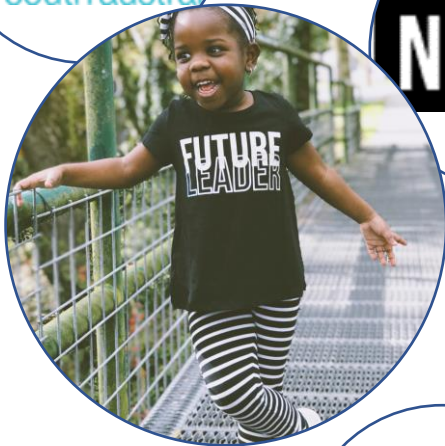




UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

Engagement and Impact Workbook



ENGAGEMENT

Engagement is a mutual partnership: working together, making a shared contribution towards a shared goal. This often includes shared financial contributions.

Who might I engage with?

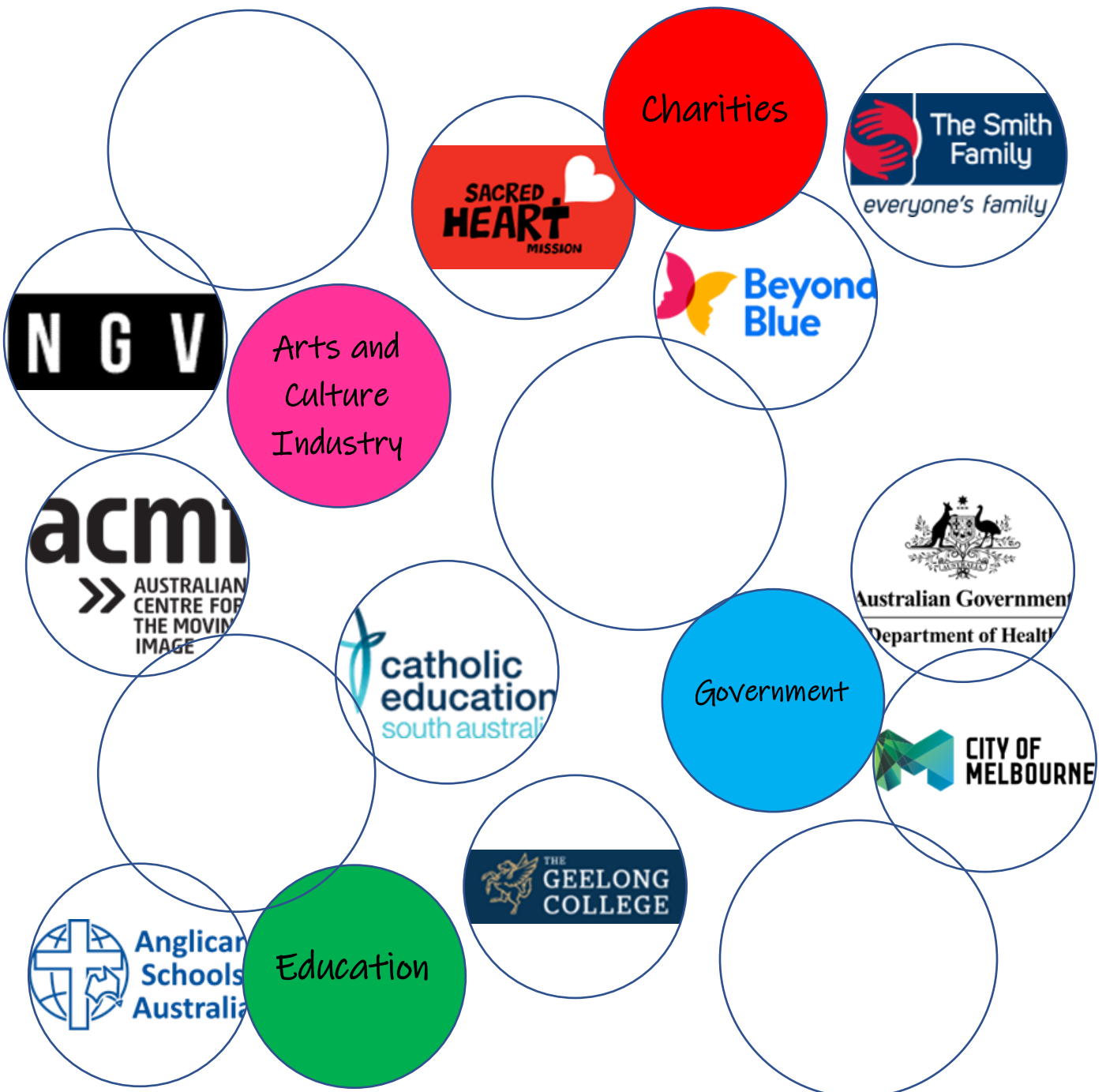
Who cares about the same things I do?

Who might I work with towards a shared goal?

Who has resources that I need?

Who is already reaching the people I want to reach?

Churches are an obvious choice for many of us. But there are many more possible partners. Brainstorm your own in the empty bubbles, considering the questions above.



What might we do together as partners?

The below table lists a number of engagement activities. It is not an exhaustive list, but a good place to start. Read through the case studies below, and tick the boxes that apply for each case study.

Case A: One academic works with a school teacher to write a journal article about how religious education is taught in the classroom.

Case B: The Plunkett Centre for Ethics links ACU with St Vincent's and Mater Health Sydney to advance applied and normative ethics and improve clinical practice in a leading public hospital and associated private health facilities. It also engages with aged care providers, the Children's Hospital at Westmead, and the Social Work Department, Royal North Shore. For example, consultancies and clinical ethics workshops (with doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, administrators) and policy development have improved practice while enabling researchers to test the applicability and scope of ethical theory. This has resulted in publications in world-leading journals and 4-5 submissions to public inquiries per annum grounded in evidence-based action research, informing bodies such as NHMRC, Federal Parliament, State legislature and Law Reform bodies.

Case C: A team of 3 academics at a university combine university funding with money from a local charity, to undertake a short research project into church attendance amongst the neighbourhood's homeless population. Together, they write an academic journal article, as well as presenting their findings to the board of a local church.

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY	Case A	Case B	Case C
Co-authorship of research outputs with research end-users			
Co-funding of research outputs with research end-users			
In-kind support from research end-users			
Established networks and relationships with research users			
Evidence of significant institutional partnerships			
Serving on external advisory boards			
Consultations with community groups, professional/practice organisations, government bodies			
Consultation with/advice to Government			
Co-designing and collaborating on performances and exhibitions			
Mentoring external research partners			
Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)/Agreements			

You can see [more Engagement case studies in Philosophy and Religious Studies here](#).

Engagement Activities – Your Turn

Engagement activities vary in scale and scope. What are you trying to achieve with your Engagement partnership? Which activities will best serve these goals?

Brainstorm and make notes below. If you would like advice about other activities that might count as engagement, please ask the Research Strategy Officer.

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY	My Project
Co-authorship of research outputs with research end-users	
Co-funding of research outputs with research end-users	
In-kind support from research end-users	
Established networks and relationships with research users	
Evidence of significant institutional partnerships	
Serving on external advisory boards	
Consultations with community groups, professional/practice organisations, government bodies	
Consultation with/advice to Government	
Co-designing and collaborating on performances and exhibitions	
Mentoring external research partners	
Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)/Agreements	

Engagement Plan

In consultation with the UD Research Strategy Office, fill in the plan below. You should have a draft plan before approaching potential partners, but you should also expect it to evolve as you negotiate your partnership.

Engagement Plan - Project Name:	
Who I will partner with:	
The purpose of the engagement: what will we achieve together? How is this mutually beneficial?	
Time commitment: How long will this partnership last? How much time will we each contribute to this project?	
Financial commitment: What financial and in-kind contributions will each partner make to the project?	
Activities and outputs: What reportable engagement activities will occur?	

How to approach potential partners

1. Use your networks. Making contact through a mutual friend or colleague is more likely to result in success.
2. Have your draft plan ready. Approaching a partner without any ideas might result in an enjoyable conversation about your mutual interests, but to move forward, you need to make concrete suggestions for action.
3. Be flexible, yet focused. A new idea might arise in your conversations, and your direction might change. However, too many ideas without action steps will result in everyone's enthusiasm running out. Try to focus on coming up with a practical plan for a real project.
4. Be gracious. If the partnership isn't going to happen, preserve the relationship. They may be a future partner for yourself or a colleague. Positive relationships benefit all of us.

When you have reached an agreement with a partner, produce a simple plan based on the template above, and submit it to the Research Strategy Office, so we can continue to support you throughout the project.

IMPACT

Impact is a one-way street: your research helping someone outside of academia. Impact is our gift to the community.

Who might I impact?

