OUR COMMITMENT TO EVERY STUDENT

CONNECT: IN2UNI ANNUAL REPORT 2013

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WHAT IS IN2UNI?

In2Uni is a unique partnership between the University of Wollongong (UOW), the Department of Education & Communities (DEC) and the Catholic Education Office (CEO) which aims to lift educational aspirations, build capacity in preparation for University and provides opportunity for school students to experience University life.

In 2013 UOW's In2Uni Program offered a range of activities, including Academic Mentoring, Leadership & Transition Workshops, on-campus experiences, subject specific mentoring and parent and teacher engagement.

The In2Uni Program is underpinned by the Design and Evaluation Matrix for Outreach (DEMO) and the Learner Progression Framework.

Assembling Resources	Engaging Learners	Working Together	Building Confidence
People Rich	Recognition of Difference	Collaboration	Communication & Information
Financial Support/Incentives	Enhanced Academic Curriculum	Cohort Based	Familiarisation & Site Experiences
Early, Long Term, Sustained	Research Driven		

In2Uni aims to:

1. Develop, foster and sustain mutually beneficial collaborations and partnerships with key stakeholders.
2. Build aspirations of low SES communities and individuals towards Higher Education
3. Build capacity to successfully navigate pathways to Higher Education
4. Strengthen relationships with parents and local communities to build an awareness and knowledge about Higher Education.

37
PRIMARY SCHOOLS PARTICIPATED IN THE IN2UNI PROGRAM

23
HIGH SCHOOLS PARTICIPATED IN THE IN2UNI PROGRAM

3,642
STUDENTS ENGAGED IN THE IN2UNI PROGRAM IN 2013

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WHY IN2UNI?

Following findings of the Bradley Review into higher education Australian universities set targets to increase the access and participation rates of people from underrepresented backgrounds in higher education as well as supporting their engagement as students at a university level.

UOW'S Strategic Plan 2013 - 2018

UOW's In2Uni Program is guided by UOW's Strategic Plan in the following areas:

UOW Strategic Plan 3.1: Promote high quality regional partnerships as an integrated educational outreach strategy involving our faculties and regional campuses
UOW Strategic Plan 3.2: Embed our framework for Social Inclusion, aligned with clear student targets and support mechanisms, including our Indigenous education strategy

DEC'S Strategic Plan 2012 - 2017

UOW's In2Uni Program is guided by the Department of Education's (DEC) Strategic Plan in the following areas:

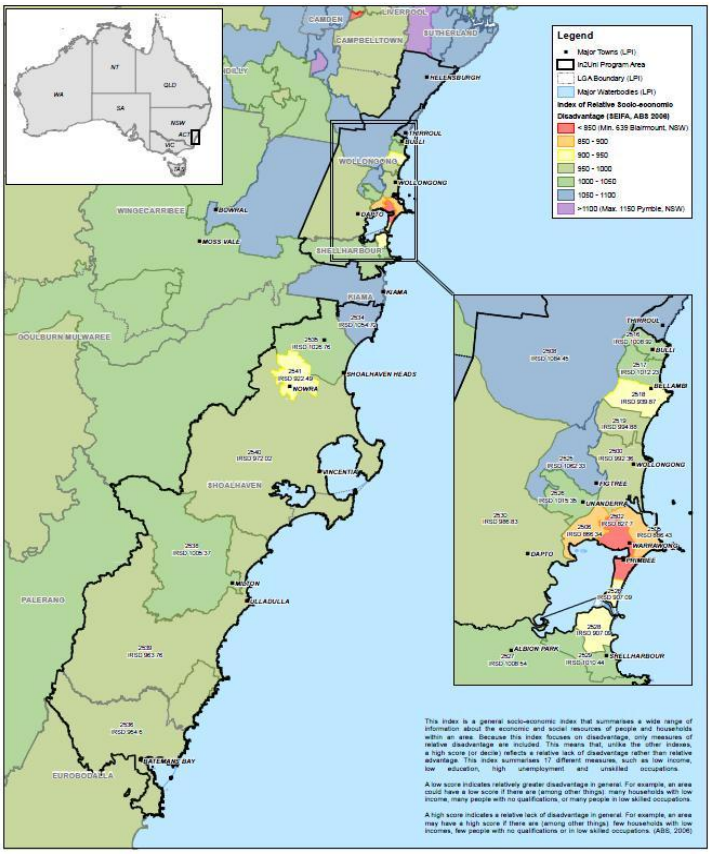
Increase the numbers of students eligible for university entrance

Increase in achievement at all levels of education and training, including completion of higher level qualifications

Increase the proportion of tertiary education students from underrepresented groups e.g. Aboriginal students, students from low socioeconomic backgrounds, and rural and remote students.

IN2UNI: REACH & VALUE

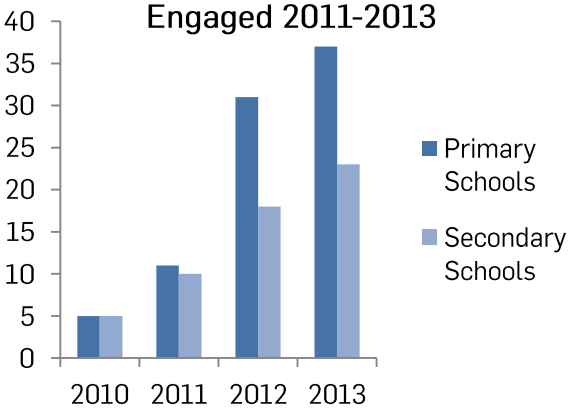
The University of Wollongong's In2Uni Program is committed to raising the aspirations and academic capacity of school students in its local communities. The In2Uni Program engages schools as far north as Bellambi and as far south as Eden.



During 2013, there has been a focus on developing In2Uni to ensure sustainability in the longer term.

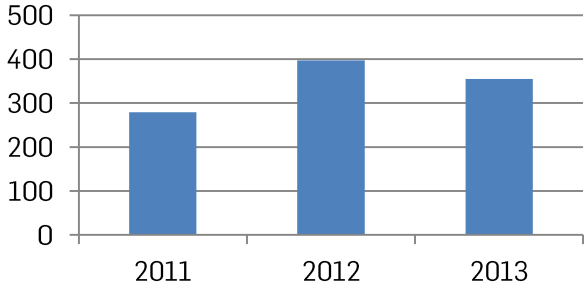
In 2013, an additional 11 schools joined the In2Uni Program.

Figure 1: Number of Schools Engaged 2011-2013



Over the last three years, In2Uni has been working with schools in the Illawarra South East region. The combined efforts of the schools, universities and other community service providers has seen an increase in the number of students from In2Uni high schools enrolling at the University of Wollongong.

Figure 2: Enrolments from In2Uni High Schools 2011-2013



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YEAR 6 ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Year 6 Engagement Program is a stage 3 program which aims to start the conversation with students about higher education. It gives students the opportunity to experience university, interact with university students and staff and think about why they might like to consider study beyond school. The Year 6 Engagement Program is a five-week teacher delivered module that links to the NSW Curriculum. The program involves a unit of work delivered by trained primary school teaching staff and a visit to a University of Wollongong campus by students, parents and teachers.

1206

STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE YEAR 6 ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM IN 2013

50%

OF STUDENTS SURVEYED INDICIATED THAT NO ONE IN THEIR FAMILY HAS ATTENDED UNIVERSITY

Table 1: Summary of school, student, parent and teacher participants in the 2013 Year 6 Engagement Program

Region	No. of Schools	No. of Year 6 Students	No. of Parents	No. of Teachers
Wollongong and Shoalhaven	34	1,041	522	65
Batemans Bay	2	79	8	3
Bega	1	86	4	6

Figure 3: After participating in the Year 6 Engagement Program, students indicated they now have a better understanding of university.

