

# Academic Language & Learning (ALL) centres/units – Australian universities - November 2015



University faculty/campus  2014 student enrolments* international students %	Name of ALL centre / unit / program <sup>1</sup> or <sup>2</sup> (acronym)  <sup>1</sup> updated Nov. 2014 <sup>2</sup> updated in 2014 or earlier	Contact e-mail	web page	number of General / Academic ALL staff : stud. ratio
1. <b>Australian Catholic University</b> (ACU Natl.)  2014 total students*: <b>29 613</b> international students: 10.4 %	<b>Academic Skills Unit (ASU)</b> <sup>1</sup>	michael.russo@acu.edu.au	<a href="http://students.acu.edu.au/office_of_student_success/academic_skills_unit_asu">http://students.acu.edu.au/office_of_student_success/academic_skills_unit_asu</a>	19.0 G  0.0 <b>1: 1 559</b>
2. <b>Australian National University</b> (ANU)  2014 total students*: <b>22 393</b> international students: 27.2%	<b>Academic Skills &amp; Learning Centre</b> <sup>1</sup>	tess.snowball@anu.edu.au	<a href="http://academicskills.anu.edu.au/">http://academicskills.anu.edu.au/</a>	6.0 G  0.0 <b>1: 3 732</b>
3. <b>Bond University</b> Qld  2014 total students*: <b>5 880</b> international students: 41.2%	<b>Student Learning Support (SLS)</b> <sup>1</sup>	neil_roberts@bond.edu.au	<a href="http://www.bond.edu.au/sls">http://www.bond.edu.au/sls</a>	4.0 G  +0.9 <b>1: 1 470</b>
4. <b>Central Queensland University</b> (CQU)  2014 total students*: <b>19 396</b> international students: 22.9%	<b>Academic Learning Centre (CLC)</b> <sup>1</sup>	v.cleary@cqu.edu.au	<a href="http://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/service-and-facilities/academic-learning-centre">http://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/service-and-facilities/academic-learning-centre</a>	12.0 A 1.0 G  0.0 <b>1: 1 492</b>
5. <b>Charles Darwin University</b> (CDU)  2014 total students*: <b>11 559</b> international students: 15.6%	<b>School of Academic Language &amp; Learning</b> <sup>1</sup>	linh.pallos@cdu.edu.au	<a href="http://www.cdu.edu.au/academic-language-learning">www.cdu.edu.au/academic-language-learning</a>  <a href="http://www.cdu.edu.au/allsp">www.cdu.edu.au/allsp</a>	10.0 A  0.0 <b>1: 1 810</b>
6. <b>Charles Sturt University</b> (CSU)  2014 total students*: <b>39 275</b> international students: 17.8%	<b>Academic Support (AS)</b> <sup>1</sup>	elsmith@csu.edu.au	<a href="https://www.csu.edu.au/division/academic-support/welcome">https://www.csu.edu.au/division/academic-support/welcome</a>	21.7 G  0.0 <b>1: 1 803</b>
7. <b>Curtin University</b> (CU)  2014 total students*: <b>50 429</b> international students: 30.7%	<b>The Learning Centre (TLC)</b> <sup>1</sup>  <b>CBS Communication Skills Centre</b> <sup>1</sup>	p.dooley@curtin.edu.au	<a href="http://life.curtin.edu.au/learning-support/learning_centre.htm">http://life.curtin.edu.au/learning-support/learning_centre.htm</a>  <a href="http://business.curtin.edu.au/study/student_support/communication_skills_centre/index.cfm">http://business.curtin.edu.au/study/student_support/communication_skills_centre/index.cfm</a>	4.0 A 0.8 G 3.0 A  0.0 <b>1: 6 465</b>
8. <b>Deakin University</b>  2014 total students*: <b>49 185</b> international students: 15.8%	<b>Student academic &amp; peer support services</b> <sup>1</sup>	corinna.ridley@deakin.edu.au	<a href="http://www.deakin.edu.au/students/study-support">http://www.deakin.edu.au/students/study-support</a>	11.2 G  0.0 <b>1: 4 392</b>
9. <b>Edith Cowan University</b>  2014 total students*: <b>26 692</b> international students: 14.9%	<b>Fac. Business &amp; Law (FBL)</b> <sup>1</sup> <b>Fac. Health, Engineering &amp; Science (FHES)</b> <sup>1</sup> <b>Fac. Education &amp; Arts (FEA)</b> <sup>1</sup> <b>Fac. Regional &amp; Professional Studies (RPS)</b> <sup>1</sup> <b>Research Writing Consultants (FBL, FHES, FEA)</b> <sup>1</sup>	a.harris@ecu.edu.au ???	<a href="http://www.ecu.edu.au/fbllearning">www.ecu.edu.au/fbllearning</a>	3.0 G 3.0 G 5.0 G 1.0 G 2.0 G  0.0 <b>1: 1 907</b>

