

THE MONASH
CENTRE FOR
YOUTH
POLICY AND
EDUCATION
PRACTICE

**2021 ANNUAL
REPORT:
YEAR ONE**



MONASH
YOUTH POLICY
AND EDUCATION
PRACTICE



MONASH
University



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Monash Centre for Youth Policy and Education Practice would like to thank Monash Education staff in the research, marketing, finance, and external relations teams for their outstanding professional support.

The Monash Centre for Youth Policy and Education Practice would also like to acknowledge the members of our Management Committee, Advisory Board, and Youth Reference Group for their continued guidance, advice and insights.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR ADVISORY BOARD

Katrina Reynen OAM
Chair, CYPEP Advisory Board



I am delighted to represent the Advisory Board via this message in the first annual report for the Monash Centre for Youth Policy and Education Practice (CYPEP).

It is a real privilege to be the inaugural chair of this Advisory Board which includes incredibly powerful leaders, dedicated to amplifying young people's voices. Already we are experiencing a sense of growing collaboration and collective ownership of the potential of this venture.

The work of the director and the team in the centre in its first year is impressive and the work forecast for future years is equally promising. The centre was formed during difficult circumstances in the pandemic and its impact on higher education and research funding. Notwithstanding this, I commend the centre for achieving so much during difficult times and celebrate the positive community reaction to the work to date.

CONTEXT

The centre demonstrates the breadth and depth of research conducted within the Faculty of Education at Monash University, which is ranked number 1 in Australia and 13th in the world. The centre seeks to amplify young people's voices and provide a solid evidence base. Importantly, it creates a forum in which young people take an active role in its work program, such as through the Youth Reference Group, surveys and interviews.

Young people face a variety of challenges, from an uncertain economy to climate change and marginalisation from local and national political agendas. By exploring key issues related to young people, and particularly youth disadvantage, the centre provides evidence-based recommendations to improve policy and practice in education.

RESEARCH

A first step of the centre was to bring together existing data about young Australians, as well as generate new data, through the Australian Youth Barometer. The barometer was launched in 2021 to community acclaim. The centre is also generating scholarly work, policy recommendations, commentary, and discussion papers which emanate from this data.

ENGAGEMENT

Young people are often denied a role in national debates about Australia's future. This is the prompt for the centre to change the conversation about young people by actively engaging them and the organisations seeking to support them. In its first year, despite the pandemic, the centre made extraordinary contributions to public discussions about young people both in the context of the pandemic and beyond.

The voices of young people are indeed being amplified through this work. The work of the centre, particularly its Australian Youth Barometer, has featured in virtually every media outlet in the country, reaching millions of readers. This work has been positively received nationally and internationally. Locally, advised by a stellar Advisory Board, Management Committee and Youth Reference Group, the centre has also begun providing advice to government and the not-for-profit sector seeking to improve the life outcomes of young people.

I particularly applaud and commend the members of the Youth Reference Group for their generous and thoughtful contributions to CYPEP's work. It is much appreciated.

THE FUTURE AND CALL TO ACTION

The centre's work has begun to pave the way for real community impact. As a research start-up, CYPEP now needs alliances from all sectors to build on its good work. Although some of the economy has fared better than expected during the pandemic, the centre, like many others, is facing challenges ahead which require innovative thinking and partnerships to ensure that it continues to make an impact on the lives of young Australians.

In the coming year, CYPEP will offer deeper dives into the trials and opportunities facing young Australians from diverse backgrounds, policy advice, roundtables and seminars. I invite anyone interested in this research to follow the work of the centre and to reach out to the centre director or secretariat for information about how to become engaged. This work has arguably never been more important.



ABOUT CYPEP

The Centre for Youth Policy and Education Practice (CYPEP) is a multi-disciplinary, multi-method team undertaking research into the social, political and economic factors, forces and trends that affect young people's lives. We believe education is a means to effect lasting change.

Our vision is for education that creates lifelong and life-wide opportunities for young people and enables them to thrive.

Our mission is to connect youth research to policy and practice. We do this by working with policy-makers, educators and youth-focused organisations on research that addresses emerging needs, and that respects and includes young people. Working at the nexus of young people and policy, we raise awareness of the challenges faced by young people today and explore how education can harness the capacity of young people to contribute to thriving communities.

