



Country  
Universities  
Centre

SNOWY MONARO

**COMMUNITY PARTNER**  
**PROSPECTUS**

2024 live locally - LEARN LOCALLY - work locally



Be a part of something special

JASMIN

Bachelor of Business Studies  
Charles Sturt University





# WELCOME

Welcome to CUC Snowy Monaro Ltd.

CUC Snowy Monaro (CUCSM) is a community governed, locally run, not-for-profit organisation.

Our mission is to provide a contemporary facility and quality services that support our local community as well as visitors to our Region to achieve their study goals.

We acknowledge the generous support of the Australian Government who provide funding as part of Regional University Study Hubs program. The Program aims to improve access to tertiary education for regional and remote students.

The Australian Government provide further funding under the Regional Partnerships Project Pool Program (RPPPP). This Program aims to support collaborative outreach projects that enable the higher education aspirations of students in regional and remote Australia, including those who may be experiencing cumulative disadvantage. For more information about how we are achieving this, please look for our Common Ground program information on the CUCSM website.

Also recognising the importance of tertiary education for regional students, CUCSM receives generous funding from the NSW Government and are supported by Snowy Monaro Regional Council.

We look forward to working with you and feel confident that your affiliation with CUCSM will attribute to more local and visiting students achieving their study goals.



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Education**



**Country  
Universities  
Centre**

SNOWY MONARO

# WHO WE ARE



**We are designed  
for regional people  
by regional people**

CUC Snowy Monaro (CUCSM) is a not-for-profit organisation that is led by our Centre Manager and a skills-based, volunteer Board of Directors. The Centre exists to provide quality education opportunities to students who are studying in our local region, no matter which higher education provider or course they are engaged with. We strongly believe that the future of an aspiring student should not be determined by where they live; nor should their career aspirations be limited by proximity to learning opportunities.

## **OUR AFFILIATED NETWORK**

The Country Universities Centre excels in its collaborative network strategy, bringing high-quality higher education to regional communities. With more than 20 study centers across over 30 communities in regional NSW, VIC, and QLD, our network fosters communication and collaboration among them.

The network operates in an umbrella model, where each Centre who affiliates with Country Universities Centre is given access to the expertise and experience of the network through collaboration. Although each Centre is locally governed and driven by its community through an independent Board of Directors, the network approach means that our Centres and their students are collectively represented by an aggregated body. The benefits result in increased access to higher education in regional Australia.

**The network approach allows communities to leverage off existing knowledge, share practices and collaborate to create unique and innovative solutions to increase access to higher education in regional Australia**

**We know that those living in country areas like ours are less than half as likely to obtain a degree in contrast to their metropolitan counterparts**



Our Centre aims to improve access and choice by offering free services and supports for those pursuing further education in the Snowy Monaro. We know that a lack of face-to-face support, poor access to quality technology, and access to a quiet and distraction-free study environment are key challenges for the typical student who is studying in a regional context. CUCSM work to overcome these barriers by improving the student experience. This translates into increasing the quantity and quality of graduates located within the region.

CUCSM is part of a larger network of regionally located study communities designed for registered students to excel within a supportive environment. This includes having access to advanced technology, face-to-face supports, a cohort of fellow students, and quality academic advice. As equity in learning is a paramount value in our organisation, our services are offered to all eligible students free of charge.

Any student who is enrolled to study any qualification is welcome to use our service.

**97% of our students have attributed an improved academic success to using the services and facilities at CUC Snowy Monaro**





**“I feel extremely lucky to have found CUCSM as studying as a regional student comes with many challenges. The Centre has made it far easier to continue my study from my home town”**



**ALANAH**

**Bachelor of Education (Prim & E.Child)  
University of New England**

# OUR BEGINNING



Like many regional and rural communities, Cooma faced challenges in providing access to quality tertiary education opportunities and contributing knowledge and qualifications into the local workforce. In 2013, the establishment of the Cooma Universities Centre was funded by Snowy Hydro Limited, Cooma Monaro Shire Council (as it was then known), and key community members to support local students in achieving their educational aspirations. And so, our incredible journey to change the future of regional education began.