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10. <b>Federation University Australia</b>  2014 total students*: <b>14 221</b> international students: 47.9%	<b>Centre for Learning, Innovation &amp; Professional Practice (CLIPP)</b>	t.barrett@ballarat.edu.au	<a href="http://federation.edu.au/students/learning-and-study/get-help-on-campus/learning-skills-advisors">http://federation.edu.au/students/learning-and-study/get-help-on-campus/learning-skills-advisors</a> (TBC)	1.8 A 0.0 1: 7 901
11. <b>Flinders University</b>  2014 total students*: <b>24 293</b> international students: 17.0%	<b>Student Learning Centre (SLC)</b>	kathy.brady@flinders.edu.au	<a href="http://www.flinders.edu.au/SLC">http://www.flinders.edu.au/SLC</a>	7.6 A 0.0 1: 3 196
12. <b>Griffith University</b>  2014 total students*: <b>45 296</b> international students: 20.5%	<b>Information Services Learning &amp; Teaching</b> <b>English Higher Education Language Program (EnglishHELP)</b> <b>English Language Enhancement Courses (ELEC)</b>	p.humphreys@griffith.edu.au	<a href="http://www.griffith.edu.au/library/workshops-training">http://www.griffith.edu.au/library/workshops-training</a> <a href="http://www.griffith.edu.au/englishhelp">http://www.griffith.edu.au/englishhelp</a> <a href="http://www.griffith.edu.au/international/english-enhancement-course">http://www.griffith.edu.au/international/english-enhancement-course</a>	8.4 G 2.0 G 3.0 A 2.0 G +1.0 1: 2 941
13. <b>James Cook University (JCU)</b>  2014 total students*: <b>22 251</b> international students: 32.2%	<b>Academic Language and Learning unit (ALL)</b>	andrea.lynch@jcu.edu.au	<a href="http://www.jcu.edu.au/learningskills">www.jcu.edu.au/learningskills</a>  NB JCU web will be totally overhauled in early 2015. url will change at that time.	8.9G -1.6 1: 2 084
14. <b>La Trobe University</b>  2014 total students*: <b>35 081</b> international students: 22.5%	<b>Student Learning (SL)</b>	a.cincotta-segi@latrobe.edu.au	<a href="https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/learning">https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/learning</a>	15.2 A -1.8 1: 2 618
15. <b>Macquarie University</b>  2014 total students*: <b>39 637</b> international students: 23.3%	<b>Learning Skills (ALL Unit)</b> <b>HDR Advisers</b> <b>Academic Communication, Linguistics</b>	tessa.green@mq.edu.au	<a href="http://www.mq.edu.au/learningskills/">http://www.mq.edu.au/learningskills/</a>	5.0 G 3.6 A 2.1 A +0.6 1: 3 704
16. <b>Monash University</b>  Clayton  Faculties  2014 total students*: <b>67 076</b> international students: 35.8%	<b>Library</b> <b>Research Student Academic Support</b> <b>Arts, Academic and Professional Writing</b> <b>Education, Academic Language &amp; Literacy Development</b> <b>Medicine, Nursing &amp; Health Sciences (MNHS)</b> <b>Student Academic Support Unit</b>	leanne.mccann@monash.edu	<a href="http://monash.edu/library/skills/">http://monash.edu/library/skills/</a> <a href="http://www.eng.monash.edu.au/current-students/lis.html">http://www.eng.monash.edu.au/current-students/lis.html</a> <a href="http://artsonline.monash.edu.au/apw/">http://artsonline.monash.edu.au/apw/</a> <a href="http://www.education.monash.edu.au/students/current/study-resources/">http://www.education.monash.edu.au/students/current/study-resources/</a> <a href="http://www.med.monash.edu.au/current/ipas.html">http://www.med.monash.edu.au/current/ipas.html</a>	18.0 G 0.5A 2.0 A 2.0 G 5.6 A 0.0 1: 2 295
17. <b>Murdoch University</b>  2014 total students*: <b>24 137</b> international students: 41.9%	<b>Centre for University Teaching &amp; Learning (CUTL)</b>	s.johnson@murdoch.edu.au	<a href="http://our.murdoch.edu.au/Student-life/Study-successfully/">http://our.murdoch.edu.au/Student-life/Study-successfully/</a>	19.0 A 0.0 1: 1 270

