not-for-profit organisation Foodbank to examine the differences in the issues of homelessness and poverty in Perth and England.

Over summer 2020, the Centre also welcomed two exchange students, Tatiana Bruni from Durham University (UK) and Jaden Oliveras from Dartmouth University (US). Tatiana completed an internship and assisted Academic Coordinator Claire Dodd to deliver the undergraduate summer unit Approaches to Wicked Problems. Jaden participated in the Approaches to Wicked Problems unit and undertook an internship with EdConnect.



Toby Joske at Queens University (UK)



UWA student Eleanor Tyndall undertook an internship with the Pollinate Student Fellowship in Bangalore, India, during summer 2020. Pollinate recently merged with Empower Generation in Nepal and started a women's empowerment sector. Eleanor and other student interns at Pollinate worked on a project to create a training manual to teach women how to sell products within their slum communities through cashless transaction methods.

“Helping these women develop skills to help themselves was something that meant a lot to me. They have ownership. Pollinate's motto was 'equipping women to lead their communities out of poverty', which is very powerful.” – Eleanor Tyndall, Pollinate Student Fellowship

Due to strict COVID-19 travel restrictions, our global programs following the summer had to be postponed in 2020.

MENTORING PROGRAM

The Centre piloted a unique Mentoring Program from March to October 2020, connecting six University of WA students with a senior leader from the not-for-profit or government sectors. The program gave students access to personalised support and advice from their mentor about how to contribute to the community and be an active citizen.

100% of students agreed the experience has helped them gain knowledge, tools and skills needed to grow as a community engaged leader.

Additionally, 100% of mentors recommended the program to other community leaders looking to mentor a student.



“It was really empowering to be able to communicate and work with someone who is a respected professional”

– Riley Dolman, mentored by Minderoo Foundation's Juan Larranaga



“It's a safe environment where students are not being assessed and can ask hard questions.”

– Wanslea CEO Tricia Murray mentored student Helena Trang



OUR EVENTS

Since the Centre was established, 50,266 students, academics and members of the community have participated in our events. In 2020, many events had to be postponed or moved online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The **Student Advisory Committee**, as well as representing the Centre at several UWA outreach and pop-up events early in the year, organised and facilitated a webinar on 4 August: **A Student's Guide to Sustainability, What More Can We Do?** More than 80 students logged on to watch the webinar and interact in a Q&A session at the end of the event.

On 8 October the Centre hosted the **Outstanding Intern of the Year Award and Mentoring Thank You** event.

The Centre's **Alumni Committee** organised an **Alumni Networking Sundowner and Panel Discussion** on 28 October: "How community leaders stayed active in their communities and adapted during the COVID-19 pandemic". Panellists included Brianna Lee, People With Disabilities WA; Jimmy Murphy, Town Team Movement; and Lyn Levy, St. Patrick's Community Support Centre.

The Centre also supported the **Disrupted Festival of Ideas** at the State Library of Perth on 29 October to consider how we can all build a better world.



Alumni Committee Chair
Dillon Wong



Student Advisory Committee 2020 with exchange students Tatiana Bruni and Jayden Oliveras



THANK YOU

Aboriginal Health Council of WA
Aboriginal Legal Service of WA
Activ
Anglicare WA
Art Gallery of WA
Asthma WA
Athena Women's Clinic
Awards WA
Awesome Arts Australia
Bethanie
Brunswick Junction Community Resource Centre
Cahoots
Cancer Council WA
Centre for Social Impact UWA
CEOs for Gender Equity Inc.
Challis Community Primary School
Chamber of Arts and Culture
Child Australia
Chorus
City of Armadale
City of Busselton
City of Gosnells
City of Melville
City of Nedlands
City of Stirling
City of Subiaco
City of Wanneroo
Cockburn Integrated Health & Community Centre
Communicare
Community Services, Health & Education Training Council
ConnectGroups
Connecting Community for Kids
Consumer Credit Legal Service WA
Country Women's Association of WA
Department of Communities
Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Department of Health
Department of Justice
Department of Planning Lands & Heritage
Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Department of Training & Workforce Development
Developmental Disability WA
Diabetes WA
Directions Disability Support Services
DADAA
Dismantle
DV Assist
Earthwise Community
EdConnect
Edmund Rice Centre WA
Enable WA
Ethnic Disability Advocacy Centre
Fair Game
Fremantle Women's Health Centre
Girl Guides WA
Good Samaritan Enterprises
Gosnells Community Legal Centre
Guide Dogs WA

Health Consumers Council
Hills Symphony Orchestra
Home Hub
Hope Community Services
Huber Social
Imagined Futures
Inclusion Solutions
Indigo Junction
Innovation Unit
Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Services
Joondalup Family Centre
Kaarakin Conservation Centre
Kwinana Early Years Service
Legacy WA
Legal Aid WA
Linkwest
Lions Eye Institute
Little Things for Tiny Tots
Lotterywest
Lucy Saw Centre
Magistrates Court of WA
Meerilinga Young Children's Foundation
Mental Health Commission
Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre
Millennium Kids Inc
Minderoo Foundation
Mission Australia
Multicultural Services Centre
Museum of Freedom & Tolerance
Nardine Wimmin's Refuge
Ngala
Noongar Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre
NursePrac Australia
Ombudsman WA
One Tree Community Services
Orana House
Palmerston
Parkerville Children & Youth Inc
Peel Bright Minds
People Who Care
People With Disabilities WA
Perth Blood Institute
Perth Festival
Perth NRM
Phoenix Advocacy and Support Services
Pollinate Energy
Propel Youth Arts WA
Public Sector Commission
Reclink Australia
REED
Regional Alliance West
Rise Network
Royal Association of Justices WA
Royal Lifesaving Society WA
Royal Perth Hospital Research Foundation
Ruah Community Services
Salvation Army
Samaritans
Save the Children WA
SCALES Community Legal Centre
Shelter WA

Shire of Chittering
Shire of Gingin
Shire of Peppermint Grove
Shire of Pingelly
Social Reinvestment WA
Social Ventures Australia
Spectrum Space
St Patrick's Community Support Centre
Starick
State Library of WA
State Records Office of Western Australia
Subiaco Justice Centre
Sudbury House
Swan Alliance
Swimming WA
Teach For Australia
Teach Learn Grow
Telethon Kids Institute
Telethon Speech and Hearing
The Difference
The Fathering Project
The Pickle District
The Piddington Society
The Platform & Purpose Studio
The Raine Study
The Spiers Centre
Town of Mosman Park
Town of Victoria Park
Trillion Trees
United Way WA
Uniting WA
UWA Campus Management
UWA Education Strategy
UWA Guild Volunteering
UWA Social Care and Ageing Living Lab
UWA Student Equity
Valuing Children Initiative
VisAbility
Volunteering WA
WA Aboriginal Leadership Institute
WA AIDS Council
WA Alliance to End Homelessness
WA Centre for Rural Health
WA Council of Social Service
WA Local Government Association
WA Network of Alcohol & Other Drug Agencies
WA Police Force
West Arthur Community Resource Centre
Western Power
Wirrpanda Foundation
Wise Realities
Women's Health and Family Services
Women's Legal Services
Wungening Aboriginal Corporation
YMCA WA
Yogazet
Youth Affairs Council of WA
Youth Focus
Youth Involvement Council
Youth Legal Service
Zonta House



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**



**McCusker Centre
for Citizenship**



Making a difference in our communities



facebook.com/mccuskercentreforcitizenship
mccuskercentre.uwa.edu.au