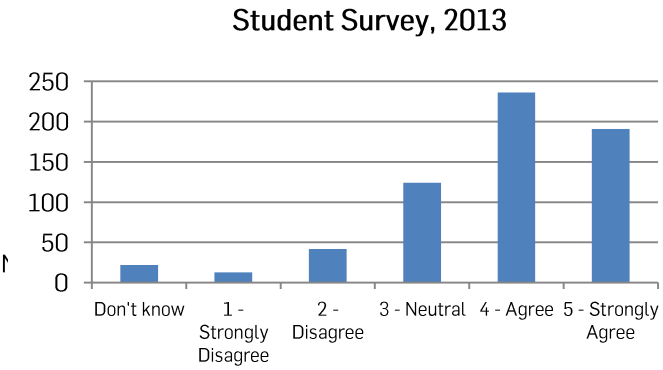
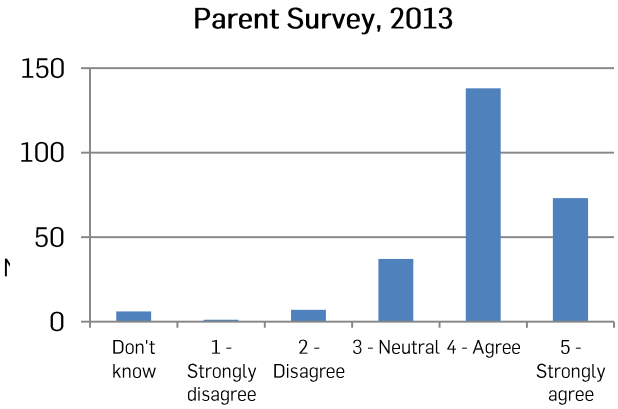


Figure 4: After attending the Year 6 Engagement Day, parents said the experience encouraged further conversations with their child about their career options.



Qualitative Comments

"...we really got involved and I think it's inspired me to study at Uni" – Year 6 Student, 2013

"...we got to do something we had never done before"- Year 6 Student, 2013

"Information relevant to all my kids and myself"- Parent, 2013

"Really informative, hands on activity that allowed them to see first-hand Uni life"- Primary School Teacher, 2013

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YEAR 7-10 ACADEMIC MENTORING PROGRAM

The Academic Mentoring Program is a ten week program designed to provide students with an introduction to the language of higher education and to help them recognise the link between school and university. The program provides students with the opportunity to 'taste' what it is like to study university style projects whilst still at school. Schools are invited to select from a series of teacher delivered modules that reflect the degrees offered at the University of Wollongong and are linked to the NSW Curriculum. The St George Illawarra Dragons supported this program by running 5 skills based workshops that tied into the Health & Behavioural Science Module.

832

STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE ACADEMIC MENTORING PROGRAM IN 2013

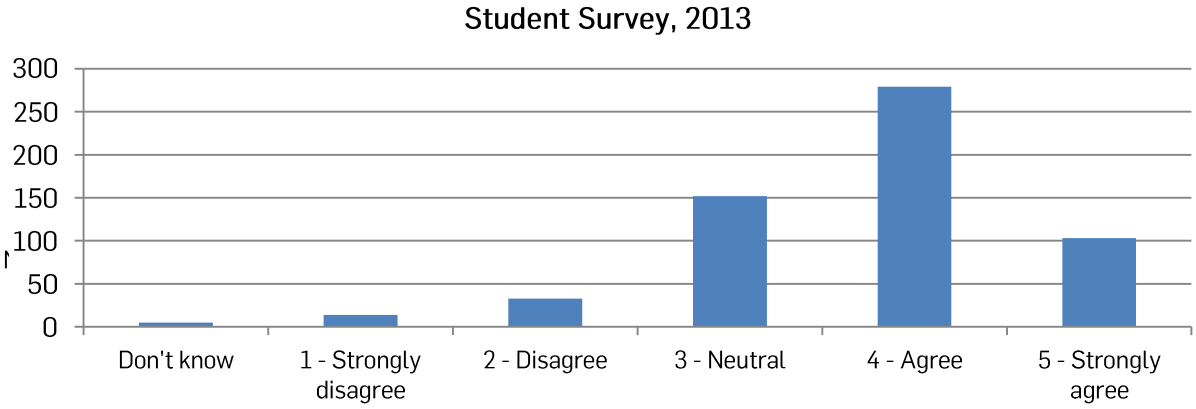
41%

OF STUDENTS SURVEYED INDICIATED THAT NO ONE IN THEIR FAMILY HAS ATTENDED UNIVERSITY

Table 2: Summary of school and student participants in the 2013 Academic Mentoring Program

Region	No. of Schools	No. of Students
Wollongong and Shoalhaven	16	668
Batemans Bay	5	118
Bega	1	46

Figure 5: After participating in the Academic Mentoring Program, students indicated they now have a better understanding of higher education.



Qualitative Comments

"Students applied themselves quite well ... they enjoyed the self-directed approach and 'Uni' style"- High School Teacher, 2013

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YEAR 9 & 10 UNIQUE EXPERIENCE DAY

Year 9 and 10 students from our partner schools were invited onto campus in November to take part in an on-site University experience. The day was hosted by In2Uni, AIME and Woolyungah Indigenous Centre. It allowed the students to experience taster sessions in a faculty of their choosing, hear from Alumni speakers including Adam Bezzina from the St George Illawarra Dragons, complete an orienteering activity around the campus, and partake in University trivia that provided financial assistance information and advice on alternative pathway options.

530

STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE UNIQUE EXPERIENCE DAY

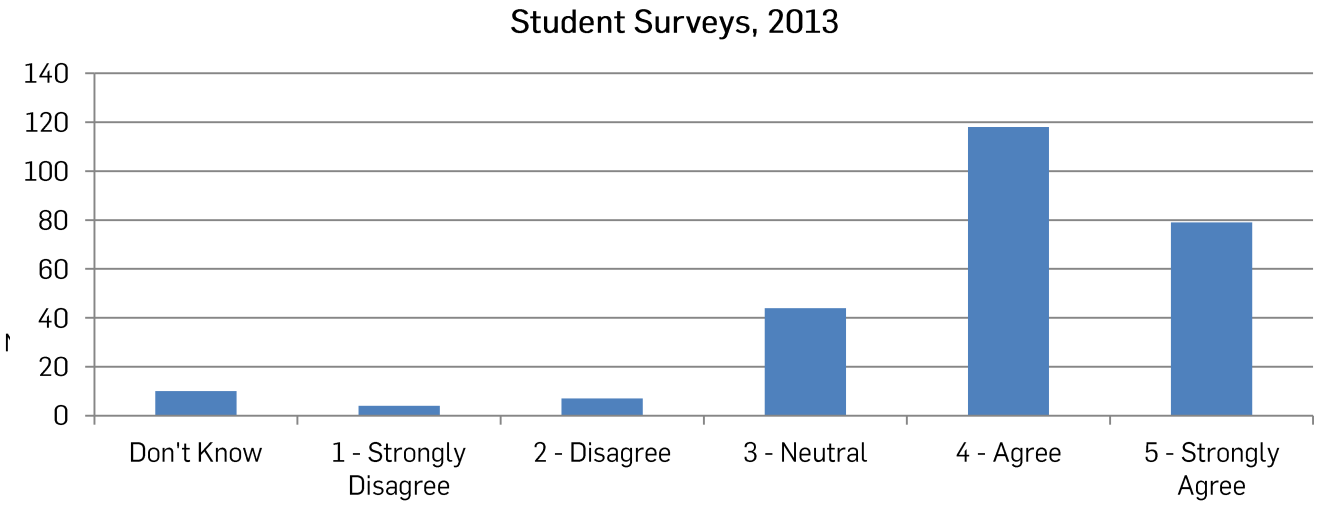
48%

OF STUDENTS SURVEYED INDICIATED THAT NO ONE IN THEIR FAMILY HAS ATTENDED UNIVERSITY

Table 3: Summary of school, student, teacher participants in the 2013 UNIque Experience Day

Region	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers
Wollongong and Shoalhaven	15	501	31
Batemans Bay	1	29	1

Figure 6: Students found that after participating in the UNIque Experience Day that it was easier to imagine themselves at University.



Qualitative Comments

"Learnt a lot and found it interesting"- High School Student, 2013

"...I learnt more about Uni life" - High School Student, 2013

"...it was fun to see what's around" - High School Student, 2013

YEAR 11 & 12 LEADERSHIP & TRANSITION WORKSHOPS

Senior students had the opportunity to work with their In2Uni Mentors during school-based workshops. The focused on study skills, career options and activities that facilitated their transition into higher education.

The Leadership and Transition Workshops target the additional skills required for higher education: approaching study; writing critical essays; researching effectively; and setting goals for the future.

524

INDIVIDUALSTUDENTS COMPLETED AT LEAST ONE OF FOUR WORKSHOPS

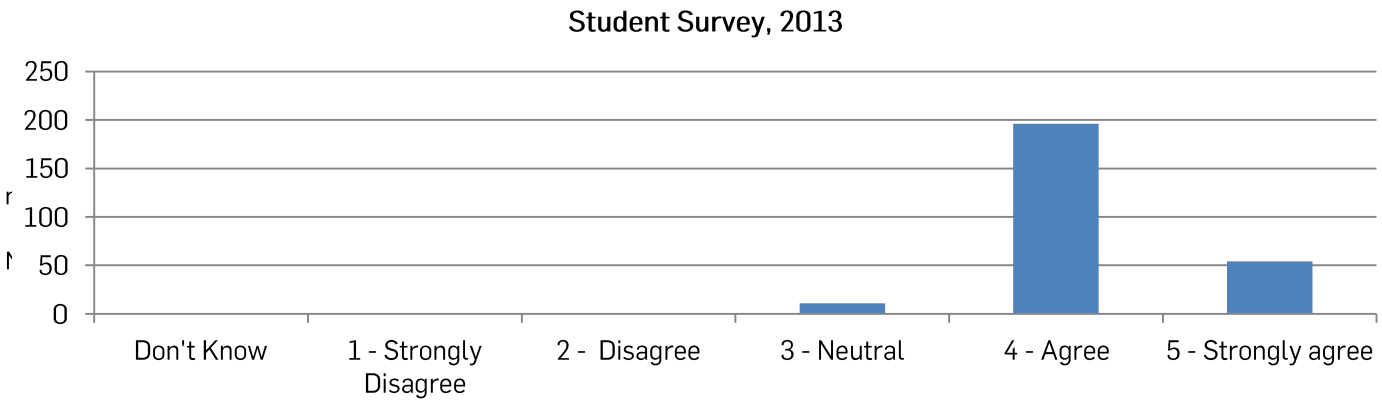
50%

OF STUDENTS SURVEYED INDICIATED THAT NO ONE IN THEIR FAMILY HAS ATTENDED UNIVERSITY

Table 4: Summary of school, student, teacher participants in the Leadership & Transition Workshops

Region	No. of Schools	No. of Workshops	No. of Students
Wollongong and Shoalhaven	12	48	404
Batemans Bay	3	2	95
Bega	2	8	25

Figure 7: Students found that participating in the Leadership & Transition Workshops that it assisted with their study skills at home and in the classroom.



Qualitative Comments

"I found each segment of the workshop to be both helpful and interesting and the mentors are always approachable and make an effort to make each subject more appealing..."- High School Student, 2013

YEAR 12 HSC & ACADEMIC ADVISING PROGRAM

Year 12 Students had the opportunity to receive assistance in their HSC classes from mentors with knowledge in subject specific fields. The Academic Advising Program consisted of Peer Assisted style learning, in a small group setting, where students could explore their career goals and post school options.

Examples of HSC subjects that students had the option of receiving extra help include: English, Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Society and Culture.

226

STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE YEAR 12 HSC & ACADEMIC ADVISING PROGRAM