Over a decade on, the expanded and rebranded Country Universities Centre is a government-funded network of 20+ Centres operating in communities across NSW, QLD, and VIC.

Alongside State Government seed grants in recognition of the Centre's impact, CUC Snowy Monaro has secured funding under the Federal Regional University Study Hubs program. This program has placed the Study Centre model in the national spotlight, with Regional University Study Hubs emerging all across Australia, all developed for their local community by their local community.

CUCs operate in communities where universities cannot or will not go, from the coast to the outback, with the common goal of developing equitable access to higher education.

CUC communities have the following characteristics:

- Strong local community support
- High representation of students from equity groups such as Regional, low socioeconomic status (SES), and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Low levels of higher education participation and bachelor attainment rates in the region
- Clear regional development goals

# OUR BOARD



**CAROLYN EWART**  
**Chair, Life Member**

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board@cucsnowymonaro.edu.au  
0419 293 894



**FRANCES ROBERTSON**  
**Secretary**

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**DARREN DAVIS**  
**Deputy Chair**

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**IAIN ELLIOTT**  
**Treasurer**

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**NARELLE DAVIS**  
**Director**

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# OUR TEAM



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CENTRE MANAGER

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EDUCATION COORDINATOR

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**BRONTE TOZER**  
EDUCATION SUPPORT OFFICER

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We aim to empower our local  
community to  
succeed in education  
so they may realise  
their dreams

*Laura*

**Bachelor of Teaching (Prim)  
Charles Sturt University  
Graduated 2023**



# OUR STUDENTS



Our students choose to study a diverse range of courses from over 40 different Australian universities and many other education or training providers. We even have a small number of international students who have moved to our Region to be a part of the Snowy Hydro 2.0 Scheme.

CUC Snowy Monaro (CUCSM) has responded to our local student needs and established an innovative model that can support any student studying any course through any educational or training provider. The wrap-around model for student support provides face-to-face academic, well-being, technological, and administrative support in addition to what each student's university already provides. These extra layers of support are crucial for many students who study with us.

Regional and online students, often from low SES backgrounds or being the first in their family to pursue higher education, face higher attrition risks. This is compounded by caring and parenting responsibilities they may have. We aim to overcome these barriers by offering a free and welcoming place to study with flexible and personalised face-to-face support within our local learning community.

Our Study Centre aims to empower students to enroll in the course of their choice from any educational or training provider, with the knowledge they will be supported locally. The focus on face-to-face support provided by our team is highly valued by students. In the 2022 Student Experience Survey, 92% of students indicated they are more likely to continue with their studies because of the help they received from CUCSM staff, while 87% of our students experienced a sense of belonging, and 99% of students found the staff to be very or extremely helpful.



20  
24

# SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL STUDENTS SINCE 2013

**737**   
**STUDENTS**  
over 11 years

**448**   
**UNIVERSITY  
COURSES**  
have been studied by our students

**3.5%** **ABORIGINAL OR  
TORRES STRAIT  
STUDENTS**

**& 119** **OTHER  
COURSES**  
over

**CUC SNOWY  
MONARO** 

Cooma and Surrounds  
has 3.6% people identifying as  
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ABS, 2021)  
3.5% of CUC Snowy Monaro students identify  
as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