ALL centres/units – Australian universities, updated: 23/11/15

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18. Queensland University of Technology (QUT)  2014 total students*: 47 218 international students: 16.9%	Library Services, Learning & Study Support <sup>1</sup> Academic Language & Learning Services (Student Support Services) <sup>1</sup> Business School (QBS) learning advisers <sup>1</sup> Business School 4S program <sup>1</sup> QUTIC Language & Learning advisers <sup>1</sup>	p.nelson@qut.edu.au	<a href="http://www.library.qut.edu.au">http://www.library.qut.edu.au</a> <a href="http://www.issupport.qut.edu.au/international/language-and-learning-support">http://www.issupport.qut.edu.au/international/language-and-learning-support</a> <a href="https://www.student.qut.edu.au/about/faculties-institutes-and-divisions/faculties/business/manage-your-studies/study-support">https://www.student.qut.edu.au/about/faculties-institutes-and-divisions/faculties/business/manage-your-studies/study-support</a> <a href="https://www.qut.edu.au/international/qutic">https://www.qut.edu.au/international/qutic</a>	26.3 G  9.0 G 3.0 G 1.0 A 2.0 G  0.0  1: 1 143
19. RMIT University <sup>^</sup>  2014 total student* <sup>^</sup> : 59 213 international students: 45.2%	Study & Learning Centre (SLC) <sup>1</sup>	scott.mcdonald@rmit.edu.au	<a href="http://www.rmit.edu.au/studyandlearningcentre/">http://www.rmit.edu.au/studyandlearningcentre/</a>  <a href="http://emedia.rmit.edu.au/learninglab/">http://emedia.rmit.edu.au/learninglab/</a>	9.0 A 3.3 G  0.0  1: 4. 814
20. Southern Cross University (SCU) NSW  2014 total students*: 14 484 international students: 13.2%	Academic Skills <sup>1</sup>	peter.wignell@scu.edu.au	<a href="http://www.scu.edu.au/academicskills/">http://www.scu.edu.au/academicskills/</a>	6.5 A  0.0  1: 2 228
21. Swinburne University <sup>^</sup>  2014 total student* <sup>^</sup> : 34 609 international students: 25.4%	Learning & Academic Skills (LAS) Centre <sup>1</sup>	everezub@swin.edu.au	<a href="http://www.swinburne.edu.au/student/study-help/las.html">http://www.swinburne.edu.au/student/study-help/las.html</a>	6.8 A  0.0  1: 5 090
22. University of Adelaide (UA)  2014 total students*: 21 167 international students: 26.8%	Writing Centre <sup>1</sup> Researcher Education & Development <sup>1</sup> Professions Learning Centre <sup>1</sup> Academic Language and Learning in Medicine <sup>1</sup> Engineering Communication Unit <sup>1</sup>	david.butler@adelaide.edu.au	<a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au/writingcentre/">http://www.adelaide.edu.au/writingcentre/</a> <a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au/red/language/">http://www.adelaide.edu.au/red/language/</a> <a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au/professions/current-students/plu/">http://www.adelaide.edu.au/professions/current-students/plu/</a> <a href="https://curriculum.adelaide.edu.au/index.asp">https://curriculum.adelaide.edu.au/index.asp</a> <a href="http://www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/current-students/support/">http://www.arts.adelaide.edu.au/current-students/support/</a>	1.0 A 3.0 A 4.0 G 1.0 G 1.5 G  0.0  1: 2 587
23. University of Canberra (UC)  2014 total students*: 16 920 international students: 25.0%	Study Skills & Careers <sup>1</sup>	kim.taylor@canberra.edu.au	<a href="http://www.canberra.edu.au/studyskills/">http://www.canberra.edu.au/studyskills/</a>	7.0 G  0.0  1: 2 417
24. University of Melbourne  2014 total students*: 59 596 international students: 27.1%	Academic Skills <sup>1</sup>  Centre for Excellence in Learning & Teaching (CELT) <sup>1</sup>	g.ernst@unimelb.edu.au	<a href="http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/academicskills/">http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/academicskills/</a>  <a href="http://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/celt">http://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/celt</a>	10.4 G  2.0 A  0.0  1: 4 806
25. University of New England (UNE)  2014 total students*: 21 415 international students: 4.6%	Academic Skills Office (ASO) <sup>1</sup>  First year advisors <sup>1</sup>	iwiiyew@une.edu.au	<a href="http://www.une.edu.au/current-students/resources/academic-skills">http://www.une.edu.au/current-students/resources/academic-skills</a>  <a href="http://www.une.edu.au/current-students/get-started/first-year-advisors">http://www.une.edu.au/current-students/get-started/first-year-advisors</a>	6.0 A  2.85 A  +2.8  1: 2 420