CYPEP's strategic direction is framed by the Faculty of Education's 2020–2025 research agenda and the Monash strategic plan. The faculty's research agenda provides a multidimensional lens through which to plan the centre's program and activities and has inspired the Australian Youth Barometer. It is organized around five broad themes: Reimagining Educational Leadership; Transforming Teaching and Learning; Shaping Digital Futures; Enhancing Health and Wellbeing; and Educating for Diversity and Inclusion. The coordinating principle uniting these themes is the role of education research in fostering fair and sustainable futures.

CYPEP's work spans all these themes. The faculty's overarching goal of fostering fair and sustainable futures for young people is one to which we are fully committed.

With the publication of the first Australian Youth Barometer in 2021, we have commenced a program of research that responds to these five themes, covering issues such as: the impact of COVID-19; study choices from school to postgraduate degrees; transition to work and the nature of employment; financial security and the use of digital financial products; impacts of social media; food insecurity among young people; queer students' access to support at school; belonging, civic participation and relationships.

Our commitment to these themes also enables the centre to contribute to Monash's new strategic plan, Impact 2030. Released in September 2021, this has provided further inspiration to the centre, particularly the global challenge of building thriving communities. CYPEP is well placed to make a major contribution to the thriving communities global challenge through a transdisciplinary approach to research, youth engagement, policy activism and innovation in education. We also aim to contribute to university teaching by providing educational resources based on data from the Australian Youth Barometer.



CHANGING THE CONVERSATION

From its inception, the CYPEP team determined that we want to change the conversation about young people's futures. This involves also changing the conversations we have with young people. Instead of viewing young people through either a deficit or a romantic lens, we want to shift the conversation towards a sober, youth-informed voice about key challenges facing young people in Australia today.

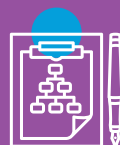
Initially, CYPEP posed a deliberate provocation: Is being young a form of disadvantage? That is, given the cluster of forces and challenges facing young people, such as precarious work, mental health, and environmental degradation, are there barriers that prevent young people from fully participating in society and leading healthy meaningful lives?

As we respond to these questions, we seek to shape research, policy and public debate about the challenges and opportunities facing young people today and in the future. CYPEP will harness research strengths from across Monash to collaborate on understanding these challenges and opportunities, and develop the necessary education and policy responses to address them. It will do this by forming alliances across various sectors, actors and organisations that are working to improve the lives of young Australians.

This mission will continue to be refined as we further develop our strategic plan in 2022 with input from CYPEP's Advisory Board, Management Committee and Youth Reference Group.

TRANSLATION AND IMPACT

A major focus of CYPEP's work is engagement and research translation. Alongside traditional academic metrics, CYPEP will measure its success according to the following framework.



REACH: CYPEP reports, educational resources and policy briefs are distributed widely and are accessed by decision-makers in government, higher education, youth service providers and industry.



RECOGNITION: Our research and educational resources are acknowledged by partners and stakeholders as gold-standard. We are sought out for our expertise.



UPTAKE: Our research is used by decision-makers in government and by educators to inform policy and practice.



IMPACT: Adoption of our work has made a difference to the lives of young people.

OUR TEAM



Above (Top–Bottom L–R): Mr Stephen Bahn, Professor Amanda Berry, Mr Blake Cutler, Ms Katherine Ellis, Professor Alan France, Mr Stephen Fraser, Dr Beatriz Gallo Cordoba, Professor Paula Gerber, Professor Asad Islam, Mr Andrew Leap, Ms Yuqi Lin, Dr Bertalan Magyar, Mrs Wendy Mears, Professor Michael Mintrom, Dr Masha Mikola, Ms Sarah Ramantanis, Ms Katrina Reynen OAM, Professor Mark Rickinson, Assoc. Professor Steven Roberts, Dr Cathy Waite, Professor Lucas Walsh, Ms Rebecca Walters, Professor Rebecca Wickes, Mr Mark Yin, Ms Candice Zheng.



