



## Centre Manager's Message

---

Wow, it has been a very busy time during the last three months for staff and students of CUC Mallee. Our student numbers in Semester 2 have continued to grow and we now have more students registered than we did in Semester 1. I have been asked many times, "With the students numbers being so high, has the Centre reached capacity?" The short answer is no. This is mainly due to the long hours the Centre is open, ensuring that student visits are spread out over the week, which means we have space for many more students. Even more pleasing is that our students are using the Centre far more regularly than they did early in the year. Part of this can be attributed to our increased staffing levels, providing students with all the support they need to continue with their studies.

Our new Student Services Coordinator, Chelsea has been busy helping students with their studies by providing assistance with academic writing, referencing and study skills. Stacy, our Engagement Coordinator has spent her time assisting students in their transition into the Centre. She has also been out and about in the community engaging with numerous schools, businesses and community groups to ensure that as many people as possible in our region know about the services provided by the Centre. Along with Sarah, our Centre Administrator, students can be assured that we have in place the resources to cater for their higher education needs.

While catering to the needs of our students is the number one priority for CUC Mallee, we are also aware of the need to provide prospective students with the support they need when they decide to enter into higher education. We have been assisting students to do this by providing careers guidance, enrolment assistance and support with accessing university portals.

CUC Mallee is well aware that there are skills shortages in our region and we have been approached by some businesses and community groups for assistance to fill these gaps. This is an area that we will continue to investigate in the coming months, and we look forward to working with the community to work towards addressing these problems.

The response we have received from the community since we opened in December has been overwhelmingly positive. Thank you to all of the schools, organisations, businesses and community groups that have been so supportive of the concept of having a Country Universities Centre in our region. We look forward to developing those relationships even more in the coming months and years.

If you are an individual, school, organisation, business or community group and you think CUC Mallee may be able to assist you, please make contact with us. Likewise if you think you can assist CUC Mallee and our students in any way, please let us know.

So, if you are looking to study or you know someone that is looking to study, please let them know about CUC Mallee and remind them that they can register with us at any time of the year.

Once again, thank you to everyone for your acceptance and support. We look forward to working with you all to ensure that our region has everything it needs to allow students to successfully complete higher education.

Hayden Hogan

# Annual General Meeting

---

CUC Mallee's 2024 Annual General Meeting is coming up on Thursday the 21st of November at the Centre in Conference Room 2, from 4:30pm to 5pm. If you would like to attend please RSVP to [degrees@cucmallee.edu.au](mailto:degrees@cucmallee.edu.au) by Monday 18th November.

## Board Updates

---

We would like to welcome Chloe Keogh as our newest CUC Mallee board member!

Chloe is the Executive Director of Clinical Care and System Improvement at Swan Hill District Health. She has been a nurse, a midwife, and a maternal and child health nurse over her 30 year career. She has previously worked as a Director of Nursing, and in various clinical roles throughout country Victoria.



She has a Bachelor of Nursing (Deakin), a Graduate Diploma of Midwifery (Victoria Uni), a Graduate Diploma of Child and Family Health (Deakin), and a Masters of Health Service Management (Charles Sturt Uni).

In her current role at the hospital Chloe oversees the portfolio of Clinical Staff Development. Her focus is on supporting undergraduate students complete their studies, gain clinical placement, commence paid employment, and continue their education into post graduate studies. In addition to this role, Chloe is a member of the SuniTAFE Industrial and Community Engagement Board Subcommittee.

# Our Students

We are excited to have registered a over of 160 students since our doors opened in December 2023!

For Semester 1 we registered 119 students at the Centre and for Semester 2 we have registered 131 students so far, with around a third being new students compared to re-registrations.

If you know of someone who is currently studying or considering study, feel free to let them know how our Centre can support them.

## SNAPSHOT OF CUC MALLEE Semester 2, 2024

**131**  
STUDENTS



**47%**  
are the first in  
their family  
to study

Full time  
students  
**57%**



Part time  
students  
**43%**

**13** different  
areas of  
study



**35**  
different  
institutions

**TOP** Areas of  
Study

34%

Health

21%

Education

16%

Psychology,  
Social Work &  
Community  
Services

# 2024 Open Day

---

We had a fantastic turn out for our Centre Open Day this year! Many community members and high school students toured the Centre to learn how we support the higher educational goals of our current and future students. It was wonderful to have representatives from La Trobe University, Murray Ace, SuniTAFE, Murray Mallee LLEN and Headspace attend the Open Day, as well as the many students who were in the Centre studying. We would like to say a big thank you to Any Occasion Katering and Logan Street Corner Store for providing all the delicious food for this event!



# Community Engagement

Stacy, our Engagement Coordinator, has been very busy in the community, spreading the word about what CUC Mallee can do to support students in their higher education journey. Events that we have been part of over the past three months include the Tertiary Information Service (TIS) session, Mallee Machinery Field Days, Murray ACE Open Day, SuniTAFE Open Day, La Trobe University Open Day, Headspace morning tea, Swan Hill Accounting Work Experience Program tour and lunch, RUOK? day and many more.