**31%** students were  
**FIRST IN FAMILY  
TO STUDY AT UNI**  
2013 - 2024

Our students  
have studied  
with **41** **DIFFERENT  
UNIVERSITIES**

**& 117** **TOTAL  
PROVIDERS**  
over

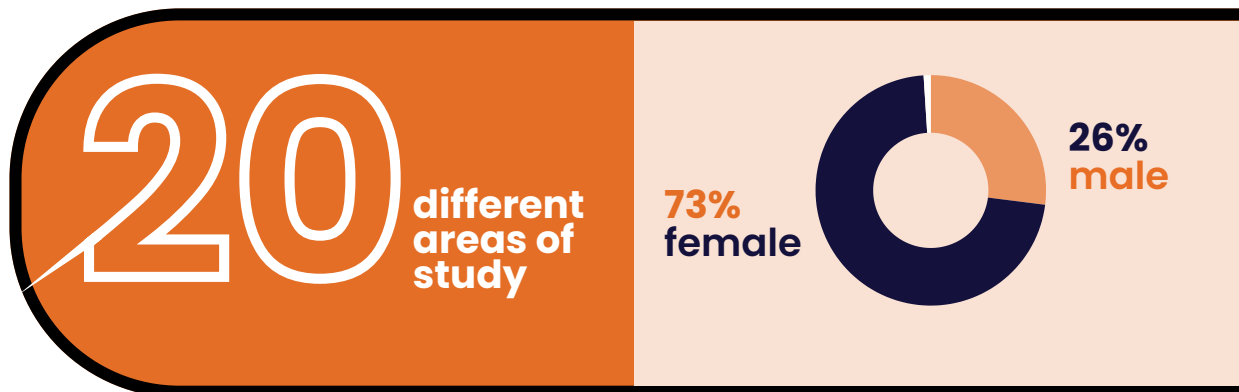
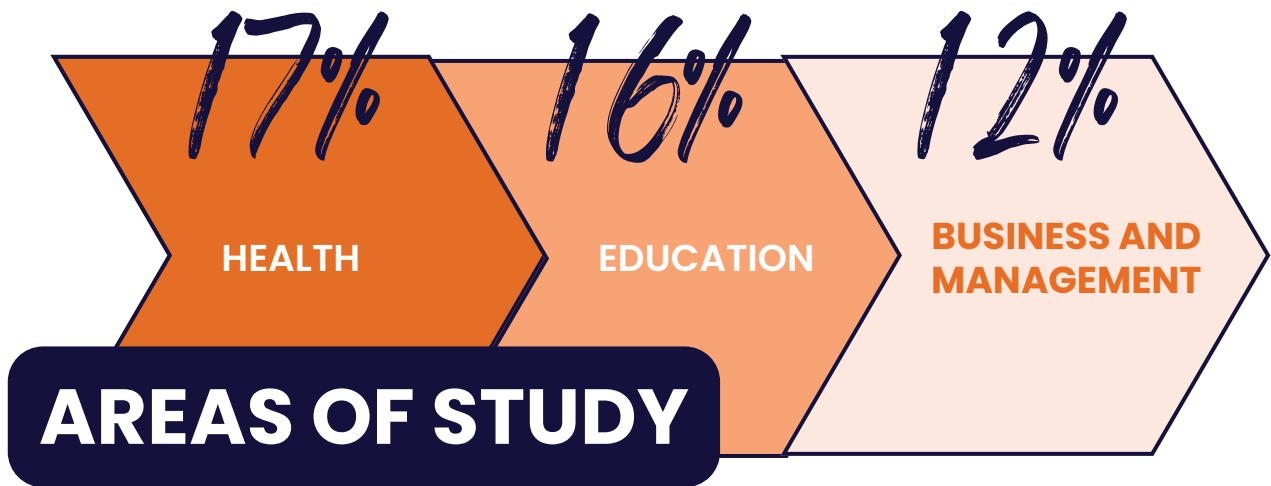
# SNAPSHOT OF 2024

198 STUDENTS



**33%**  
are the first in  
their family  
to study

**5.7%**  
of students identify  
as Indigenous or  
Torres Strait Islander



# OUR SUCCESS



During our eleven years of supporting Snowy Monaro's local and visiting students we have achieved some amazing results!

Since 2013, over 700 students have registered to use our facilities and services and approximately 31% of these students were the first to ever study at a tertiary level. This implies that we are making a positive impact on a community that has historically struggled with completing tertiary education.

**CUC Snowy Monaro are focused on changing the narrative of regional people participating in tertiary education**

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*Last week I completed my first subject, now onto my second. I'd like to express my appreciation to the CUCSM team for the various ways you have all supported me the past 8 weeks, I'm extremely grateful,*

