

Arts, Design & Architecture

ADA Indigenous Action Plan (2026–2028)

The ADA Indigenous Action Plan (2026–2028) has been shaped through the leadership of Indigenous academics and staff and informed by collaborative input across portfolios and disciplines. This Action Plan sets out the strategic priorities and key focus areas for the ADA Indigenous Portfolio from **2026–2028**. It builds on outcomes from the ADA Indigenous Portfolio Planning Day and aligns with the **DVCI Strategic Action Plan 2028**, the **ADA Operational Plan**, and [UNSW's Societal Impact Framework](#). The Plan provides a clear structure to guide delivery, accountability, and reporting across the Portfolio.

Vision: Through creativity, collaboration and inclusion **we seek and solve problems to improve life on earth.**



Culture and
Country



Give
Back



Grow
our Own

ADA Indigenous Portfolio Priorities

- **Student Success:** Improve Indigenous student enrolment, retention and completion through coordinated, culturally safe support.
- **Engagement and Pathways:** Increase Indigenous participation in ADA programs by strengthening school, community and access pathways.
- **Respectful Relationships:** Strengthen culturally responsive practice across ADA by advancing Indigenous knowledges, leadership and co-design.
- **Real Partnerships:** Build and sustain reciprocal partnerships that support learning, research, workforce pathways and societal impact.

Strategic Alignment

The Action Plan directly supports the following **DVCI Strategic Action Plan outcomes:**

- Increased Indigenous enrolments, retention, and graduation rates
- UNSW programs contain recognised Indigenous knowledges
- Indigenous representation strengthened
- Increased sense of belonging across Indigenous staff
- Enhanced Indigenous governance

Actions within this Plan also align with [UNSW's Societal Impact Framework](#), particularly the principles of **equity, inclusion, capability-building, and co-creation with communities**.

Action Area	Key Action/ Initiative	Delivery	Collaborators Note: additional will be added as initiative develop.	Year	DVCI Outcome Supported	Measure (Evidence- Based)
Student Success	Delivery of Indigenous Tuition Program [ITP] Blak Hack	Appoint an Indigenous Student Engagement and Support Specialist	Natalee Rolani-Golding and Rebekah Torrens	2026	Enrolments, retention, graduation.	Evidence of increased participation; initiatives established and ongoing.
Student Success	Support Indigenous HDR students through culturally safe research focused support.	Facilitate Indigenous HDR Yarning Circles; integrate HDR- specific academic support.	Liza-Mare Syron, Fabri Blacklock, Rebekah Torrens, Natalee Rolani-Golding, ADA HDR Portfolio	2026 to 2027	Retention, completion, sense of belonging	Improved HDR engagement and satisfaction; timely progression.
Engagement and Pathways	Grow Indigenous student access and pathways. Indigenous Pre- Programs	Deliver Portfolio Entry Workshops; expand Indigenous Pre- Programs	Liza-Mare Syron, Fabri Blacklock, Natalee Rolani-Golding, Rebekah Torrens, Tessa Carnegie, UNSW Future Students	2026 to 2028	Increased Indigenous enrolment	Increase access opportunities for potential Indigenous students.
Engagement and Pathways	Strengthen school and community engagement.	Engage schools; targeted outreach activities.	Natalee Rolani-Golding	2026 to 2028	Access and participation	Develop and maintain a centralised database to strengthen relationships and connections.
Engagement and Pathways	Implement targeted recruitment and communications.	Develop a recruitment and marketing plan to attract Indigenous students to ADA.	Natalee Rolani-Golding, UNSW Future Students	2026	Enrolments and representation	Increased connection with future students.

Respectful Relationships	Work across ADA Schools to develop shared learning outcomes that ensure Indigenous knowledges are represented within curriculum.	Implement Curriculum Framework	Anissa Jones, Liza-Mare Syron, Fabri Blacklock	2026 to 2028	Indigenous Knowledges embedded	Indigenous content embedded across programs.
Respectful Relationships	Amplify Indigenous Leadership and Governance	ADA Indigenous Reference Committee [IRC]	Liza-Mare Syron, Fabri Blacklock, Tessa Carnegie	2026 to 2028	Indigenous representation strengthened	IRC meetings delivered as scheduled, with actions tracked and progressed.
Respectful Relationships	Strengthen Cross-Faculty Collaboration	Work across the Faculty to identify and deliver targeted Indigenous projects and programs.	Liza-Mare Syron, Fabri Blacklock	2026 to 2028	Enhanced Indigenous governance	Pilot projects implemented and evaluated for broader Faculty adoption.
Real Partnerships	Establish industry and community partnerships.	Map partners and placements; strengthen industry pipeline.	Liza-Mare Syron, Fabri Blacklock, Tessa Carnegie	2026 to 2028	Representation strengthened	Identify partnerships and strengthen relationship-building to support delivery of the Creative Hub.
Real Partnerships	Strengthen Indigenous research partnerships.	Enable collaborative Indigenous research and HDR engagement.	Liza-Mare Syron, Fabri Blacklock, Rebekah Torrens, Natalee Rolani-Golding, Tessa Carnegie, ADA HDR Portfolio	2027	Representation; governance	Increased HDR participation in research activities.