Joined up thinking: The Education-Health research nexus at Charles Darwin University

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Research

• Applied and engaged, addressing ‘real world’ challenges in our region
• Quality research and scholarship, defined by place, proximity and people
• International and local partnerships
Research at Charles Darwin University

- In the top 2% of *THE* rankings
- Recently ranked 48th in *THE* top ‘100 under 50’
- Leads the Innovative Research Universities group in ranking and metrics of research intensity
Teaching at Charles Darwin University

- High-quality, engaged, responsive teaching
- State of the art investment in online teaching platform
To support a community of highly engaged learners in a culture of excellence and ensure high-quality teaching and research outcomes for our students.
The Education-Health Research Nexus

- An experiment in ‘joined up thinking’
What is the program?

- Hosted by the International Graduate Centre of Education (IGCE) in the School of Education (SOE) at Charles Darwin University
- Program allocation was $1,035,000 over three years
Objectives

• To enhance the quality and quantity of research conducted across education and health disciplines and grow research engagement with MSHR, especially the Menzies Centre for Child Development and Education (CCDE)
Objectives

- Addressing the challenges of supporting and extending healthy life opportunities for people living in regional, rural and remote regions
- Enhancing understanding of the organizational, individual and cultural dynamics operating in many communities
Objectives

• Examining *integrated services support* and *cultural resilience* with reference to improving health and learning in areas such as early childhood, literacy and youth suicide.

• Understanding and promoting knowledge practices that promote conceptual flexibility and *alternative ways of critiquing and engaging* with poverty alleviation and learning.
Objectives

• To grow research, research training capacity and creating a nexus to inform postgraduate programs offered within the International Graduate Centre of Education and undergraduate programs

• To support staff across seemingly diverse disciplines to build professional practice, knowledge and research methodologies to address the education health nexus in improving the lives of young people and their families
Four key goals

- Increase the profile of applied ‘problem-solving’ research in the Education-Health context
- Develop the international profile of the initiative
- Increase early career research capacity and publications
- Increase numbers, completion rates and capacity of research students in the School of Education in particular
Four stages of activity

2012 - Preparatory activity
2013 - Stage 1 Working together, building relationships
2014 - Stage 2 Generating activity and research outcomes
2015 - Stage 3 Leveraging research partnerships and major research projects
Summary of outcomes

- Social and Emotional Wellbeing Education
- Building Resilience in Primary Students
- The Well Network: Teacher Wellbeing
- Pre-Service Teachers’ Stress and Assessment Design
- Child Spatial Language Acquisition
- NDIS and families
Internal capacity building and capability development

- Increasing research capacity and rate and volume of publication
- Increase numbers, completion rates and capacity of research students
- Strengthening supervision numbers and scope of expertise
External engagement

- Ongoing dialogue and responsive engagement with the Department of Education
- Meaningful and authentic partnerships with the communities we serve
- Building and sustaining an international profile in terms of applied Education-Health research and research training
- To be known for our situated learning and situated an contextualized research
Future and next steps

- Leverage off existing research to compete for national grants and thus extend the reach of applied research
- To clearly articulate the ‘real world impact’ of this research in a way that adds value to education in the NT and Indigenous learners in particular
Further links: