

2024

ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

UNIVERSITIES FOR ALL

A YEAR IN REVIEW

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR
STUDENT EQUITY AND SUCCESS





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Australian Centre for Student Equity and Success acknowledges Indigenous peoples across Australia as the Traditional Owners of the lands on which the nation's campuses are situated. With a history spanning more than 60,000 years as the original educators, Indigenous peoples hold a unique place in our nation. We recognise the importance of their knowledge and culture, and reflect the principles of participation, equity, and cultural respect in our work. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and future, and consider it an honour to learn from our Indigenous colleagues, partners, and friends.



About us

> WHO WE ARE

ABOUT

The Australian Centre for Student Equity and Success (ACSES) is a national leader in a future-orientated, evidence-based approach to student equity, leading universities towards accessibility and success for every student.

FUNDING

ACSES is funded by the Commonwealth Government and hosted by Curtin University in Perth, Western Australia.

VISION

An Australia where no student is left behind.

MISSION

To work with universities to close the gap for equity groups, by using the latest data collected through trials, evaluations, and research to inform better practice.

VALUES

Integrity | Fairness | Collaboration | Innovation | Impact

CORE PROGRAMS

- ▶ Research and Policy
- ▶ Data
- ▶ Trials and Evaluation
- ▶ Regional University Study Hubs Network

A YEAR OF GROWTH AND IMPACT

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- > Access, Achievement, Accord 2024: The Australian Student Equity Symposium and Nov 2024 update
- > Launch of **aceses.edu.au**
- > 2024 Small Grants, Large Grants, Fellowship Program, HDRS Scheme, Equity Frontiers Small-Scale Trials Grants, Visiting Scholarships
- > 2024 Regional University Study Hubs Symposium
- > Rollout of the Equity Frontiers Trials Program
- > Expansion of the Interactive Data Tool
- > Launch of the Australian Centre for Student Equity and Success as a “What Works” centre
- > Earn While You Learn student internships

PUBLICATIONS

- > *Students With Disability in Australian Higher Education: An Overview* and Nov 2024 update
- > *Equity Policy Options: Parity Targets*
- > *Five Student Equity Data Guides: Higher Education Institutions in Australia, Defining Equity Groups, Equity Performance Measures, Selecting and Using Equity Reference Values, HEPPP Allocations Explainer*
- > Six academic publications

STATS



Events
16

ACES
Fellowships

6



6
Visiting
Scholarships

Media
reach



104.6m

Grants
funded

13



HDRS



5

8

Publications



KEY GROWTH METRICS

ACSES's media presence, inter/national profile, and digital footprint grew rapidly in 2024, with Q1 alone setting a record for the highest media mentions in the Centre's 11-year history at Curtin University.

Media mentions



+251%

+15,000%

Media reach



Ad value

\$2.8M → \$8.1M (+189.3%)



in +185% Followers

+555% Watch time



+131

Engagement increase



Enews subscribers

3,521

39k



Website active users



ACSES IN ACTION

- > **20-21 February:** 2024 Fellowship Commencement
- > **21 February:** Sunset Social: Shaping Australia's Student Equity and Success
- > **14 March:** ACSES and EPHEA: Working Together for Student Success Webinar
- > **26 March:** Launch of ACSES Community of Practice
- > **21-22 May:** Access, Achievement, Accord 2024: The Australian Student Equity Symposium
- > **12-13 August:** RUSH Symposium
- > **21 August:** How ACSES can support universities in finding out what works in equity
- > **3 September:** Exploring Post-Doctoral Employment Patterns for Equity Doctoral Graduates in Australia
- > **September and October:** Four Trials for Equity Workshops in WA, VIC, QLD, and NSW
- > **17 October:** ACSES and EPHEA: Towards a better evaluation of what works in higher education equity
- > **13 November:** Socioeconomic disadvantages, choice of disciplines, and post-university labour market performance
- > **18 November:** Equity Hub: A Community of Practice for Student Equity Evaluation
- > **26 November:** Learners' Location, School Socio-Economic Status, and School Performance – A Scottish Case Study



Our people



CORE STAFF

Shamit Saggar – Executive Director

John Phillimore – Deputy Director

Ian Li – Research and Policy Program Director

Gemma Cadby – Data Program Director

Tim Pitman – Trials and Evaluation Program Director

Miriam Fisher – Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Manager

Canki Yuan – Business Manager

Patricia Vermillion Peirce – Trials Lead

Patrick Broman – Manager, National Student Equity Evaluation

Paul Koshy – Research Fellow

Novia Minaee – Research Officer

Anna Will – Research Communications and Events Coordinator

Gobinath Subramani – Senior Data Scientist

Indu Rani – Administrative Officer

Varun Mehta – Research Assistant

Daniel Doss – Data Analyst

REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES STUDY HUBS NETWORK

Amma Buckley

Anne Whitehouse

Laura Niebel

ADVISORY BOARD

Harlene Hayne – Chair

Scott Bowman – Deputy Chair

Kylie Austin

Elizabeth Cook

Paul Harpur

Suzi Hewlett

Leanne Holt

Kathleen Nelly

Deborah Terry





ACSES

Australian Centre for
Student Equity and Success
Universities For All



Curtin University



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