2021 in numbers

5769 students developed discipline-specific academic literacies

4500 job applications processed by the Student Employment Service

3000 ePortfolio user accounts created in Portfolium

>3000 students enrolled in the GLP

>2700 LEU surveys received

1820 attended LSU academic skills development workshops

466,773 emails to students in 1930 units from 1549 unique iLearn Insights users

1543 work-integrated learning (PACE) activities delivered

987 PACE industry partners

>970 students met with WriteWISE peer writing leaders

508 enrolments in online teaching development modules

120 career and employability workshops facilitated

10 Vice-Chancellor’s Learning and Teaching Award winners

7 GLP keynote speaker events with 736 student attendees

1 GLP Graduate Celebration (the first ever!)

2276 digital credentials issued
2021 was another challenging year for the Macquarie community. Once again we successfully navigated and adapted to living with COVID-19 and survived an extended lockdown in Sydney and within the University.

Change is constant in the higher education sector and has been even more so during the pandemic. We pivoted our activities online during the second session and once again embraced our homes as our workplaces. Considerable change also began for the portfolio in February when we commenced the implementation of a workplace change process and executed a new organisational structure. Some new teams were created while other well-established teams were further enhanced or restructured. I am really pleased with how the new teams have integrated and collaborated with each other to deliver new initiatives and achieve positive outcomes for the University.

In spite of the challenges, staff in the portfolio continued to go above and beyond to deliver business as usual activities as well as exciting new initiatives to support the goals and objectives in our Operating Plan and Learning and Teaching Strategic Framework. Staff employed their resilience and adaptability skills this year more than ever and made important contributions to the learning and teaching portfolio every day. I am incredibly grateful to be able to work with such amazing colleagues across the University – colleagues who share a passion for learning and teaching and for ensuring the success of our students is at the forefront of everything we do.

Many of our portfolio’s achievements over the past year are aligned with improving the learning experience of our students or supporting staff to deliver quality learning experiences, online and in the classroom. We have continued to work with students as partners on several initiatives in the portfolio. I am always impressed by the commitment and willingness of our student partners to make a difference at Macquarie.

The 2021 Learning and Teaching Year in Review summarises the key activities undertaken by the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching), as well as acknowledging major successes from 2021. It includes ‘2021 by the numbers’ as well as a month-by-month review that highlights key milestones and achievements. I am grateful for the commitment of staff in the portfolio as well as colleagues across Macquarie for their contribution to these achievements. I am so immensely proud to be part of the united and collaborative efforts of our learning and teaching community.

There will continue to be challenges, but staff at Macquarie have the capability, resilience and fortitude to rise to meet these and find innovative and creative solutions to tackle them. I look forward to working with staff, students and members of the University community in 2022 on progressing and promoting the learning and teaching mission at Macquarie.

Professor Dominique Parrish
PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR
(Learning and Teaching)
2021 highlights

JANUARY
• The Micro-credentials Policy came into effect from 1 January. It supports the governance and implementation of micro-credentials at Macquarie.
• Purchase and implementation of Macquarie’s enterprise-wide ePortfolio platform – Portfolium – was officially completed. The ePortfolio tool is now available to all students and staff of the University.

FEBRUARY
• Implementation of the new organisational structure of the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching) commenced.
• More than 20 new learning spaces opened in the Central Courtyard precinct, providing students with the opportunity to learn in innovative spaces, supported by state-of-the-art technologies.
• iLearn drop-in clinics were held to support staff in the lead up to and start of Session 1.
• The updated TEACH website was launched to support the Macquarie learning and teaching community.
• Professional development programs including Beginning to Teach and Teaching Online were launched.
• Students and staff co-created academic integrity value proposition statements to assist with awareness raising and promotion of academic integrity across Macquarie.
• A new learning and teaching module, providing an overview of learning and teaching practices at Macquarie, was launched in Workday.
• A series of articles titled “Over a cuppa”, written by Associate Professor Agnes Bosanquet, was published in TECHE to encourage staff to reflect on their learning and teaching practice.
• The Contemporary Approaches to University Teaching MOOC, led by Macquarie University and the Council of Australasian University Leaders in Learning and Teaching (CAULLT), was launched.
• Professor Matt Bower, Associate Professor Tiffany Jones and Alexandra Bhatti were announced as award winners at the 2020 Australian Awards for University Teaching (AAUT).