CENTRE STAFF

Centre director: Professor Lucas Walsh

Research fellows:

Dr Beatriz Gallo Cordoba

Dr Bertalan Magyar

Dr Cathy Waite

Research project officer:

Dr Masha Mikola

Research assistant: Mr Blake Cutler

Centre manager: Ms Lorenne Wilks

Administration coordinator:

Mrs Wendy Mears (*leave replacement*)

Ms Gina Chow (*substantive*)

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: Professor Mark Rickinson (Education)

Professor Paula Gerber (*Law*)

Professor Asad Islam (*Business and Economics*)

Professor Lucas Walsh (*CYPEP*)

Professor Rebecca Wickes (*Arts*)

Ms Lorenne Wilks (*CYPEP*)

ADVISORY BOARD

Chair: Ms Katrina Reynen OAM

(Skyline Education Foundation)

Professor Amanda Berry (*Deputy Dean, Research, Monash Education*)

Ms Katherine Ellis

(*CEO Youth Affairs Council, Victoria*)

Professor Alan France (*University of Auckland; international expert on youth research*)

Mr Stephen Fraser (*Deputy Secretary, Victorian Department of Education*)

Professor Michael Mintrom (*Monash University, Better Governance and Policy lead*)

Ms Sarah Ramantanis (*Philanthropy Australia*)

Assoc. Professor Steven Roberts (*Monash Arts*)

Mr Andrew Leap (*CYPEP Youth Reference Group*)

YOUTH REFERENCE GROUP

Alongside these advisory and decision-making bodies is the Youth Reference Group (YRG), reflecting the centre's commitment to the participation of young people and the inclusion of their perspectives in all aspects of our work. Environmental and policy scans revealed a paucity of destinations for youth research that engaged young people directly in their work. This observation has motivated CYPEP to work closely with this group.

MR STEPHEN BAHN

MR ANDREW LEAP

MS YUQI LIN

MS ISOBEL THOMAS

MS REBECCA WALTERS

MR MARK YIN

MS CANDICE ZHENG

In the fourth quarter of 2021, YRG members have contributed to the 2021 Australian Youth Barometer, a Policy Bite on post-school transitions, an associated opinion piece published in the Herald-Sun, and were featured speakers at the centre's launch event.

CONSTRUCTIONS OF 'YOUTH' IN AUSTRALIAN POLICY

In 2020, we conducted an environmental scan to investigate how the concept of youth was constructed and articulated in Australian state and federal policy between 2014 and 2020.

PARAMETERS

The scan focused on policy relating to young people aged 15–24 years, and included education-oriented policy which related to secondary school aged young people. Types of documents consulted included actions plans, strategy documents, frameworks, policy and procedure documents. Under the umbrella of 'youth', policy documents covered the following areas: youth offending and youth justice, education and training, health and wellbeing, disability, child protection, family violence, and defence.



KEY FINDINGS

Several key themes emerged from the scan. Young people were continuously described and constructed according to a series of stereotypes. These included young people as proxies of the future, in which they were heralded as the future of society, and the success of economic, social futures was seen to hinge on young people themselves. Young people were also constructed as agents of risky behaviours. Stereotypes in which young people are assumed to engage in risky behaviours due to their age, and youth status underlie discussions about youth, particularly within justice and health. Deficit, problem-based approaches to writing about young people was also common in the policy documents. Health and young offending documents were more likely to position young people in deficit terms. Alongside deficit understandings of youth were constructions which relied on passive, abstract approaches to young people. This was evidenced by missing or tokenistic use of young peoples' voices in the development of policy.

These pervasive and consistent approaches to constructing young people in youth policy belie another common refrain: the need to privilege young peoples' voices in issues that affect them. This theme emerges most clearly in documents which prominently claim that young people's opinions and perspectives are important and, therefore, solicited in the development of policy concerning them. Young people's perspectives tended to be included in the form of consultations and focus groups responding to issues and concerns articulated by others. Further, while several reports highlighted the importance of engaging young people in issues of concern to their lives, it was clear that engagement had not always occurred at the time of writing the report.

IMPLICATIONS

Despite the apparent collective agreement among policy-makers that youth consultation is important in the policy development process, our scan indicated that there was a wide variety of interpretations of what 'youth voice' in policy looked like, how young people participated, and how their contributions were actually utilised. The persistence of such constructions throughout Australian youth policy reflects the endurance of adult-centric interpretations of youth, and the partial and superficial engagement procedures that claim to engage with young people, but which ultimately privilege the interests of other agendas.

