Southern Cross University

# Seasoning Esploro to our taste: Capturing Scholarship of Learning and Teaching (SoLT)

Maureen Bezanson and Margie Pembroke

Southern Cross University, Australia

2024

Transforming › Tomorrow

Southern Cross University

# Overview

- About Southern Cross University
- Background to Scholarship of Learning and Teaching
- Mapping Scholarship of Learning and Teaching to Esploro
- Training and Reporting
- Challenges
- Benefits
- Questions

Southern Cross University

# About Southern Cross University

- 17,000 students (EFTSL 10,700)
- Over 955 FTE staff over 300 FTE Academic Staff
- Ranked “well above world standard” in 14 research fields by the latest Excellence in Research Australia
- “At world standard” in a further 23 research fields
- Ranked 100th in 2024 Times Higher Education Young University Rankings

Southern Cross
University

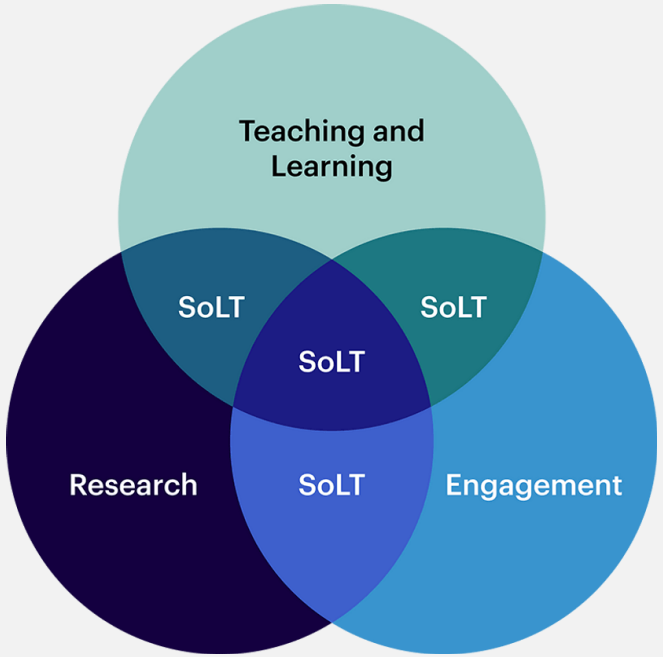
Southern Cross University

# Background to SoLT

- Regulatory compliance
  - Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA)
  - Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)
  - Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS)
- Defining scholarship
- Southern Cross University reviewed reporting requirements
  - Policies
  - Academic Portfolio Office (APO)
  - Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL)
- So what is SoLT?

Southern Cross University

# SCU's SoLT Framework




At Southern Cross University, Scholarship of Learning and Teaching (SoLT) is defined as:

**scholarly activity grounded in practice and a shared, evidence-based approach to improving our students' learning experiences and outcomes.**

– Southern Cross University Scholarship of Learning and Teaching (SoLT) Framework

## To put this another way…

Evidence, ideas, theory, debates, etc.

informs

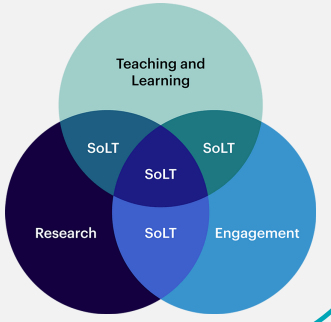
Learning & teaching

- understanding
- practice

informs

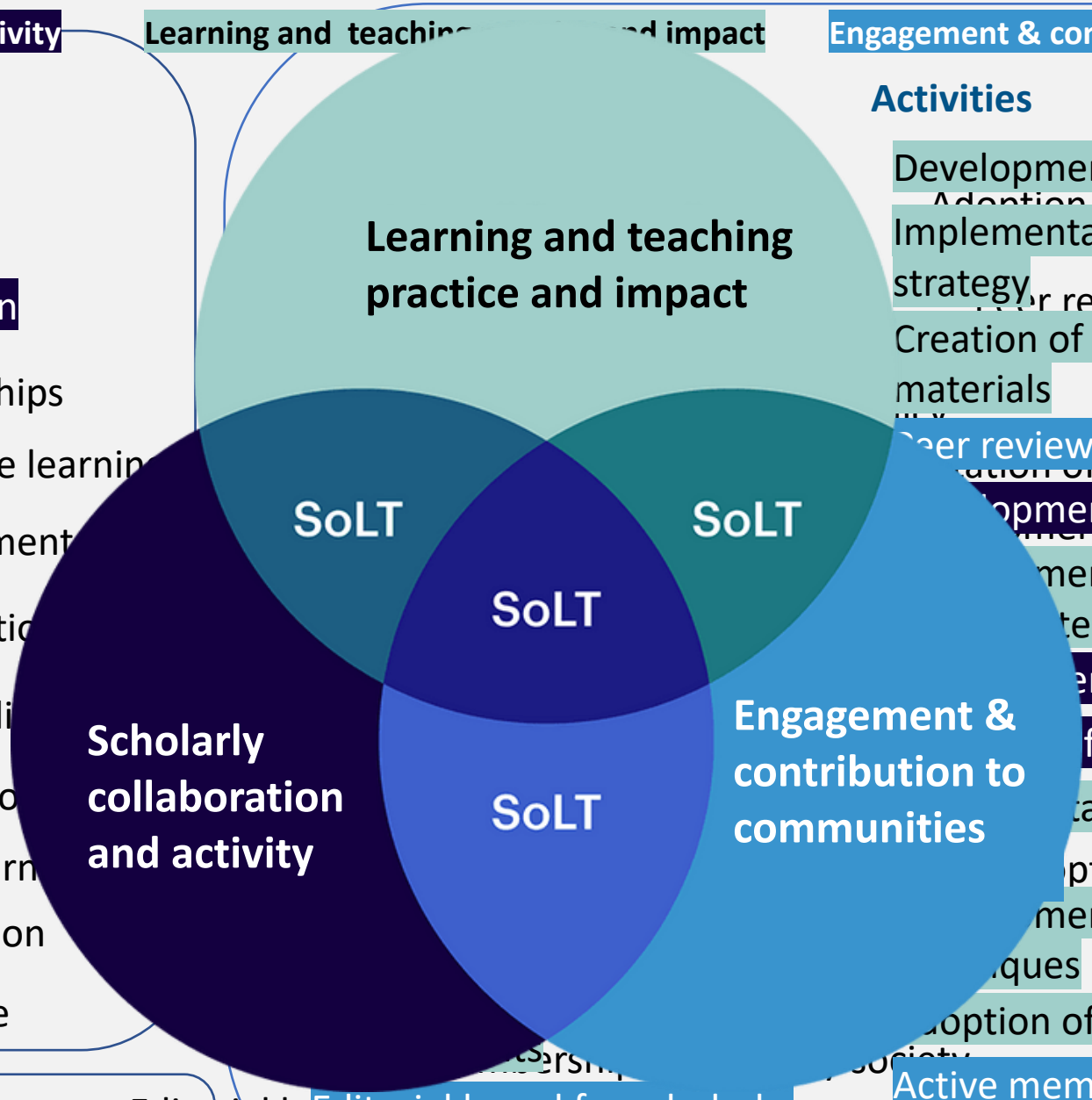
Improved student outcomes

"making it public"



Southern Cross University

# Mapping SoLT to Esploro




Scholarly collaboration and activity

Outputs

Scholarly review

Journal article

Conference presentation

Panel presentations

PhD thesis

Textbooks

Seminar delivered

Conference proceeding

Conversation article

Podcast

Conference papers

Masters' degree

Book chapter

Grants

Grants awarded

Media mentions

Interviews

Learning and teaching practice and impact

Activities

Development of academic policy

Implementation of improved instructional strategy

Creation of improved online learning materials

Secondments

Peer review for journals or conferences

Development of new knowledge resources

Engagement & contribution to communities

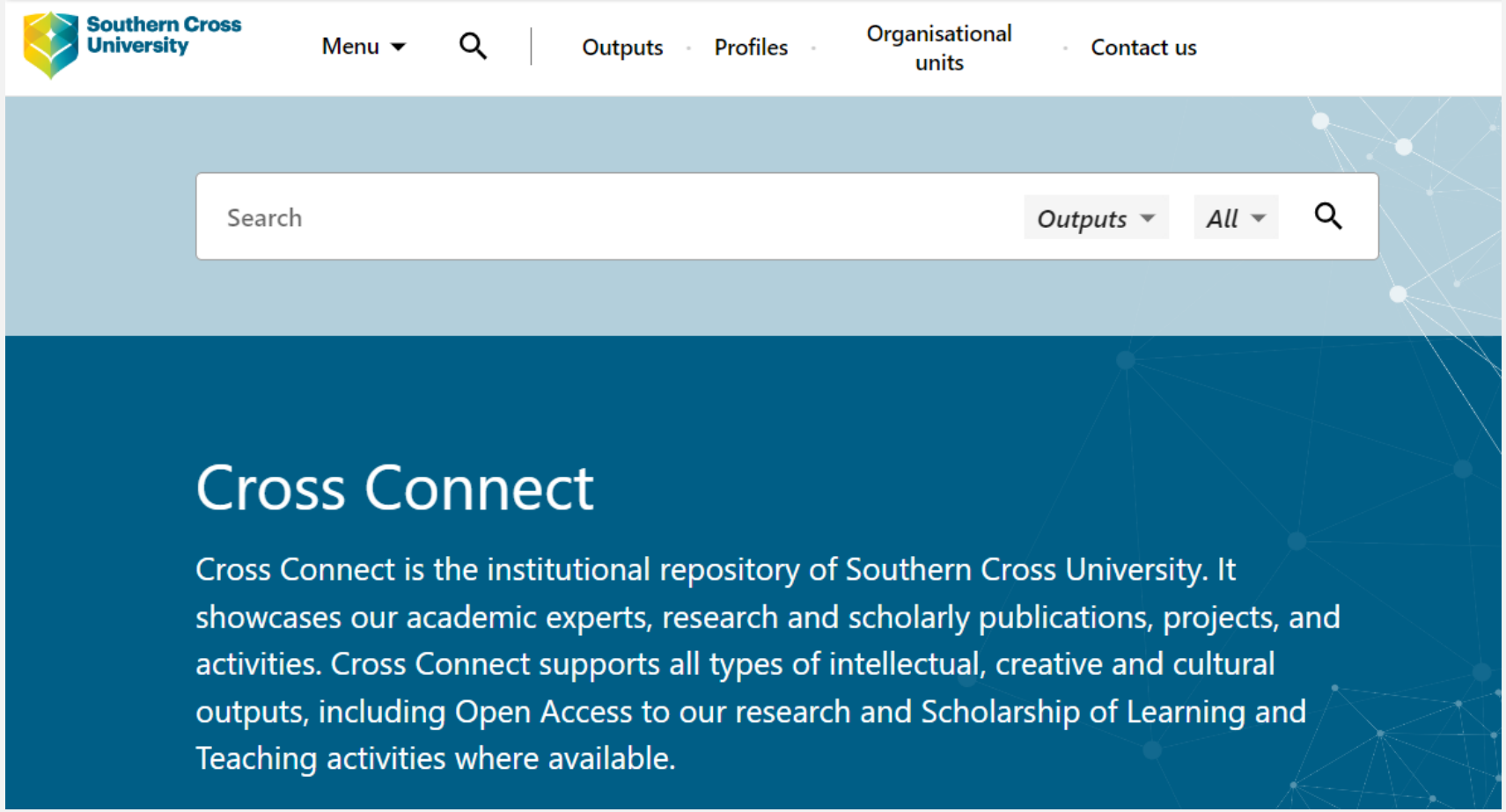
Active membership in scholarly society

Editorial board for scholarly journal

Development of new codes of practice

Southern Cross University

# Esploro Branding

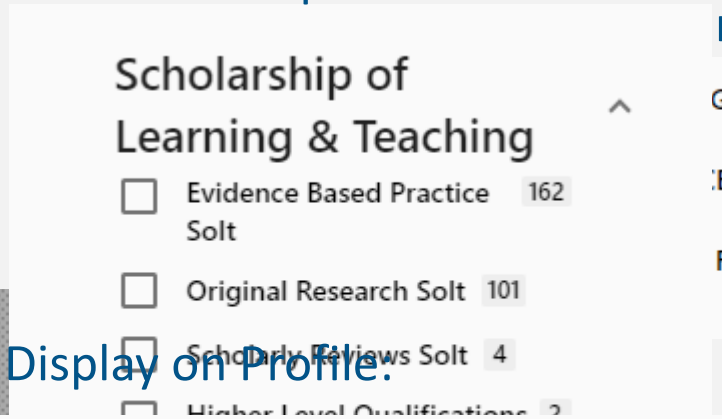


Southern Cross University

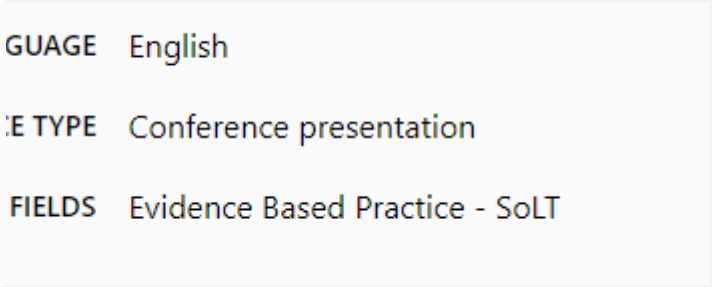
# Cross Connect configuration

- Output and theses
  - Additional field
- Grants
  - Grant category type
- Media mentions

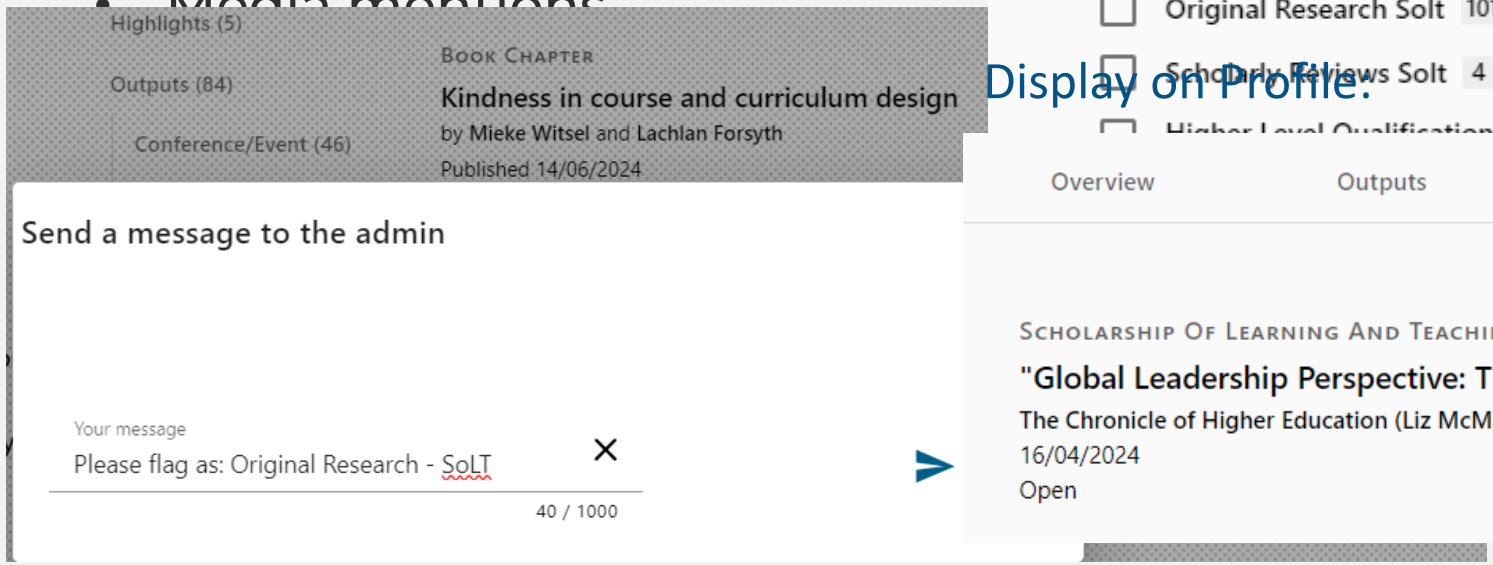
Facets in Output search:



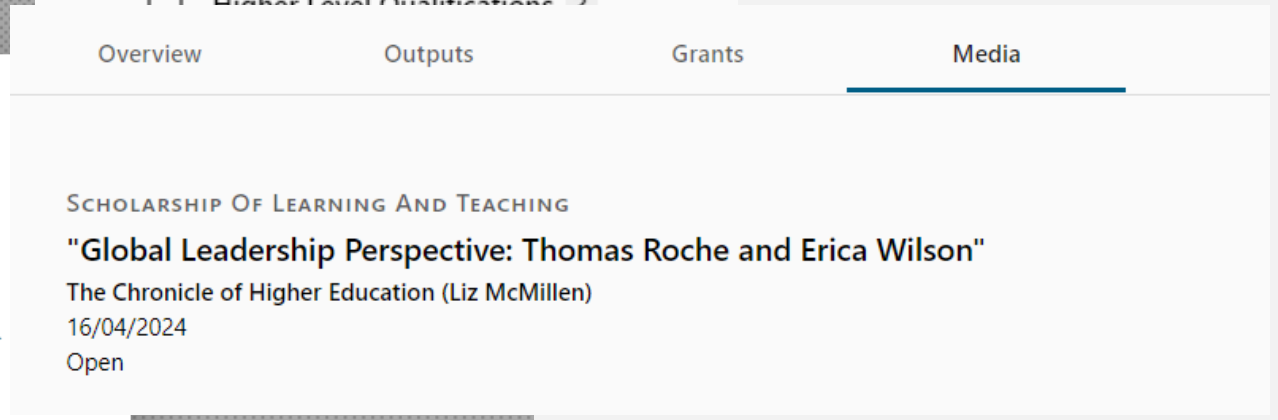

n details of Output:




Sending a message from Profile:



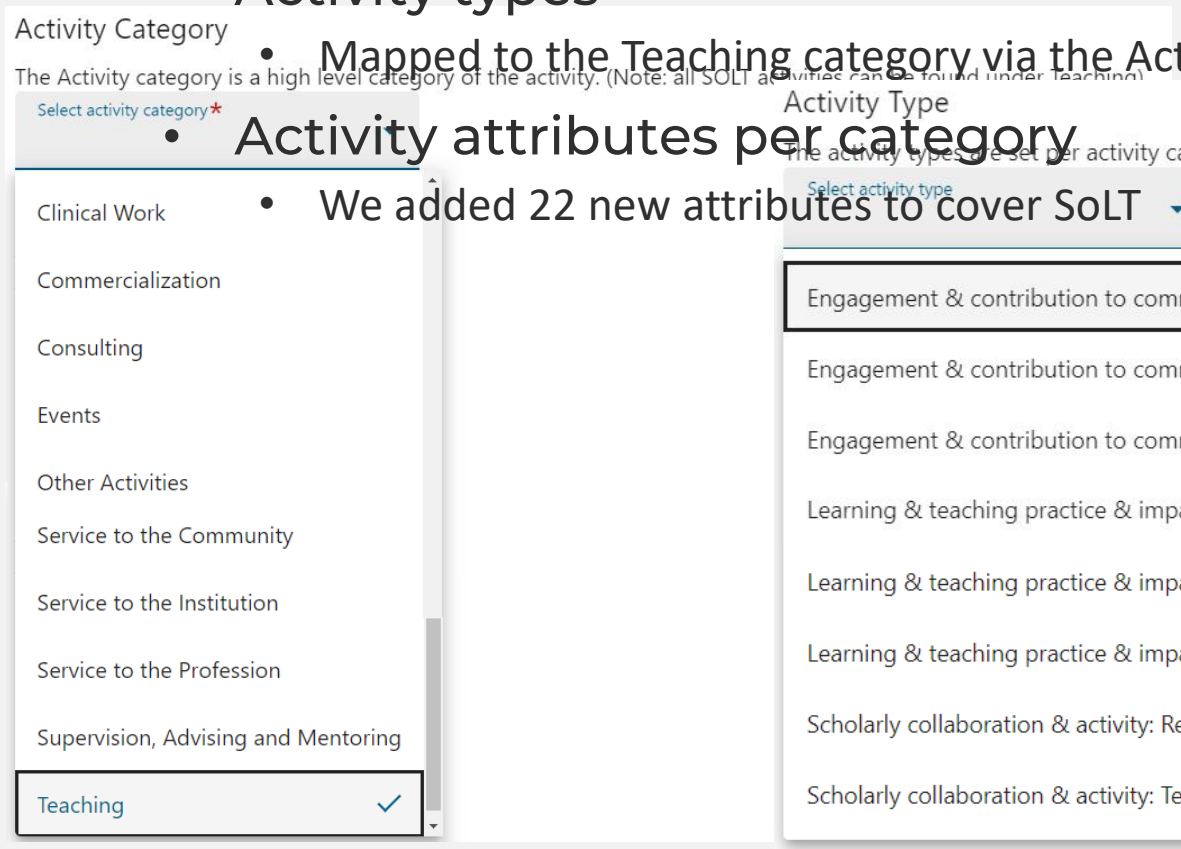

Display on Profile:

