



Green Gown Awards
Australasia

Learning, Teaching & Skills

2020 Case Study



Griffith Business School

The road to Tri Hita Karana

Our Griffith GCBA and MBA are value-driven and designed to transform leaders from ordinary business thinking and acting into extra-ordinary, value-driven business leadership for a sustainable future for us all. There are many meaningful initiatives that form our programs including:

- Deeply embedded into the program are the 17 SDGs with each of our three core values representing specific groups of SDGs. We practice, teach, and assess each of these from both a course and program level.
- We complete ongoing program-led course audits and updates to ensure that we teach, practice, and assess presence- and future-focused content – such as crisis and pandemic relevant and related course material.
- Our ‘MBA for Life’ stands for life-long learning and each of our monthly boardroom lunches and MBA for Life events for MBA students and Alumni always focus on value-related content with the “Roadmap to Recovery” at the centre of the last 4 months of events.
- Throughout the pandemic, we hosted a free-of-charge, “Roadmap to Recovery + Regeneration” co-creation workshop series for Griffith University MBA students and alumni with a ‘Regeneration and Recovery’ digital badge. We are compiling a public compendium based on the knowledge

creation of this series. Over 79 students and alumni expressed their interest to participate in this workshop series.

- We have several MBA scholarships each year, with over 250 applications for our 2019 ‘Queensland Business Magazine Griffith MBA Responsible Leadership Scholarships’ in collaboration with the Courier Mail. The Griffith Business School fully funds this scholarship, who is awarded to applicants that aspire our values. We also award MBA scholarships to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as well as Women’s MBA scholarships.
- We are strong competitors in national and international MBA competitions including the Global Business Challenge, Aspen Case Competition, and Corporate Knights Better World competitions where we have made it to several finals.

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Environmental & Social Benefits

Griffith University is committed to be a diverse and inclusive community, with a long-standing dedication to environmental sustainability, as well as recognising the importance and history of First Peoples knowledge, culture and talent. Specifically, Griffith will undertake an ambitious recruitment strategy including recruitment of senior First Peoples leaders and develop a framework for recruitment of Indigenous academic and professional staff across the University. Also, we aim at reaching 2% of our academic and professional staff being Indigenous, with a clear plan to reaching population parity after this. Additionally, we develop an action plan to align Griffith with the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change by halving carbon emissions by 2030 and reducing them to zero by 2050. Furthermore, we develop an integrated plan to protect our flora and fauna, recognising that we are the stewards of diverse ecosystems across our campuses.

MBA specific benefits (we are making a conscious decision on what we do and don't do) include our yearly carbon audit with a national accredited carbon auditor. It allows us to understand our carbon footprint in order to actively reduce emissions as well as giving back by committing to carbon-negative projects in our region. Also, we have a sustainable and ethical procurement of food and gifts including partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres-Strait Islander businesses and artists. Moreover, we are conscious of the production of animal products: In catering for events we do not order any food that is meat-based. For 2021, we are drafting a code-of-conduct for the GCBA and MBA that embodies our value-based thinking and acting in all we do as a program within our community.



Leadership & Engagement

Whilst there are and have been many Masters program with a sustainability focus, we were the first MBA in Australia to be truly sustainability focused with the 17 SDGs underpinning our program and all courses through three core values. Also, unlike most MBA programs in Australia and overseas, who focus on a traditional business education, we have a proven way to change the ways business leaders think about business as they embark on a transformational learning journey with us. We aim to change how they think and act when it comes to business. Lastly, we were the first MBA in Australia to be offsetting our carbon footprint and our work is very focused to continuously reduce this footprint with an aim of becoming officially carbon neutral.

Wider Societal Impact

History matters: We have consistently delivered the value-based MBA for over 12 years now and during this time we have progressed in our understanding of how to instil the three dimensions of harmony for the highest impact on our students and graduates. We have had over a thousand students that have completed our degree by now representing almost all industry sectors in the country. We have hundreds of active alumni that we have close interactions with and who promote our values actively into their organisations and communities.

We have over 50 proven stories of graduates who have had a personal transformation based on their learning journey with us in 2019 alone and each of these have made significant impact on people, processes, and products within their respective sectors and communities. With our three value pillars embedded strategically into the 17 UN SDGs that are embedded in all our MBA and GCBA courses, we have created a learning journey that allows students and graduates a clear trajectory to enact on each of these goals in the most meaningful and impactful manner.

Top 3 Learnings

Transform corporate leadership thinking and acting to value-based responsible leadership

Renew traditional business practices with regenerative, circular sustainable business strategies

Move towards meaningful and peaceful collaborations for shared value across the Asia-Pacific region

