

# World Access to Higher Education Day (WAHED) Birmingham 28/11/18

Anthony Gartner,  
Associate Director,  
Student Equity and AccessAbility Services,  
Swinburne University,  
Melbourne, Australia

# World Access to Higher Education Day (WAHED)

## The Australian context for Higher Education

- Two tiered model, Vocational Education and Higher Education
- In a population of 24.5M, there are 41 Universities in Australia
- One private University
- Five 'dual sector'
- Approximately 1.3M students in tertiary education (local and International).

# World Access to Higher Education Day (WAHED)

- 2010 Australian Government introduced the Higher Education Participation and Partnership Program (HEPPP)
- Approx \$156,600,000 in 2019
- The stated goal was that 20% of undergraduate students be from low socio-economic backgrounds (lowest quartile)
- To be achieved by a range of aspiration raising programs, support programs and partnerships with community organisations, other universities and VE providers, schools

# World Access to Higher Education Day (WAHED)

- Categories included:
  - Low SES
  - Indigenous Australians
  - Regional and remote
  - Disability
  - English as a second language
  - Women in non-traditional areas of study

# World Access to Higher Education Day (WAHED)

- Swinburne context:
  - Aspiration raising programs:
    - Tertiary Aspiration Program
    - Tertiary Experience Program
    - Equity grants and scholarships
  - Refugee and Asylum Seekers
    - Fee waivers and bursaries
  - Students with disability
    - AccessAbility Careers Hub
  - Care leavers

# World Access to Higher Education Day (WAHED)

- Research shows a student who receives an equity grant or scholarship are more likely to stay
- 40% of grant recipients had considered withdrawing from their course. Of these, 56% said the grant made a major difference in their decision to remain engaged

# World Access to Higher Education Day (WAHED)

Year and statistic		Student Cohort			
		Student Equity grants/ scholarship recipients	Low SES domestic undergraduate	Domestic Higher Ed* (onshore and SOL)	unsuccessful Student Equity applicants
2011	GPA	67.1	63.2	65.8	69.3
	Attrition Rate	9.8	17.9	17	11.3
	Success Rate	84.5	77.3	82	88
2012	GPA	67.6	65.3	65.6	66.5
	Attrition Rate	14.6	22.4	19.9	13.9
	Success Rate	85.1	75.1	80.4	85.7
2013	GPA	67.85	62	65	66.74
	Attrition Rate	13.88	30.3	25	22.32
	Success Rate	82.92	73.4	79	80.42
2014	GPA	66.25	62.56	64.55	67.14
	Attrition Rate	22.30	29.63	23.80	26.20
	Success Rate	84.66	76.28	80.50	86.50
2015	GPA	67.20	62.94	64.73	67.44
	Attrition Rate	13.70	26.11	23.00	17.30
	Success Rate	88.20	78.63	82.20	88.51
2016	GPA	65.29	62.70	64.88	67.95
	Attrition Rate	19.43	30.00	27.60	26.57
	Success Rate	83.78	80.14	84.00	87.84
2017	GPA	65.24	65.20	63.56	65.48
	Attrition Rate	16.30	25.60	22.63	19.08
	Success Rate	84.00	81.00	84.00	83.23