There is a clear need for sober, evidence-informed research that critically reviews the claims made in documents used to make decisions affecting young people in Australia every day. Our scan demonstrates that, despite recognition of the importance of youth engagement, this is still not conducted in a manner which genuinely involves young people in the issues of concern to them. Partial or superficial youth engagement of this type can have substantial impacts on the uptake and roll-out of policies designed to support young people in Australia.

THE AUSTRALIAN YOUTH BAROMETER

The Australian Youth Barometer is the centre's flagship publication – a comprehensive overview of the status and wellbeing of young people in Australia. It forms the centrepiece of CYPEP's research and engagement program and will be complemented by scholarly articles in academic outlets, policy bites for government and other stakeholders, 'deep dive' investigative articles, media commentary, and public events.

The Australian Youth Barometer will be an annual report with new cohorts being surveyed each year. It will become a useful national resource, providing a long-term picture of how issues of importance to young people shift across time.

The inaugural 2021 Australian Youth Barometer surveyed over 500 young Australians aged 18–24 on topics including education, employment, health and wellbeing, finances, housing, civic participation and the impact of COVID-19.

The findings paint a complex picture of young Australians today. The 2021 Australian Youth Barometer highlights a mix of positivity and resilience amongst young people, while also showing deeper challenges related to their futures. The survey findings showed the pressures some young Australians were under and provided an insight into understanding what 'the new normal' might look like post-COVID-19 and how we can collectively build thriving communities and sustainable futures for the benefit of all Australians.

The concerns expressed by young people about climate change, work, health and well-being, and technology are shared by many Australians across a wide variety of age groups. The attitudes and views of young people in this report provide windows into the wider worlds that we all inhabit and that should consequently concern us all.

Some of our key findings

- Students felt their education prepared them for the future, but wanted more focus on developing practical skills, such as those that helped them to gain employment, vote and understand taxes.
- Younger workers (20–24 years) now work 5.8 fewer hours than they did in 1992, compared with prime-age workers (25–54 years), who work 2.6 fewer hours per week.
- Nearly 60% of young people reported emotional or psychological impacts associated with encountering risks online.
- Only 22% of young women (18–24 years) in Australia felt financially literate, compared to 48% of women in the overall population.
- 53% of young people reported having used buy-now-pay-later services, despite almost half thinking these services had a negative impact on financial behaviour.
- 32.1% of young households live in unaffordable properties, spending more than 30% of their income on rent.
- 71% of young people report not feeling listened to by the police.
- 90% of young Australians support immigration and cultural diversity.

YOUNG PEOPLE RESPOND TO THE 2021 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH BAROMETER



We asked members of our Youth Reference Group to respond to the findings presented in the Australian Youth Barometer.

The findings about young people's civic participation are really important. I think for young people, informal civic participation is much more prevalent because they face structural barriers in accessing formal means of participation. Young people are protesting and using social media to share their voices and enact their agency. It is important that the diversity of young people's voices are being listened to, encouraged, and supported. Resources like the Youth Barometer present an opportunity for young people in seeing themselves reflected and having their experiences validated.

REBECCA

The finding that 46% of young people experienced significant stress and felt stuck in life is something that I really resonate with. It's profound to think about the amount of time we've spent studying online and being in lockdown, [it] does make you feel like you're missing out on so much of your life. But we also need to make the most of our education and this highlights the importance of making sure that our studies prepare us for life after school and after lockdown. I think the point that the young people were critical of how their education did not provide them with life skills would resonate with a lot of young people.

STEVEN

Thinking about young people's experiences of safety and financial security, what struck me is how dangerous the workforce can often be for young people, especially with the casualisation of the workforce. It's hard working in retail and hospitality. They're two sectors that are dominated by young people and, because they are not necessarily unionised fields, young people don't have access to a lot of support. So this report not only brings to the fore that it can be hard to get a job, but even when you've got a job, it can be an unsafe work environment and young people don't always have the support to navigate that.

ISOBEL

ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE

JANUARY

CYPEP established

APRIL

Governance structure established

Strategic planning commenced

MAY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

CYPEP Website and Twitter account launched

JUNE

CYPEP seminar What does it mean to be young and disadvantaged in Australia?

JULY

CYPEP seminar Student belonging and university experience (Kelly-Ann Allen)

OCTOBER



The 2021 Australian Youth Barometer published

CYPEP launched

NOVEMBER

AUGUST



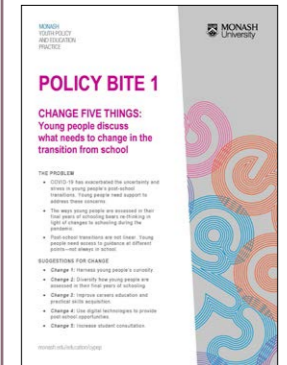
First discussion paper published

Youth Reference Group convened

SEPTEMBER

DECEMBER

First Policy Bite published, featuring YRG members



Policy Bite: Change Five Things: Young people discuss what needs to change in the transition from school.



OUR RESEARCH

FUNDED PROJECTS

Report on social and emotional learning programs

Lucas Walsh
Dandolo Partners

Delivery of workshop and publication on how schools can foster civic and political participation

Cathy Waite and Lucas Walsh
UNICEF

WORK IN PROGRESS

Young people's environmental activism on Twitter

This project explores how Twitter enables young people to have their voices heard where traditional avenues fail.

Constantly in motion, stuck in place

This project explores young women's employment pathways and their anxieties during transition from education to work. It draws on a survey of the career identities of over 2000 Victorian students.

About them without them?

This project is undertaking a critical review of youth policy and youth organisations. It builds on the environmental scans of these topics conducted early in 2021.

Food insecurity among international university students in Melbourne

This project investigates international students' access to nutritionally and culturally appropriate foods during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CYPEP REPORTS

CYPEP published its first discussion paper *Life, Disrupted: Young people, education and employment before and after COVID-19* in August 2021. This paper examined the ways that young people's career identities are being shaped by contemporary worlds of work. It formed the basis of a soft launch of the centre to the Monash community and served as an introduction to the issues CYPEP was interested in and would be exploring. The report has received over 290 views and 114 downloads.

The 2021 Australian Youth Barometer: Understanding young people today was published in November 2021. The Youth Barometer measured the quality of life of young Australians in the areas of education, employment outcomes and the labour market, housing, health and wellbeing, money, citizenship and belonging, digital life, food security, and safety and risk. This flagship report combined a comprehensive review of existing data with new survey and interview data collected by the CYPEP team. Over 500 young people from across Australia participated in the survey and a further 30 participated in in-depth interviews conducted by CYPEP researchers. The report has received over 277 downloads in the two months since release.

Change Five Things: Young people discuss what needs to change in the transition from school was the first in a series of 'policy bites' — brief summaries of an issue with policy recommendations. It drew on the personal experiences of CYPEP's Youth Reference Group members to critically reflect on the role and utility of final exams and presented five suggested changes.

All CYPEP reports can be found on Bridges, Monash's research repository:
<https://bridges.monash.edu/cypep>.



Team members have also published in scholarly outlets and presented research at academic and professional conferences in 2021:

PUBLICATIONS

Black, R., & Walsh, L. (2021). Negotiating vulnerabilities in space and time in the twenty-first century. *Journal of Applied Youth Studies* 4, 329–343. DOI: 10.1007/s43151-021-00030-y

Black, R., & Walsh, L. (2021). Living the dream? University students in mobile times. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 24(4), 426–440. DOI: 10.1080/13676261.2020.1741527

Walsh, L., & Black, R. (2021). 'Flexible ongoing': the young university student as homo promptus. *Journal of Youth Studies*, 24(4), 499–514. DOI: 10.1080/13676261.2020.1742302

Walsh, L. & Black, R. (2021). The problem of empowerment: the social ecologies of indigenous youth leadership, *Pedagogy, Culture & Society*, DOI: 10.1080/14681366.2021.1891451

Walsh, L., & Gleeson, J. (2021). Theorising and preparing students for precarity: how can leaders and educators better prepare students to enter an increasingly insecure workforce? *Journal of Educational Administration and History*, 54(1), 7–19, DOI: 10.1080/00220620.2020.1868981

Walsh, L., & Gleeson, J. (2021). Embedded careers education. In K-A. Allen, A. Reupert, & L. Oades (Eds.) *Building Better Schools with Evidence-based Policy: Adaptable Policy for Teachers and School Leaders*, Routledge. pp.77–87 DOI: 10.4324/9781003025955

Wilkinson, J., Walsh, L., Keddie, A., Longmuir, F. (2021). The Emotional Labour of Educational Leading: A Practice Lens. In J. Wilkinson (Ed.) *Educational Leadership through a Practice Lens*, Springer. pp.157–183