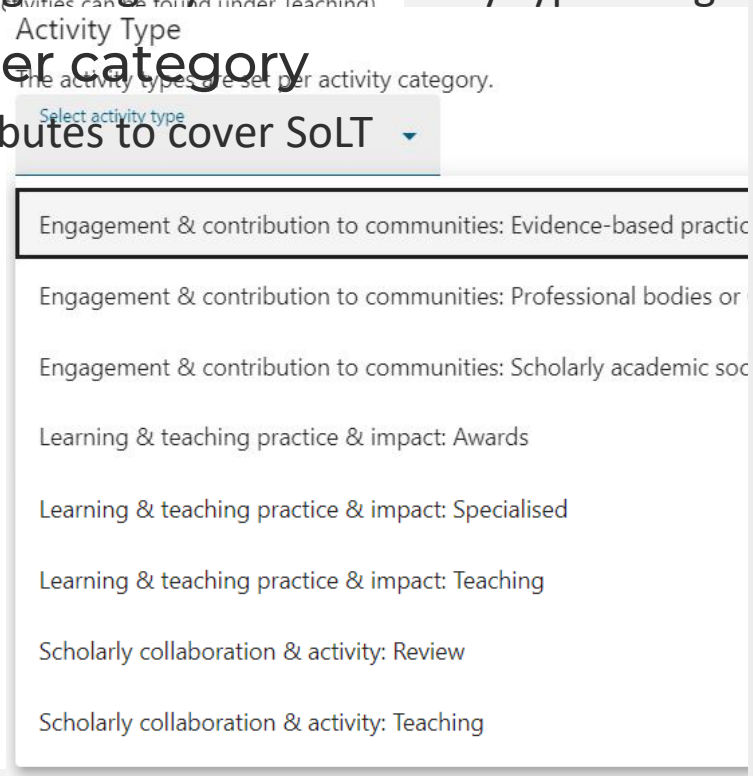


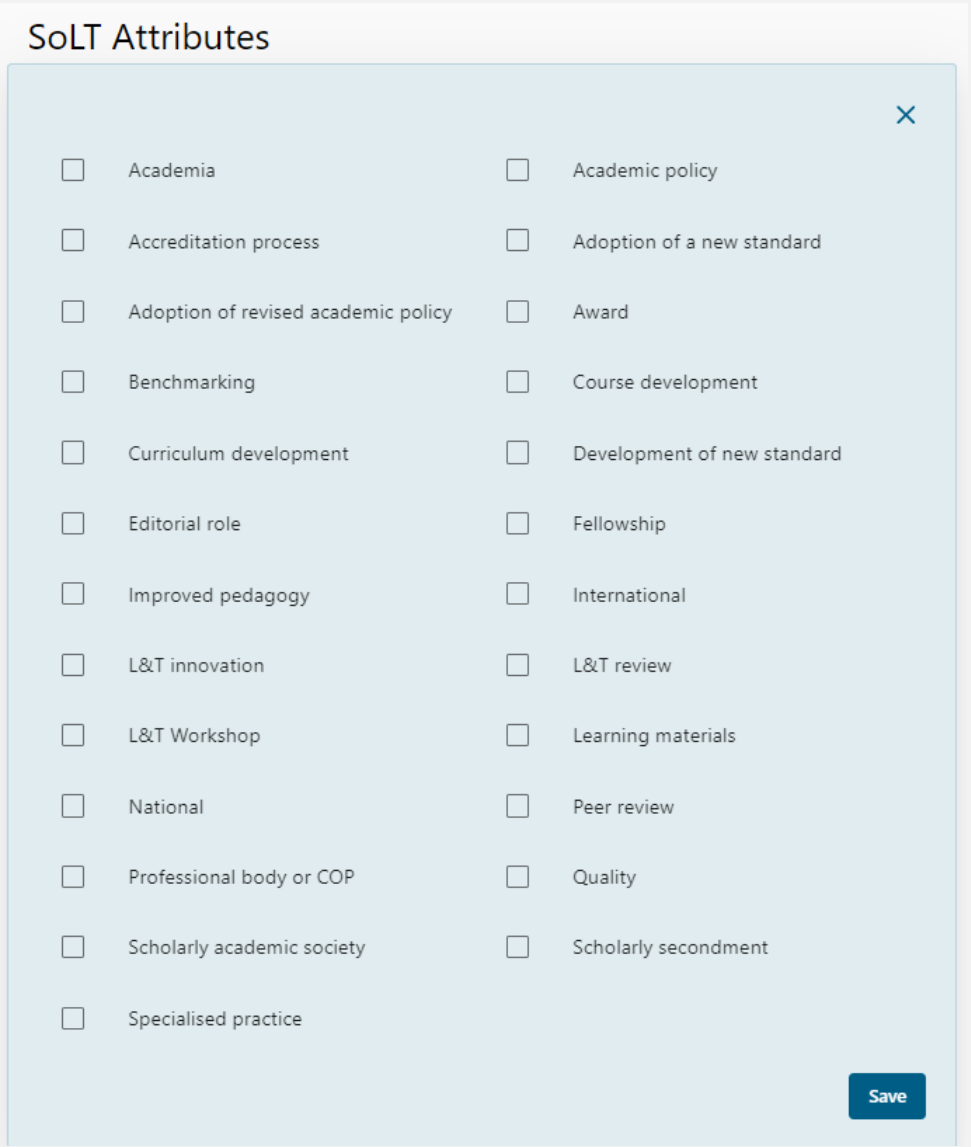
Southern Cross University

# Activities mapping hierarchy

- Activity category (unable to be edited)
- Activity types
  - Mapped to the Teaching category via the Activity type categor
- Activity attributes per category
  - We added 22 new attributes to cover SoLT



Southern Cross University

# New profile tabs

Overview | Outputs | Grants | Media | Scholarship of Learning & Teaching | Professional Activities | Other Activities

## Mieke Witsel

Senior Lecturer, Centre for Teaching and Learning, Southern Cross University

*Education policy, sociology and philosophy | Heutagogy | Active learning | Pedagogy of kindness*