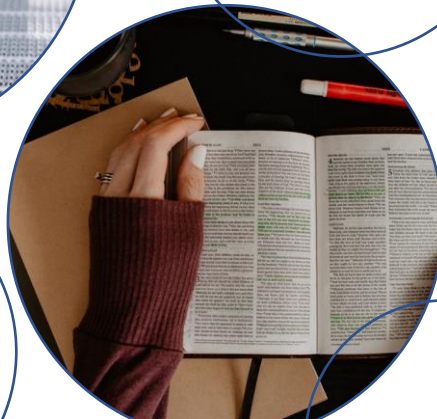
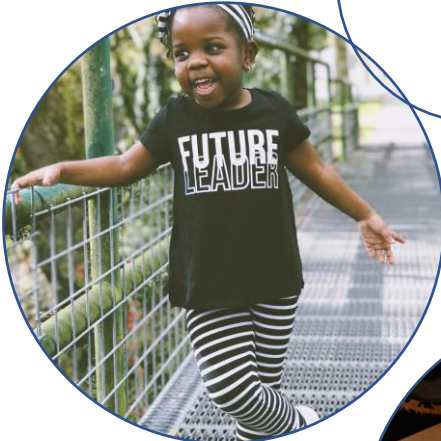
Who needs my research?

Who am I trying to help with my work?

Who will benefit from my findings, directly or secondarily?

What about my community or country will be better because of my research?

Our research can improve the lives of many people in our community. Brainstorm your own in the empty bubbles, considering the questions above.



How might I impact others?

The below table lists a number of impact activities. It is not an exhaustive list, but a good place to start. Read through the case studies below, and tick the boxes that apply for each case study.

Case A: In 2015, WSU launched ‘The Resilience and Ordinarity of Australian Muslims: Attitudes and Experiences of Muslims Report’ in collaboration with the Islamic Sciences & Research Academy. The report dispelled myths and stereotypes by providing rigorous empirical data on the lives of ordinary Muslims. The report achieved wide national reach through extensive national media coverage including ABC Radio, commercial TV news, and many mainstream and local newspapers.

Case B: Based on research with defence force members, A/Professor Coleman wrote a textbook promoting personal and collective responsibility in military ethics education. This is now used at military training institutions across three continents. Coleman has also encouraged public debate through his widely circulated 2011 TEDx talk on the ethics of non-lethal weapons.

Case C: ANU research found new ways to connect Indigenous communities to cultural heritage collections held in museums. One project involved a partnership between ANU researchers and the National Museum of Australia, in collaboration with Indigenous research participants and over 30 Indigenous communities. It centered on the development process leading up to two major exhibitions. Beneficiaries included the 30 Indigenous communities involved in the project/exhibitions; museum visitors and the wider polity engaged through the conversations prompted by the exhibition. The exhibition stimulated nation-wide debate on the legacies of colonial collecting: the Encounters exhibition received 88,567 visitors.

You will note that Impact flows out of research which is often engaged with partners. Engagement and Impact go naturally together.

IMPACT ACTIVITY	Case A	Case B	Case C
Non-academic book sales and usage			
Serving on external advisory boards			
Education activities: Public lectures, seminars, open days, school visits			
Presentations to practitioner communities			
Impact at cultural institutions: seminars/workshops, internships and engagement with the public			
Contributions to cultural events—e.g. Writers’ Festivals, Film Festivals, Vivid Sydney, etc.			
Events, performances and exhibitions			
Policy input			
Media coverage			

Impact Activities – Your Turn

Impact activities vary in scale and scope. Who are you trying to impact? What measurable changes would you like to see, as a result of your activities?

Brainstorm and make notes below. If you would like advice about other activities that might count as impact, please ask the Research Strategy Officer.

IMPACT ACTIVITY	My Project
Non-academic book sales and usage	
Serving on external advisory boards	
Education activities: Public lectures, seminars, open days, school visits	
Presentations to practitioner communities	
Impact at cultural institutions: seminars/workshops, internships and engagement with the public	
Contributions to cultural events—e.g. Writers’ Festivals, Film Festivals, Vivid Sydney, etc.	
Events, performances and exhibitions	
Policy input	
Media coverage	

Impact Plan

In consultation with the UD Research Strategy Office, fill in the plan below.

Set some goals for your research Impact.

Impact Plan- Project Name:	
Beneficiaries: who will benefit from my activities?	
Activity descriptions: what will you do?	
How will the proposed activities help your beneficiaries?	
How will you measure your impact? (Think about qualitative and quantitative measures)	
How are the Impact activities connected to your academic research?	