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26. <b>University of New South Wales (UNSW)</b> Australian School of Business  2014 total students*: <b>53 481</b> international students: 25.5% <b>UNSW Canberra – ACT</b>  2014 total students*: 3 100 international students: 6.6%	<b>The Learning Centre (LC)</b> <sup>1</sup>	s.starfield@unsw.edu.au	http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/  http://www.asb.unsw.edu.au/learningandteaching/student-services/Pages/default.aspx	<b>5.4 G</b> <b>1.0 A</b> <b>1.7 G</b>  <b>0.0</b> <b>1: 6 603</b> <b>3.0 A</b>
	<b>Academic Language &amp; Learning (ALL) Unit</b> <sup>1</sup>	l.devereux@adfa.edu.au	http://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/all (internal access only)	<b>0.0</b> <b>1: 1 033</b>
27. <b>University of Newcastle (UoN)</b>  2014 total students*: <b>37 414</b> international students: 15.2%	<b>Learning Development (LD)</b> <sup>1</sup>	keith.foggett@Newcastle.edu.au	http://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/learning/study-skills/develop-your-skills	<b>9.0 G</b>  <b>0.0</b> <b>1: 4 157</b>
28. <b>University of Notre Dame (UND)</b>  2014 total students*: <b>11 849</b> international students: 2.4%	<b>Academic Support (AS)</b> Fremantle & Broome <sup>1</sup> Sydney <sup>1</sup>	roselynn.lang@nd.edu.au alistair.symons@nd.edu.au	http://www.nd.edu.au/aesc http://www.nd.edu.au/academic_support/index_syd.html	<b>1.6 A</b> <b>1.0 A</b>  <b>0.0</b> <b>1: 4 557</b>
29. <b>University of Queensland (UQ)</b>  2014 total students*: <b>50 749</b> international students: 24.0%	<b>Learning Hub, Student Services</b> <sup>1</sup>	s.ainge@uq.edu.au	http://www.uq.edu.au/student-services/learning	<b>6.2 G</b>  <b>+0.6</b> <b>1: 8 185</b>
30. <b>University of South Australia (UniSA)</b>  2014 total students*: <b>31 962</b> international students: 19.6%	<b>Teaching Innovation Unit (TIU)</b> <sup>1</sup>	rowena.harper@unisa.edu.au	http://www.unisa.edu.au/ltu/	<b>3.0 A</b>
	<b>Student Engagement Unit (SEU)</b>  jane.kehrwald@unisa.edu.au			<b>7.0 G</b> <b>-2.0</b> <b>1: 2 664</b>
31. <b>University of Southern Queensland (USQ)</b>  2014 total students*: <b>27 460</b> international students: 17.6%	<b>The Learning Centre.</b> <sup>1</sup>	lindy.kimmins@usq.edu.au	http://www.usq.edu.au/learningcentre	<b>7.3 A</b> <b>2.4 G</b>
	<b>Learning &amp; Teaching Services</b> <sup>1</sup>			<b>0.0</b> <b>1: 2 831</b>
32. <b>University of Sydney</b>  2014 total students*: <b>55 975</b> international students: 24.8%	<b>Learning Centre (LC)</b> <sup>1</sup>	bronwyn.james@sydney.edu.au	http://www.usyd.edu.au/lc	<b>6.8 A</b> <b>0.6 G</b>
	<b>Learning &amp; Teaching in Business</b> <sup>1</sup>		http://sydney.edu.au/business/learning	<b>0.5 A</b> <b>0.0</b> <b>1: 7 085</b>
33. <b>University of Tasmania</b>  2014 total students*: <b>29 232</b> international students: 16.3%	<b>Student Learning and Academic Development Team</b> <sup>1</sup> <b>Student Centre</b> <sup>1</sup>	lucy.sun@utas.edu.au	http://www.utas.edu.au/student-learning	<b>5.8 A</b> <b>2.0 G</b>  <b>0.0</b> <b>1: 3 748</b>

