

STATEMENT OF RECONCILIATION AND COMMITMENT

Curtin University of Technology commits itself wholly to a vision of “a united Australia which respects this land of ours; values the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage; and provides justice and equity for all”.^{1,2}

In aspiring to be Australia’s world-class University of Technology we are dedicated to the advancement of knowledge and enrichment of culture. Accordingly we reaffirm our commitment to cultural diversity including an informed respect for indigenous peoples, and the observance of the principles of ethics and social justice.³

Curtin values the presence of indigenous peoples from across Australia as part of its community. We acknowledge that our main campus, near the confluence of the Canning and Swan rivers, is of particular significance to the Nyoongar people of Western Australia. We also acknowledge that other Curtin campuses are situated in areas of cultural importance in Aboriginal traditions.

The Curtin community recognises that the settlement of Australia in the past two centuries has often led to the dispossession, alienation and impoverishment of Australia’s original people. It is acknowledged that Australian indigenous peoples continue to face social and economic disadvantage, accentuated by prejudice and racism.

Curtin does not tolerate prejudice, racism or harassment in any form. In pursuing our educational mission we remain dedicated to the principles of social justice and will act in consultation with the Aboriginal community. In particular, we will

- . promote an understanding of indigenous culture and history;
- . direct strategies toward the increased participation of indigenous peoples as students and staff in the full range of university activities;
- . continue our commitment to indigenous research and development with an emphasis on health and education;
- . develop our physical environment with sensitivity and respect for indigenous traditions and beliefs through consultation with the local Aboriginal community.

This statement of Reconciliation and Commitment has been officially endorsed by Curtin University of Technology.

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1. Australian Reconciliation Convention May 26-28, 1997, Melbourne
 2. Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, established under an Act of Parliament, 1991
 3. Ethics and Social Justice Statement, Curtin University of Technology, November 1996

REVISION HISTORY:

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