We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the campus stands and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. USC Gympie is located on the land of the Kabi Kabi/Gubbi Gubbi people.

Campus vision statement

USC Gympie will contribute towards achieving the goals of USC's Strategic Plan by providing the best possible student experience whilst raising aspirations and delivering a transformational opportunity to the Gympie region's community to access higher education, as well as contributing to the overall economic growth of the region through community capacity building initiatives.

USC vision and goals

USC Gympie’s vision aligns with that of USC, namely:

USC will be a university of international standing and an unsurpassed community asset, focusing on the region from Moreton Bay to Fraser Coast.

Furthermore, USC Gympie works collaboratively across the USC portfolio to pursue the same goals as those of USC overall, specifically to become:

- a primary engine of capacity building for our region
- a comprehensive multi-campus university growing towards 35,000 students, and
- positioned globally as a top-500 university, and a top-100 university under 50 years of age.

Context statement

Gympie is a regional community of just over 51,000 people, located 70 kilometers north of USC’s Sunshine Coast campus. It is amongst the communities with the lowest uptake of tertiary studies, being half that of the state average (7 percent compared to 15 percent).

USC Gympie is located in the natural surrounds of the Gympie Education Hub and connects to USC Sunshine Coast via a daily shuttle bus which runs three times per day during semesters. Campus facilities include interactive learning technologies, simulation and nursing laboratories, science laboratory (PC1) along with collaborative study areas and a computer lab.

The campus was built in 2012 with a Federal grant from the Education Investment Fund (EIF). The first intake of students was in 2013, and by 2019 more than 1000 students had enrolled at the campus. USC Gympie has provided opportunities to the local community which would never have been possible without the campus' presence.
Study options at USC Gympie

USC’s Tertiary Preparation Pathway (TPP) courses offer entry pathways to all other degree offerings at USC Gympie and almost all programs at USC.

The following Diploma offerings are offered in full at USC Gympie:
- Diploma in Business Innovation
- Diploma in Social and Human Services

The following degree programs are offered in full at USC Gympie:
- Bachelor of Primary Education
- Bachelor of Nursing Science

The following programs offer students the opportunity to study their first year’s courses at USC Gympie:
- Bachelor of Business
- Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting)
- Bachelor of Counselling
- Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood)
- Bachelor of Human Services
- Bachelor of Social Science
- Bachelor of Social Work

Campus priorities

In accordance with USC’s overall goals, USC Gympie’s strategic focus for 2020-2022 is to:

LEARNING, TEACHING AND THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

1. Increase student enrolments annually.
2. Identify future sub-degree and degree level offerings relevant to the local community with the view to increase local study offerings from 2021 onwards.
3. Foster increased engagement between USC students and the Gympie community to increase student employability and employment outcomes.
4. Implement a suite of opportunities to further enhance the Gympie student experience and maximise student success.

RESEARCH

1. Engage actively with local industry partners and academic staff to increase local research.

ENGAGEMENT

1. Maintain strong partnerships with local industries, organisations and all levels of government.
2. Work with the Gympie community to increase the region’s capacity to host international students.
3. Deliver local community capacity building projects in collaboration with identified community partners.
4. Build and maintain meaningful partnerships with Kabi Kabi/Gubbi Gubbi Elders and Community.

INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Maintain effective relationships with all levels of Government and gain funding to deliver stage 2 of B Block by end of 2021.
2. Provide students and staff with access to equipment and new technologies to enhance the learning experience and ensure the USC multi-campus vision is realised.
Values and culture of the campus

USC Gympie's primary purpose is to facilitate access to higher education for the residents of the Gympie region. The campus' secondary purpose is to raise aspirations for tertiary study amongst the Gympie community and contribute to the capacity building of the region. As such the campus' values are closely aligned with USC's values of Scholarship, Discovery, Sustainability, Engagement, Respect, Social Justice and Integrity.

It is worth noting that the Tertiary Pathway Program (TPP) has proven and will continue to prove a vital offering to the community. It has already provided hundreds of students with the opportunity to engage with tertiary studies, whilst being supported by their family and friends, and able to continue to keep working part-time. The introduction of Diploma offerings from S1 2019 and exploration of other sub degree programs and pathways are highly relevant to the region and present a viable investment opportunity for campus growth.

Campus operating model

USC Gympie follows a modified version of the Integrated campus model. A small team of dedicated professional staff work collaboratively across all aspects of the University's portfolio to ensure a quality student experience and that the campus delivers on USC's commitment to the Gympie community. Resident academics, academics from other USC campuses and local sessional staff are responsible for academic delivery of the programs.

Campus plan review

University Executive approved this plan on 5 December 2018 and reviewed it on 20 November 2019.

Acknowledgement

This plan was compiled with assistance from other USC divisions and staff, both academic and professional and in consultation with Gympie community stakeholders.