MARCH
• PLaCE (Professional Learning And Capability Enhancement) Personas were launched to promote and support the implementation of the Professional Learning and Capability Enhancement (PLaCE) Framework.
• A new Staff Academic Integrity Module was launched in Workday to help teaching staff to foster academic integrity in the classroom.
• A new set of iLearn Careers in Curriculum resources were created to help staff to embed employability in the curriculum.
• A series of “Meet the Team” articles were published in TECHE to introduce the teams in the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching).
• The Careers and Employment Service team joined the Office of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching).
• The annual Careers Week was held virtually from 9–12 March, promoting career opportunities to students and facilitating students’ connections with employers.
• Student co-creation consultations were undertaken to inform the revision of Learner Experience of Unit (LEU) surveys.
APRIL

- The Global Leadership Program (GLP) introduced a new challenge titled: **Sustainability Challenge – Carbon Emissions**.
- **Live Zoom automated captioning** was made available to enhance engagement and accessibility.
- Evaluation of the new Central Courtyard learning spaces commenced to inform how we support staff who are using these spaces.
- We established the ePortfolio Advisory Group to provide advice and suggest best practice to ePortfolio practitioners across the University.
- We finalised the digital capability requirements for micro-credentials.

MAY

- Consultation was undertaken with the University community on a new summative Peer Review of Teaching process. 170 individual and group submissions were received.
- The Learning Skills Unit developed a series of videos on referencing, paraphrasing and assessment to promote academic integrity to students.
- Our new **Academic Integrity website** for students was launched.
- A review of the Student Surveying Experience Policy commenced.
- A series of articles to support the introduction of the new **Assessment Policy** was published in TECHE.
- The Global Leadership Program (GLP) hosted the Australian Ambassador for Regional Health Security, Dr. Stephanie Williams, as part of the Foreign Affairs Speaker Series.

JUNE

- We launched a new module in Workday to support teaching staff on **Echo360 Universal Capture**.
- The Session 2 **Beginning to Teach program** commenced and was fully subscribed with over 50 registrations.
- Student co-creation consultations were held for MyLearn, including demonstrations of an early prototype.
- The 2020 Judyth Sachs PACE Prizes were awarded, with 17 student prizes from 97 applications.
- We held a workshop to support staff writing learning and teaching award applications.

JULY

- Our new **Assessment Policy** was implemented on 1 July. Guidance notes to support this implementation were provided in TECHE.
- Preparations commenced for the University to revert to online teaching in Session 2 due to the ongoing lockdown in Sydney.
- The first GLP Access and Equity Strategy, developed in liaison with the Workplace Diversity and Inclusion team, was launched.
- Macquarie hosted **Univative**, an inter-university and interdisciplinary career development competition, in the mid-session break. Macquarie student teams won 13 out of 17 projects in the competition.
- iLearn drop-in clinics were held via Zoom to support staff in the lead up to Session 2.
- We launched a new feature in **Echo360** to enable students to access transcripts of their lectures.
- To further enhance and promote academic integrity at Macquarie, a new feature in **Turnitin** enables students to view similarity reports of their written assessment.

AUGUST

- We made changes to the Learner Evaluation of Unit (LEU) survey instruments and process. These included the creation of two new LEU survey instruments and surveys of all units every time they are offered.
- Additional ZOOM resources were made available to support staff with the return to online teaching. These included a series of **Zoom for Teaching** workshops and a new Zoom for teaching module on iLearn.
- A video featuring student feedback on their learning experiences during COVID-19 was launched. ‘The learning experience during a pandemic’ production was created by Macquarie students.
- The annual Student Experience Survey (SES) was launched.
- We launched a new podcast – **Bite-sized Learning Technology (BLT)** – to promote new learning innovations and technologies.
- We launched **Symplicity Advocate Incident System (SAIS)** – a new system to manage academic integrity breaches.
- The GLP hosted the Head of the Trade Section from High Commission of Canada as part of its Foreign Affairs Speaker Series.

SEPTEMBER

- We finalised the Service Model and Metrics dashboard for the Office of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching) portfolio. The dashboard provides visibility of service delivery across the portfolio, aligning to the ‘Ways of Working’ priority in the Operating Plan. It provides a platform to demonstrate how each team is achieving success by sharing data on key metrics, as well as monthly team updates and positive feedback.
- A set of **Online Learning Design Standards** to support the implementation of a standardised University-wide template on iLearn for all units were endorsed at the Senate Learning and Teaching Committee (SLTC). The standards address student concerns about inconsistency across iLearn in relation to accessing unit and assessment information, with a self-check tool for staff to ensure that their iLearn sites meet requirements. Implementation of these standards will commence in Session 1, 2022.
- We delivered a Course Review Student Feedback Survey to support the new Course Accreditation review process.
- The GLP hosted Elaine Pearson, Australia Director, Human Rights Watch, as part of its Foreign Affairs Speaker Series.
OCTOBER

- **Professor Veena Sahajwalla** from UNSW was the guest speaker at the GLP Annual Innovative Leaders Speaker Series.
- The GLP created and finalised an Undergraduate and Postgraduate GLP Employability Skills Catalogue, which includes a reflection activity for all students graduating from the program.
- A new **Open for Observation** pilot program was launched. It enables staff to attend and observe teaching in action for some Session 2 online classes.
- Final Advanced Higher Education fellowships were awarded to Macquarie staff.
- The Vice-Chancellor endorsed a plan for Macquarie’s implementation of the National Priorities and Industry Linkages Funding (NPILF) package.
- **Univative** was shortlisted in the NSW International Student Community Engagement Award Category at the NSW International Student Awards.
- We finalised our review of the Judyth Sachs PACE Prizes, including a series of recommendations on how the prizes could be improved for the future.

