



WATTLE CONNECT

Teaching and Learning 2021 and beyond

Wednesday October 7

Indigenous Acknowledgement

- We acknowledge the proud history, culture and learnings of our indigenous people.
- They used wattle as a source of food, medicine and for the quality of its timber, used in the production of a range of tools and weapons.



Wattle Day

- Wattle is Australia's national floral emblem
- Wattle Day is celebrated on 1st September
- It symbolises Spring and new life
- Hope for the future



'Woman holding a wattle branch' photograph, about 1900

Teaching in 2020

- Can you list three major changes that occurred with your teaching this year?
- How did students' learning change?
- How did the university change?

Reflections on teaching

- What things would you never do again?
- List some improvements that occurred during the year.
- What did you learn about yourself as a teacher?

Teaching into 2021

- How do you think teaching will be different for you?
- What things will be different for the students?
- How will UOW be different?

Universities in 2021

- In what ways will universities be different in 2021 to what has come before?
- Are things ever going to be as they were prior to 2020?
- What are your hopes for the future?

Thank you

- From the WATTLE committee thank you for your contributions to today's WATTLE Connect.
- Please keep in touch and forward any ideas you have for future WATTLE events to academy-wattle@uow.edu.au
- A reminder that our next seminar is **Friday October 16th at 12.30** "Tips for Avoiding Burnout"



Summary of Points raised by the participants

- There were 18 participants at the forum.
- Everyone still reeling from changes that have had to be made in 2020
- All of us have had to improve our technology skills across the campus
- Concerns were raised about students and their stress levels particularly international students
- Applications for academic consideration have increased with the reasons being much more serious and involve deep suffering for some students. Eg Indian students whose families have Covid and no income
- Suggestion made to give students free access to bandwidth so they can be more involved in zoom and use cameras
- Access to laptops (bulk purchases) to bring down the cost of technology for students.
- It looks like online teaching is here to stay but running 2 hour lectures online does not work. Alternatives such as alternating with online activities much better.
- We have lost some intimacy with students so need to try to do that online.
- Campus life has changed dramatically and is about much more than the teaching part of uni. Social interaction amongst students is such a significant part of uni education.
- Some individual students have received support but we are not always aware of their personal problems and needs unless they reach out.