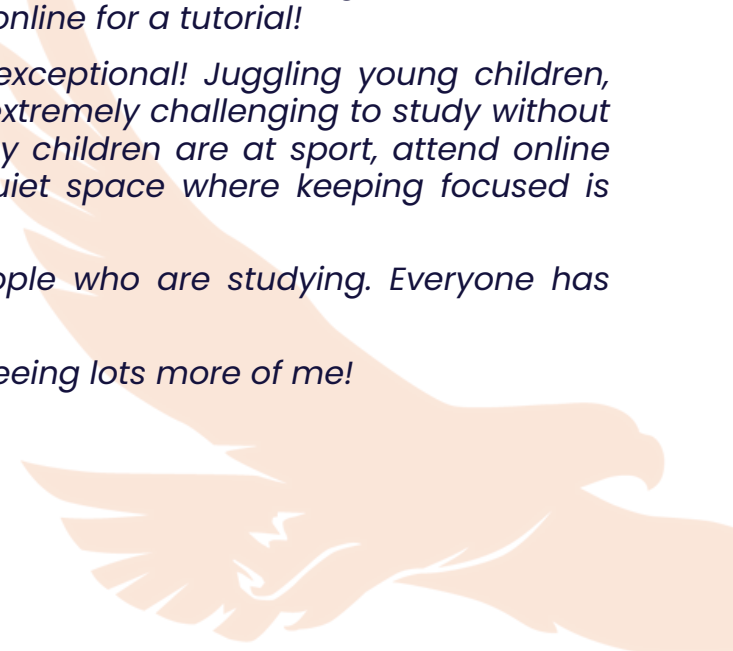
*From the moment I walk through the CUC doors, I feel welcome and at ease. I'm always greeted with a hello and friendly smile, often leading to a check-in conversation – unless I'm in a rush to get online for a tutorial!*

*The CUC environment and facilities are exceptional! Juggling young children, work and living out of town, would prove extremely challenging to study without the CUC. I can pop in after work while my children are at sport, attend online tutorials uninterrupted and study in a quiet space where keeping focused is much easier than at home!*

*It has been so lovely meeting other people who are studying. Everyone has been friendly and encouraging.*

*I have 2 and ½ years to go so you will be seeing lots more of me!*

*Hayley  
Master of Social Work  
University of Canberra*





We provide local students with the space and tools they need to achieve their study dreams



*Ben*

Graduate Diploma in Divinity  
Morling College



# PARTNER WITH US



CUC Snowy Monaro believe that harnessing our great community values will create a more collaborative learning environment with increased career opportunities post-study. Encouraging our students to consider their career trajectory in the context of local opportunities is part of this picture. The synergy between education and employment is critical to the ongoing sustainability and success of our region.

**We're growing more than a highly-qualified population in the Snowy Monaro. We're also contributing to a workforce readiness; tackling the challenges faced by these regional communities.**

Strong engagement and collaboration between our Centre and key industry partners is crucial should this goal be fully realised.

Our students benefit and develop through opportunities to interact with a wider network, including local businesses, organizations, and community groups. While financial support is an integral component for our Centre's recurrent sustainability, is it by no means the only benefit to contributions from our community partners and sponsors.

Frequently, students who aspire to stay in their local communities are inclined to pursue local employment. Our vision is for students receiving support from CUCSM to predominantly contribute their enhanced skills and knowledge back to our community.

Community partners can therefore play an integral role in the advancement of this local student cohort. To this end our Centre requests genuine financial and in-kind support from organisations and individuals to ensure the ongoing success of our work and the ongoing prosperity of our Region.

# SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Promotional Opportunities	Foundation Partner	Gold Partner	Silver Partner	Bronze Partner
Prominent signage in the Centre	✓			
Speaking slot, promotional booth (provided by you), and logo on key marketing materials at local events	✓			
Acknowledgement of sponsorship in speeches	✓	✓		
Promotional materials (provided by you) in student registration and gift packs	✓	✓	✓	
Sponsorship announcement, including 1x media release, 1x social media post (Facebook & Instagram)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo recognition in email signatures, letterheads and website footers	✓			
Acknowledgement with link to sponsor website on CUC partners webpage	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Contribution amount (per annum)</b>	<b>+\$15,000</b>	<b>+\$7,500</b>	<b>+\$3,000</b>	<b>+\$1,000</b>



# CONTACT



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# MORE INFORMATION



[cucsnowymonaro.edu.au](http://cucsnowymonaro.edu.au)



[cucsnowymonaro](https://www.facebook.com/cucsnowymonaro)



[cucsnowymonaro](https://www.instagram.com/cucsnowymonaro)



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work locally