PRESENTATIONS

Gallo Cordoba, B., Leckie, G., & Browne, W., 'Ethnic achievement gaps in Colombia: a multilevel explanation.' Paper presented at Accepting Educational Responsibility, American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, 8–12 April 2021, online

Walsh, L. 'Life, Disrupted.' Keynote address delivered at, Social and Citizenship Education a Disrupted World: empowering young people for these times, Social and Citizenship Education Association of Australia, 25–26 November, 2021, online

Walsh, L., Keynote address delivered at ASEAN Symposium: Re-imagining post-COVID education in the ASEAN region, 3–6 May 2021, online

Walsh, L., & Waite, C., 'Role of education in promoting meaningful participation and empowerment of adolescents and young people', Presentation to Building Pathways to Empowerment: Conference on Young People's Rights to Civic Engagement in East Asia and Pacific, 28–29 October 2021

COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

The [CYPEP website](#) went live in June 2021 and has received approximately 7,000 page views. A Twitter account was created in June 2021: [@MonashCYPEP](#). The main purpose of the Twitter account is to disseminate news about activities, discoveries, key publications and events and to engage with key stakeholders. Follower numbers have slowly increased following each public event and by January 2021 stood at 196. The centre hosted a number of outreach events online in 2021.

CYPEP SEMINAR: 28 JULY 2021

What does it mean to be young and disadvantaged in Australia and how can better education and policy address this?

Presenters: Professor Lucas Walsh, Dr Cathy Waite, Dr Bertalan Magyar and Dr Beatriz Gallo Cordoba

The purpose of this first seminar was to inform colleagues in the Faculty of Education about the centre, its goals and ambitions, and to introduce the research fellows and their areas of interest and expertise to other faculty researchers. Twenty-seven colleagues participated in the live event with a further 73 views of the recording on YouTube.

RELEASE OF CYPEP'S FIRST DISCUSSION PAPER: 24 AUGUST 2021

Life, Disrupted: Young people, education and employment before and after COVID-19

Presenters: Professor Viv Ellis, Professor Lucas Walsh, Dr Jo Gleeson and Dr Brady Robards

The primary audience for this presentation was the wider Monash University community, but the event was also advertised to external stakeholders and the media. The main objective was to reach out to other Monash researchers working in cognate disciplines and inform them about the centre. Over 40 people attended live, with a further 265 views of the recording on YouTube.

CYPEP SEMINAR: 27 OCTOBER 2021

Student belonging and university experience: Do we need a policy on belonging at Monash?

Presenter: Dr Kelly-Ann Allen

Dr Allen has a strong background of research into young people's sense of belonging, which aligns well with the centre's interests. Forty people from across Monash attended live. Presentation materials are available from the centre's [Bridges repository](#) where they have been viewed 84 times and downloaded 17 times.

CYPEP LAUNCH: 23 NOVEMBER 2021

The 2021 Australian Youth Barometer: Understanding young people in Australia today

Presenters: Professor Sue Elliott, Professor Viv Ellis, Ms Katrina Reynen, Professor Lucas Walsh, Ms Rebecca Walters, Mr Mark Yin

The centre was officially launched by the provost of Monash University, Professor Sue Elliott and the dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Viv Ellis. The launch was accompanied by the release of the 2021 Australian Youth Barometer. A panel discussion featuring two members of CYPEP's youth reference group, Ms Rebecca Walters and Mr Mark Yin, in conversation with the centre's director, was moderated by Ms Katrina Reynen, the chair of CYPEP's Advisory Board. Sixty-four people attended live with a further 305 views of the recording on YouTube.

R BITES

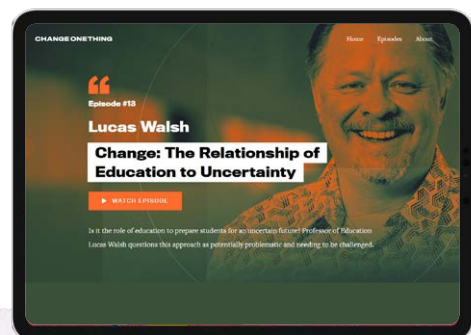
Presenter: Beatriz Gallo Cordoba

CYPEP fellow Beatriz Gallo Cordoba conducted a series of half-hour knowledge-sharing sessions over the course of the year for Faculty of Education staff on the statistical software package R.

