

SCM Strategic Plan 2016-2020

Introduction

The Sydney Conservatorium of Music (SCM) is a University School of the University of Sydney. It has a 100 year heritage of providing excellent music education employing prominent musicians to work with talented music students. In 2016 the University of Sydney Strategic Plan 2016-2021 was released. This document presents the SCM response which aligns to that plan and the USYD core values of excellence through courage and creativity, inclusion and diversity, openness and engagement, and respect and integrity. This document was prepared by the SCM executive group in April, 2016.

Vision

The Sydney Conservatorium of Music provides a distinctive, innovative, and creative environment for musicians to learn, create, and perform. We expect that our students and faculty will constructively engage with and impact contemporary culture, politics, technology and life through music. We aspire to be internationally recognised for leadership, excellence and the highest quality in music creation.

Education

We prepare students for work at the highest level in a musical world that is sensitive to cultural difference, technically complex and artistically diverse. We do this through the provision of flexible learning pathways that engage with local and global communities with respect and integrity.

Objectives

1. Provide flexible learning pathways and curriculum
2. Focus on professional preparation for a diverse range of professions
3. Provide integrated multi-faceted music programs
4. Recruit well-qualified and musically self-directed students
5. Recognise and cultivate creative and cultural diversity (CCD) and Cultural Competence, including embracing Australian and International indigenous knowledge
6. Foster the development of USYD graduate qualities
7. Enhance teaching excellence and quality
8. Embrace Indigenous knowledge
9. Provide workplace opportunities and mentoring for HDR candidates

Research

Research activity through performance, composition, education, culture, language, technology and analysis is integral to the work of musicians. The SCM recognises and encourages research excellence from a diverse range of perspectives and sees musically oriented research as a contribution to cultural development and heritage.

Objectives

1. Build staff capacity in areas of existing and emerging research excellence
2. Engage nationally and internationally in development of benchmarking and quality metrics for creative research and non-traditional research outputs
3. Build capacity in industry engagement
4. Provide strategic support for multi-disciplinary collaboration
5. Develop opportunities for research collaborations in China
6. Support HDR activity in areas of existing and emerging excellence
7. Provide research infrastructure to enable excellent research

Engagement

Music in all its forms enables meaningful engagement with communities, industry and the world. The SCM works actively to enhance the quality of life for people locally and globally through music. It does so with purpose, imagination and advocacy, engagement with the University of Sydney and through its relationships with philanthropy and community stakeholders.

Objectives

1. Create Strategic alliances with Asia
2. Contribute to local, national and global peak body discussion on music performance, education and creation.
3. Emphasise musical advocacy.
4. Foster interactions with local and national arts communities.
5. Support the NSW Regional Conservatoriums
6. Focus on Open Academy relations with the local community.
7. Provide a vibrant musical hub within the broader Australian society, including increased staff public profiles for engagement as experts in their fields.
8. Foster an outward-facing mentality in relation to musical presentations and research, including performances, commissions and presentations in major Australian arts events and colloquia.