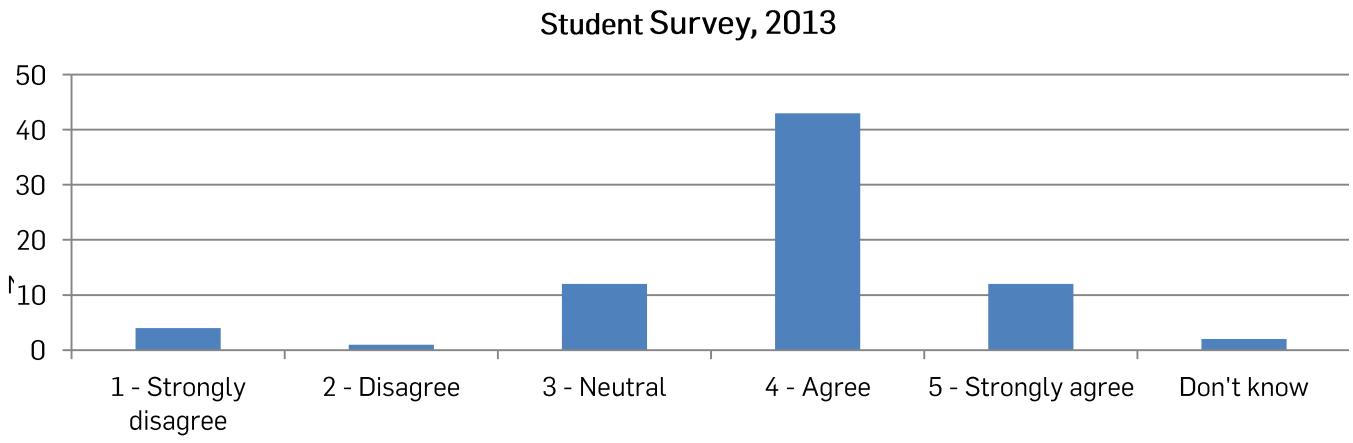
50%

OF STUDENTS SURVEYED INDICATED THAT NO ONE IN THEIR FAMILY HAS ATTENDED UNIVERSITY

Table 5: Summary of school and student participants in the Year 12 HSC & Academic Advising Program.

Region	No. of Schools	No. of Students
Wollongong and Shoalhaven	11	186
Batemans Bay	3	18
Bega	2	22

Figure 8: Students found that participating in the Year 12 HSC & Academic Advising Program assisted with their study skills at home and in the classroom.



Qualitative Comments

"It was fantastic I would recommend this to anyone and everyone" - High School Student, 2013

"The mentors are great! So supportive, understanding and knowledgeable!"- High School Student, 2013

SUMMER MASTER CLASSES: ARTS001

ARTS001: 'Belonging in the Community' is a two week intensive subject for Year 12 students during the school holidays. Over two weeks students were enrolled as a university student and took part in lectures, tutorials and master classes. On successful completion of the subject, students enhanced their knowledge about the theme of 'Belonging' relevant to the HSC and receive six credit points towards an Arts undergraduate program at UOW the following year.

21

STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN AND SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE ARTS001 SUBJECT

71%

OF STUDENTS APPLIED AND SUCCESSFULLY RECEIVED EARLY ADMISSIONS TO UOW

66% of students surveyed indicated that no one in their family has attended university

100% of students agreed that by participating in the subject that they now had a deeper knowledge of the subject area.

100% of students agreed that after completing ARTS001 that they will be more committed to their school studies.

100% of students who participated in ARTS001 said that they now have a better understanding of University.

ARTS001 Student being presented with his completion certificate by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education) Professor Eeva Leinonen

Qualitative Comments

"Thank you for the great opportunity! It was amazing" – ARTS001 Student
"In2Uni Mentors were really helpful and supportive" – ARTS001 Student
"It was a lot of work but in the end it was worth it" – ARTS001 Student
"It was very busy but a great experience!" – ARTS001 Student

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TRANSITION CALLING CAMPAIGN

The Transition Calling Campaign was designed to target students from In2Uni high schools and provide them with a first point of contact once their University Admissions Offer (UAC) offers had been released. The call centre was staffed by In2Uni Mentors who attended In2Uni high schools and had developed a mentoring relationship with the students. The call centre operated after business hours and provided advice on UAC offers and acceptance, alternative entry pathways, In2Uni scholarships, transition advice and employment opportunities including In2Uni Mentor recruitment.

281

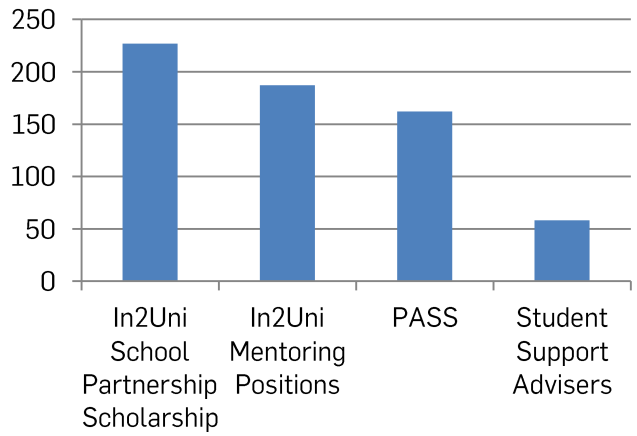
STUDENTS FROM IN2UNI HIGH SCHOOLS WERE MADE AN OFFER IN THE UAC MAIN ROUND TO UOW

91%

OF IN2UNI STUDENTS WERE CONTACTED DURING THE CAMPAIGN

As a result of the phone calls, students were sent individualised support packages, dependent upon their needs. The figure below outlines the number of students who requested information about relevant support services and subsequently contacted by the support service.

Figure 9: No. of Students contacted by Support Services



The In2Uni Program experienced the following as a direct result from the calling campaign:

- From 2012 to 2013, there was a 40% increase in the number of applicants who applied for In2Uni School Partnership Scholarships.
- 21% increase in applications to become an In2Uni Mentor

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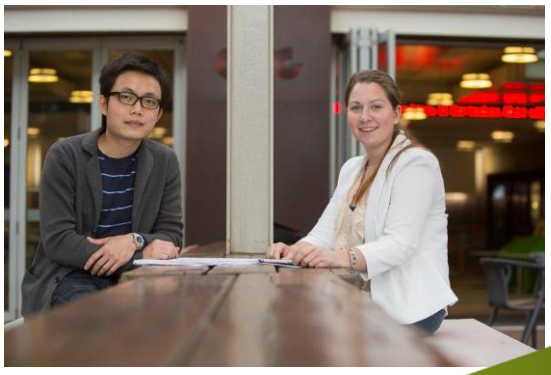
IN2UNI SCHOLARSHIPS & FUNDRAISING



In 2013, In2Uni Scholarships were open to enrolled domestic undergraduate first year students to assist them with their transition to university life. The scholarships were open to students who attended an In2Uni high school, required financial assistance as demonstrated by Centrelink income support payment/s or equivalent documents, and were Australian citizens or Permanent Residents.

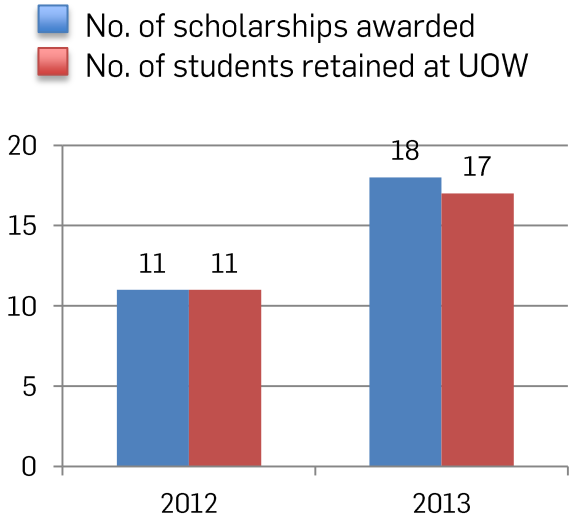
18

IN2UNI SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS WORTH $1,000 WERE AWARDED IN 2013.

$27 000

WAS RAISED THROUGOUT THE YEAR FOR IN2UNI SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2014.

Figure 10: The figure below demonstrates the number of scholarships awarded since the In2Uni Scholarship commenced, together with the number of recipients who are still currently enrolled at UOW as at December, 2013.



In 2013, COMM390 interns from the Faculty of Business undertook an internship placement with the In2Uni Program. The interns undertook a fundraising campaign resulting in a trivia night that raised $2,078.

Additionally, In2Uni Mentors together raised $4,705 for the scholarship fund through the selling of fundraising chocolates.

Funds were also kindly donated by the Faculty of Business and a number of private donors.

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HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

For more information about how you can learn more about the In2Uni Program

Please visit our website
www.uow.edu.au/in2uni

Follow 'UOW In2Uni' on Facebook

or contact our program staff.

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