IN THE NEWS

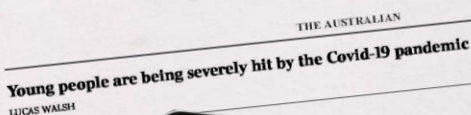
An important goal for 2021 was to raise the profile of the centre with potential partners, stakeholders and the general public. Centre staff published translation articles in outlets such as Monash Lens, The Conversation, and in professional journals. Our work was reported in national news media (print and radio) and collectively reached an estimated audience of nearly 13 million people.

Below is just a selection of [news](#) articles and commentary featuring CYPEP research.



More carrot, less stick: will the Budget do enough for young people in the long-term?

By Professor Lucas Walsh & Dr Bertalan Magyar
Community contribution / May 27, 2021



'Change: The relationship of education to uncertainty' Change One Thing (podcast) featuring Lucas Walsh, episode 13, 30 March 2021



'More carrot, less stick: Will the budget do enough for young people in the long-term?' Lucas Walsh & Bertalan Magyar, Education HQ, 27 May 2021

'After 25 years applying for jobs, the frustration is real' Jonathan Rivett, The Sydney Morning Herald, 30 July 2021

'Young people are being severely hit by the Covid-19 pandemic' Lucas Walsh, The Australian, 12 August 2021

'Young people, the pandemic, and the shifting post-school transitions to employment' Lucas Walsh, Monash Lens, 25 August 2021

'Teaching a hatred of Australia? No, minister, here's why a democracy has critical curriculum content' Lucas Walsh, The Conversation, 14 September 2021

'Stepping up when adults don't: It's just so real for us right now' Megan Keneally, The Guardian, 26 September 2021

'Young homebuyers still left on the fringes' Beatriz Gallo Cordoba and Lucas Walsh, The Herald Sun, 11 October 2021

'How I teach a love of Australia in a critical way' Lucas Walsh, The Australian, 25 October 2021

'Why work experience while studying improves your chances of getting a job' Radio 3AW 693 News Talk presenter Tom Elliott interviews Lucas Walsh and discusses work experience and university students, 14 December 2021

'Why the student ATAR is due for an overhaul' Lucas Walsh, The Herald Sun, 15 December 2021



The release of our first discussion paper, Life, Disrupted: Young people, education and employment before and after COVID-19 was widely reported in the press and on radio. It featured in news bulletins on Radio 2GB and affiliated stations across NSW and on National TalkBlak on BBM 98.7FM. Below is a selection of more extended news coverage.

'Degrees no longer ensure careers for ambitious young' Adam Carey, The Age, 25 August 2021

'Why university degrees no longer guarantee careers' Radio 3AW 693 News Talk presenter Tom Elliott interviews Lucas Walsh, 25 August 2021

'How can we help our disadvantaged youth?' The Wire community radio broadcast featuring Lucas Walsh, 26 August 2021

'Curriculums need to explore future options' Neil Porter Legacy, The Bendigo Advertiser, 25 September 2021

The 2021 Australian Youth Barometer received national coverage through syndicated press and radio. It featured in news reports on Gold 104.3 (Victoria), Mix 102.3 (South Australia) and 101.7 WS FM and Power FM in New South Wales.