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34. <b>University of Technology, Sydney</b> (UTS)  2014 total students*: <b>39 032</b> international students: 27.5%	<b>Academic Language &amp; Learning Group</b> <b>HELPS</b> <b>Research Literacies</b>	kerry.hunter@uts.edu.au	<a href="http://cfsites1.uts.edu.au/iml/staff/academic.cfm">http://cfsites1.uts.edu.au/iml/staff/academic.cfm</a> <a href="http://www.ssu.uts.edu.au/helps/">www.ssu.uts.edu.au/helps/</a> <a href="http://www.gradschool.uts.edu.au/researcher-skills/workshop-program.html">http://www.gradschool.uts.edu.au/researcher-skills/workshop-program.html</a>	0.0  <b>6.0 A</b> <b>7.0 G</b> <b>1.0 A</b>  <b>1: 2 788</b>
35. <b>University of the Sunshine Coast</b> - Qld  2014 total students*: <b>11 629</b> international students: 13.1%	<b>Student Life &amp; Learning, Academic Skills</b>	mreeh@usc.edu.au	<a href="http://www.usc.edu.au/study/support-and-services/academic-support/">http://www.usc.edu.au/study/support-and-services/academic-support/</a>	0.0  <b>4.9 G</b>  <b>1: 2 788</b>
36. <b>University of Western Australia</b> (UWA)  2014 total students*: <b>26 379</b> international students: 19.8%	<b>STUDYSmarter (WRITESmart, (ma+hs)Smart, GETSmart</b>	siri.barrett-lennard@uwa.edu.au	<a href="http://www.studysmarter.uwa.edu.au">www.studysmarter.uwa.edu.au</a>	0.0  <b>6.2 G</b>  <b>1: 4 255</b>
37. <b>University of Western Sydney</b> (UWS)  2014 total students*: <b>43 885</b> international students: 10.7%	<b>Learning &amp; Teaching Portfolio (DVC Academic)</b>	d.yang@uws.edu.au	<a href="http://www.uws.edu.au/dvcacademic/dvc_academic/portfolio/learning_and_teaching_unit">http://www.uws.edu.au/dvcacademic/dvc_academic/portfolio/learning_and_teaching_unit</a>	0.0  <b>3.6 A</b> <b>8.4 G</b>  <b>1: 3 657</b>
38. <b>University of Wollongong</b> (UoW)  2014 total students*: <b>31 395</b> international students: 42.0%	<b>Learning Development (LD)</b>	alisa@uow.edu.au	<a href="http://www.uow.edu.au/student/services/ld/overview/index.html">http://www.uow.edu.au/student/services/ld/overview/index.html</a>	0.0  <b>10.4 A</b> <b>1.0 G</b>  <b>1: 2 754</b>
39. <b>Victoria University</b> (VU)  2014 total student*: <b>27 904</b> international students: 36.7%	<b>Academic Support &amp; Development (ASD) - Portfolio of Dean of Students</b>	fiona.henderson@vu.edu.au	<a href="http://www.vu.edu.au/campuses-services/student-support/academic-support-development">http://www.vu.edu.au/campuses-services/student-support/academic-support-development</a>	0.0  <b>18.5 A</b>  <b>1: 1 508</b>