NOVEMBER

The **Academic Staff Awards** were delivered virtually for the second year. Every two years, including 2021, the Vice-Chancellor’s Learning and Teaching Awards and the Research Excellence Awards come together to celebrate the nexus of these two important missions of the University. Seventy-two learning and teaching applications were received. The ten winners of the 2021 Vice-Chancellor’s Learning and Teaching Awards were:

**EDUCATIONAL LEADER AWARD**
Professor Leonie Tickle, Macquarie Business School

**TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Dr Alissa Beath, Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences

**LEARNING INNOVATION AWARD**
Shamim Joarder, Office of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching)

**EARLY-CAREER AWARD**
Dr Joel Fuller, Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences

**SESSIONAL STAFF AWARD**
Dr Amanda Head, Faculty of Arts

**STUDENT-NOMINATED AWARD**
Dr Holly Doel-Mackaway, Faculty of Arts
Dr Petra Graham, Faculty of Science and Engineering
Professor Debbie Haski-Leventhal, Macquarie Business School
Dr Prashan S. M. Karunaratne, Macquarie Business School
Dr John Turchini, Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences

- We launched our new student portal, **Employability Connect**. It provides a centralised portal for students’ employability needs at Macquarie and includes a new module to support applications for work-integrated learning opportunities, jobs and other application processes.
- We finalised a Macquarie Employability Skills Guide for students to assist with the promotion of skills most sought after by employers.
- The updated **Academic Integrity Policy** and new **Academic Integrity Breach Procedure** were endorsed by Academic Senate.
- New **Teaching Development Resources** to support the PLaCE Framework were launched on TECHE, including articles, guidance documents, tips and links.

DECEMBER

- **We developed a new module in Workday on the Macquarie Content Management System (MQCMS)** to help staff understand its features and functions.
- Associate Professor Joanne Jamie, Faculty of Science and Engineering, won the **Opportunity and Inclusion Award** at the 2021 Australian Financial Review Higher Education Awards.
- Consultation began on the **draft Employability Strategy and Framework**.
- We finalised a Career Teaching Package for use by high school career advisors including the self-paced online module ‘Leap your Career’. The module aims to engage school teachers/educators with skills and training resources to promote career-specific knowledge for students from under-represented and other disadvantaged backgrounds.
- The **Teaching and Leadership Community of Practice** hosted two events:
  - an online panel on Teaching and Leadership, featuring Professor Dominique Parrish, Professor Matt Bower and Associate Professor Wylie Bradford
  - a presentation on emotionally intelligent leadership by Professor Dominique Parrish.

- **Consultation began on the draft Employability Strategy and Framework.**
- **We finalised a Career Teaching Package for use by high school career advisors including the self-paced online module ‘Leap your Career’**. The module aims to engage school teachers/educators with skills and training resources to promote career-specific knowledge for students from under-represented and other disadvantaged backgrounds.
- The **Teaching and Leadership Community of Practice** hosted two events:
  - an online panel on Teaching and Leadership, featuring Professor Dominique Parrish, Professor Matt Bower and Associate Professor Wylie Bradford
  - a presentation on emotionally intelligent leadership by Professor Dominique Parrish.

- The **updated Student Survey Policy and Procedure** was endorsed by the Interim DVC(A).
- The GLP held its inaugural Graduate Celebration.
- **MQ Employer Connect** was launched, providing a centralised portal for employers to engage with Macquarie on employment and work integrated learning opportunities.
- The Learning Skills Unit finalised a new name for the team. Now known as the **Academic Literacies Unit**, the name accurately reflects the team’s key responsibilities and will be formally adopted from Session 1 2022.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to the following staff for their contribution and support in finalising the 2021 Learning and Teaching Year in Review.

Professor Dominique Parrish, James Barrow, Associate Professor Agnes Bosanquet, Anneke Rowe Courtemanche, Kylie Ebert, Peta Harris, Biswa Khatri, Christine Lewis, Amanda Parker, Phillip Raponi, Cathy Rytmeister, Arda Tezcan, Dr Robyn Westcott.