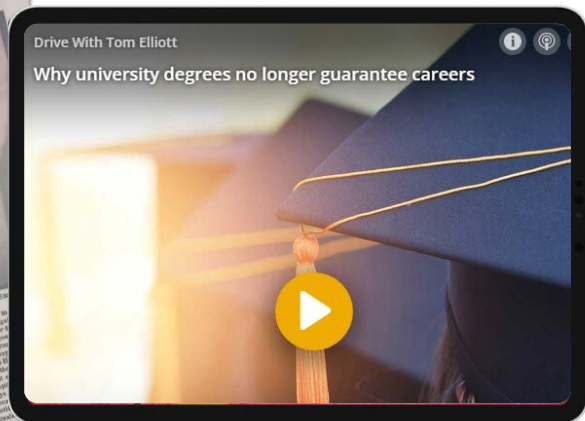
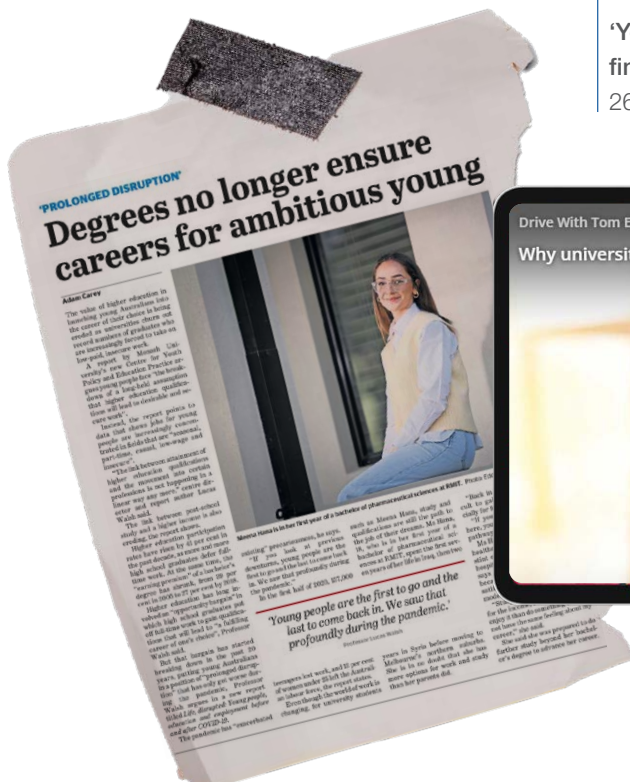
Selected press coverage includes:

'Youth stress over dollars' The Herald Sun, 25 November 2021

'Stress test for young' The Courier Mail, 25 November 2021

'Cash concerns' Geelong Advertiser, 25 November 2021

'Young Australians facing significant financial difficulties' Jon Bragg, Nestegg, 26 November 2021



PROGRESS AGAINST OUR GOALS

The following table summarises the centre's achievements against key performance indicators set for 2021. These were prepared by the faculty's previous deputy dean (research) in consultation with the director, and endorsed in August 2021.

KPI	Measure	2021
Organisation & governance	Management Committee established	✓
	Advisory Board established	✓
	Youth Reference Group established	✓
Research Income	Submit application for external grant as lead	1
	Secure external funds from govt, business or philanthropic sources	✓
Research Outputs	Discussion Paper	1
	Youth Barometer	1
	Submission of article to quality journal	2
Community Engagement	Establish website and social media presence	✓
	Host public seminar	✓
	Centre launch event	✓

In addition to meeting these goals, we also achieved additional targets that were set for 2022, including translating research via publications in non-scholarly outlets, such as news media listed above, and holding public outreach events.



2022 AND BEYOND

The centre's overarching goals for 2022–23 are:



1. Activation & education

We will continue to raise CYPEP's profile through targeted communications through mainstream and social media, and familiarise stakeholders with our work. We will lead public, policy and academic debates on issues central to young people and translate research findings for public, government, not-for-profit, business and scholarly audiences.



2. Build knowledge

We will undertake high-quality research into issues of importance to young people, and produce evidence-based insights into the factors that shape young people's lives. We will develop multi-disciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to youth research and to subsequent policy and education practice outcomes.



3. Work collaboratively

We will work with Faculty of Education research theme leaders to support the faculty's research agenda. We will build research capacity by expanding collaborations with research colleagues from across Monash and with scholars from other Australian and international youth research centres. We will identify other scholars to be appointed as associates and affiliate members of the centre, based on alignment of their research interests and their ability to contribute to the centre's goals.



4. Build alliances

We will establish collaborative partnerships with researchers and change-makers across disciplines and sectors, including government, not-for-profit, and business, to broaden our reach and ensure our work informs policy and education practice.



5. Promote youth voices

We will engage with young people to ensure their views are represented in our decision-making and that our research addresses the challenges they face. We will involve young people in research projects that inform policy and practice so that their voices are heard and they are active agents of change.



6. Secure resources

We will develop a pipeline of research project funding and consultancy income. We will source philanthropic funds for the annual Australian Youth Barometer, including funding for researcher salaries and other operational costs.

In 2022, we will be revisiting and refining our vision and strategy to meet these goals.



With your help, and with your collaboration, we will amplify the voices of young people on issues they deem important, through the avenues that will have the most impact, and create lifelong and life-wide opportunities for young people to thrive.

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