ALL centres/units – Australian universities, updated: 23/11/15

<b>University</b> faculty/campus  2014 student enrolments* international students: %	<b>Name of ALL centre / unit / program</b> <sup>1</sup> or <sup>2</sup> (acronym)  <sup>1</sup> updated Nov. 2015 <sup>2</sup> updated in 2014 or earlier	<b>Contact e-mail</b>	<b>web page</b>	number of <b>General / Academic ALL</b> staff. staff : stud. ratio
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<b>all universities*</b> ^ dual sector university: only HE student enrolments are included  2014 total students*: <b>1 288 482*</b>  international students: <b>24.2%*</b>	<sup>1</sup> updated Nov 2015 <sup>2</sup> updated in 2014 or earlier		<b>total academic ALL staff 45%:</b> <b>total general ALL staff 55%:</b> <b>total ALL staff 100%:</b>  <b>average ALL staff:student ratio:</b> <b>range: lowest (best)</b> <b>to highest(worst):</b>	<b>202.5</b> <b>248.1</b> <b>450.6</b>  <b>1 : 2 860</b> <b>1 : 1 033</b> <b>1 : 8 185</b>
compiled by: <b>Alex Barthel, lexybar@gmail.com</b> updated: <b>November 2015</b>		for AALL		

\* latest update available for **full year**: 2014, <https://docs.education.gov.au/node/38137>, <https://docs.education.gov.au/node/38127> (viewed 23 Nov. 2015)

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*please see page 7 for summary, notes and comments*

## NOTES

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### Academic Language & Learning (ALL) centres/units – Australian universities a few notes about the current update

This table summarises the provision of Academic Language & Learning (ALL) services available across the Australian university sector. The data is collected once/twice p.a. by contacting the people in column 3. The table shows that ALL services vary considerably in nature, size and status of ALL educators across the 39 universities listed in the table. The information provided here is as accurate and complete as this is what was provided by the contact people at the 39 institutions by November 2015. Where no update was provided, pre 2015 information was used. For consistency sake, student enrolment figures and percentage of international students were taken from the most recent Commonwealth government data available for a whole year: 2014.

This table is available on the website of the **Association for Academic Language & Learning (AALL)**, at <http://www.aall.org.au/australian-all-centres>

**column 1** - University, faculty/campus, 2014 student enrolments, international student % (latest available complete Commonwealth update): This includes the name of each university and, where relevant, the name of faculties and/or campuses, if different ALL services have been reported. Student enrolment numbers and percentages of international students are those provided by the Australian Commonwealth government and may differ from those provided by universities. At dual sector universities (HE + TAFE) only HE enrolments are included.

**column 2** - Name of ALL centre/unit/program (acronym). The superscript numbers mean: <sup>1</sup> = updated Nov. 2015, either through direct contact with staff and/or through website information; <sup>2</sup> = no update provided by end Nov. 2015.

**column 3** - Contact email person: this is the email of the contact person (one per university). This may be the director/head of an ALL centre/unit or someone nominated by them, willing to be contacted about ALL activities at her/his institution.

**column 4** - web page of the ALL program or a broader field (ALL staff development, etc.)

**column 5** - status **General/Academic staff, staff : student ratio**: Number of staff reported and/or listed on ALL centre/program website or reported by contact people, and their status (G = general/professional staff, A = academic staff). This number includes full-time and/or permanent fractional ALL educators. Administrative staff and educators providing only numeracy support are not included. Nor are casual ALL educators employed on an hourly basis. The ALL staff : student ratio is obtained by dividing the total enrolments by the total number of ALL educators reported at each university. Ratios in **green** are **better** and those in **red** are **worse** than the average student:ALL staff ratio. The **average** ratio should however not be read as an **optimal** or a **best practice** ratio.

## COMMENTS

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The following 2 annually updated tables have been uploaded on the AALL website at <http://www.aall.org.au/australian-all-centres> table 1a. the Academic Language & Learning (ALL) centres/units - Australian universities, and table 1b. the accompanying spread sheet of ALL staff : student ratios

The purpose of these tables is to provide a **quantitative** overview of ALL educational services provided by full-time, permanent, contract ALL educators employed as academic or general/professional staff to university students enrolled in an under or postgraduate degree at one of the 39 Australian universities.

- all universities were invited to participate in the 2015 survey
- information about ALL centres was double checked and confirmed
- information/data inconsistent with the purpose of these tables was removed

**ALL staff : student ratios** The figures on tables 1a and 1b are often used to justify how satisfactory/unsatisfactory ALL provision is at a university, in comparison with another or others. To do this, people normally refer to the ALL staff to student ratio in the far right column of table 1a and see to what extent their university is above or below the average ratio (1 : 2,860 this year). It is incorrect to think that this ALL staff to student ratio average is an optimal or best practice ratio. It is merely an average obtained by dividing the total number of university students by the total number of (reported) ALL educators.

From a purely statistical point of view, the ALL staff : student ratio ranges, for all students from 1:1,033 (UNSW-Canberra) to 1:8,185 (U Queensland) and for international students only, from 1:68 (UNSW-Canberra) to 1:3,784 (Federation U).

So is there an optimal ALLstaff:student ratio? Yes, but this would vary from university to university and the optimal ratio would be affected by student profile factors such as: number of international students with limited language proficiency, underprepared pathway students, local students in need of language support, viz second language students, first in family, mature age and those from lower SES, etc.

However, in my own professional opinion based on over 30 years ALL field experience across the Australian HE sector, I would suggest as a rough guide that we should aim for ALL (FTE) staff student ratios considerably below 1:2,000. Only 10 universities meet this ratio. In case a university undertook to fully integrate ALL across undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, this ratio might be too high. A ratio of below 1:1,500 would be recommended. Only 6 universities meet this ratio.

Based on my own observations and on communications I have consistently had over the past 15 years with ALL colleagues at universities (all states/territories) where some kind of post-enrolment language assessment (PELA) is conducted, it is estimated that between 25-35% of **all** (not just international) 1st year university students have moderate to severe language difficulties, making it difficult for them to perform well academically, and creating considerable challenges for ALL educators and academics attempting to address their students' language issues. To the best of my knowledge, very little, if any, such data has been published.

Many university executives would argue that the suggested ALL staff:student ratio suggested here is unreasonable/unachievable and many ALL colleagues would argue the opposite. About one quarter of all universities surveyed have a ratio below 1:2,000 and 44% (34% in 2012) have a ratio above 1:3,000. It would be a worthwhile project to compare the quality of ALL services and their effect on academic performance of say 3 groups of students (international, local ESL and low SES) at these 2 groups of universities.

**Staff status** In any case, the figures on tables 1a and 1b need to be taken, to some extent, with a grain of salt as they do not provide the complete picture of ALL services: the tables only include full-time equivalent (FTE) ALL educators. Much of the ALL services are provided by non-permanent casual staff. These are not included on the table, as the task of recording ALL work completed by casual staff is too complex, given inter and intra institutional variations in how workloads are calculated. To provide a consistent and accurate sector wide overview, including casual ALL staff, would be a substantial project. Some universities reported this year that approximately 80 to 90% of ALL teaching is carried out by qualified and experienced casual staff, being paid only a portion of their full-time/contract colleagues' salaries.

Considerable discrepancies in salaries were also reported at universities which employ ALL educators as 'academic' or 'general/professional' educators, usually requiring staff in both groups to have the same qualification and experience background, but remunerating them at different pay levels. Table 1b shows that 45% of ALL staff are currently employed as academic staff, compared to 51% in 2014, 54% in 2009 and 67% in 2007.

**... and our students** The most common comment made by ALL educators I contacted while completing the survey is that the level of students' needs had increased considerably as more and more students, both local and international, are undertaking university studies with limited English language proficiency. At many universities, this trend seems to be indirectly proportional to the number of ALL educators being employed to address students' need:

Any changes to the 2015 tables will be included in the 2014/2015 updates. If however you find major and/or embarrassing errors/omissions on these tables, please let me know: [lexybar@gmail.com](mailto:lexybar@gmail.com).

**Alex Barthel, 23 November 2015**