*All (11)*

*Teaching (11)*

- *Engagement & contribution to communities: Scholarly academic societies (1)*
- *Engagement & contribution to communities: Evidence-based practice (2)*
- *Engagement & contribution to communities: Professional bodies or COP (2)*
- *Learning & teaching practice & impact: Awards (2)*
- *Learning & teaching practice & impact: Teaching (4)*

ENGAGEMENT & CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITIES: PROFESSIONAL BODIES OR COP

**College of Peers: Designing and demonstrating advanced student learning**

Mieke Witsel and Glen Croy

CAUTHE College of Peers

06/02/2024

Accreditation requires institutions to evidence that the students engage with and achieve advanced knowledge and inquiry.
In this workshop, we unpacked what 'advanced' meant and how this is demonstrated.
Using this as a framework, we then looked to assess and modify a unit's outcomes, co

Show more

ENGAGEMENT & CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITIES: EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

**Staff sufficiency: Understanding, assessing and developing staff sufficiency**

Mieke Witsel and Glen Croy

CAUTHE College of Peers

07/2023

In this workshop participants were guided through accreditation 'staff sufficiency' needs. Staff sufficiency is a combined demonstration of educators' discipline or field qualifications, research or industry achievements, and educational expertise. A fictional institutional case study was used t
nuances of assessing staff sufficiency, identifying gaps, and prioritising short-term acti

Show more

ENGAGEMENT & CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITIES: PROFESSIONAL BODIES OR COP

**Implementation of HE standards at my institution: Understanding the**

Southern Cross University

# Training

## Scholarly collaboration and activity

- Create an SCU Profile on Cross Connect
- Add Outputs to your SCU Profile on Cross Connect
- Flag existing Outputs as SoLT on your SCU Profile on Cross Connect
- Add SoLT Activities to your SCU Profile on Cross Connect
- Add Media mentions to your SCU Profile on Cross Connect
- Add Grants to your SCU Profile on Cross Connect
- Add Theses to your SCU Profile on Cross Connect

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | participation in accreditation processes or quality reviews in T&L | teaching, and the development of new (constructively aligned) courses |
| | | The impact on student learning outcomes, student feedback, and student engagement and performance improvements can also be measured (iQiLT data). |

| w to enter on SCU Profile on Cross nnect | How to tag as SoLT |
|---|---|
| blished review (if not auto-harvested): Add tput > Publication > Review | Published review: Message via profile to advise output is SoLT (Scholarly Reviews) |
| published review: Add Activity > Teaching Scholarly collaboration & activity: Review | Unpublished review: Activities automatically sent to ADE for approval as SoLT |
| not auto-harvested) | Outputs: Message via profile to advise |
| ants: email crossconnect@scu.edu.au with grant information if not already on file | |
| d Activity > Teaching > Scholarly laboration & activity: Teaching | Activities automatically sent to ADE for approval as SoLT |

Southern Cross University

# Levels of reporting

- For the Academic
  - CV export
- For Associate Deans (Education) → **Approval Process**
  - Quarterly Dashboard
  - Need ADE to return list of Approved Activities or they will not show on the other reports
- For Faculty management
  - Semi-Annual Dashboard (in progress)
- For Faculty Board, Academic Standards & Quality Committee and Academic Board
  - Semi-Annual Dashboard (in progress)

Southern Cross University

# Complexity of reporting

- Combining different entities into one Dashboard using SQL
- Internal Researcher ID vs User Primary Identifier (required normalisation)
- Multiple internal organisation units duplicate data
- Dates: update date, input date, approved date, submitted date, no date
  - Internal field or keyword added for Outputs, Grants, Media mentions to indicate Quarter
  - Updated date used for Activities
- SoLT Dashboard

SoLT for ADE

SoLT Dashboard | Activities | Outputs | Grants | Media mentions

If no data is displayed below then there are no applicable Activities for this work unit in Cross Connect.

# SoLT Activities

Quarter (Activity updated) All

No: Activity not approved as SoLT

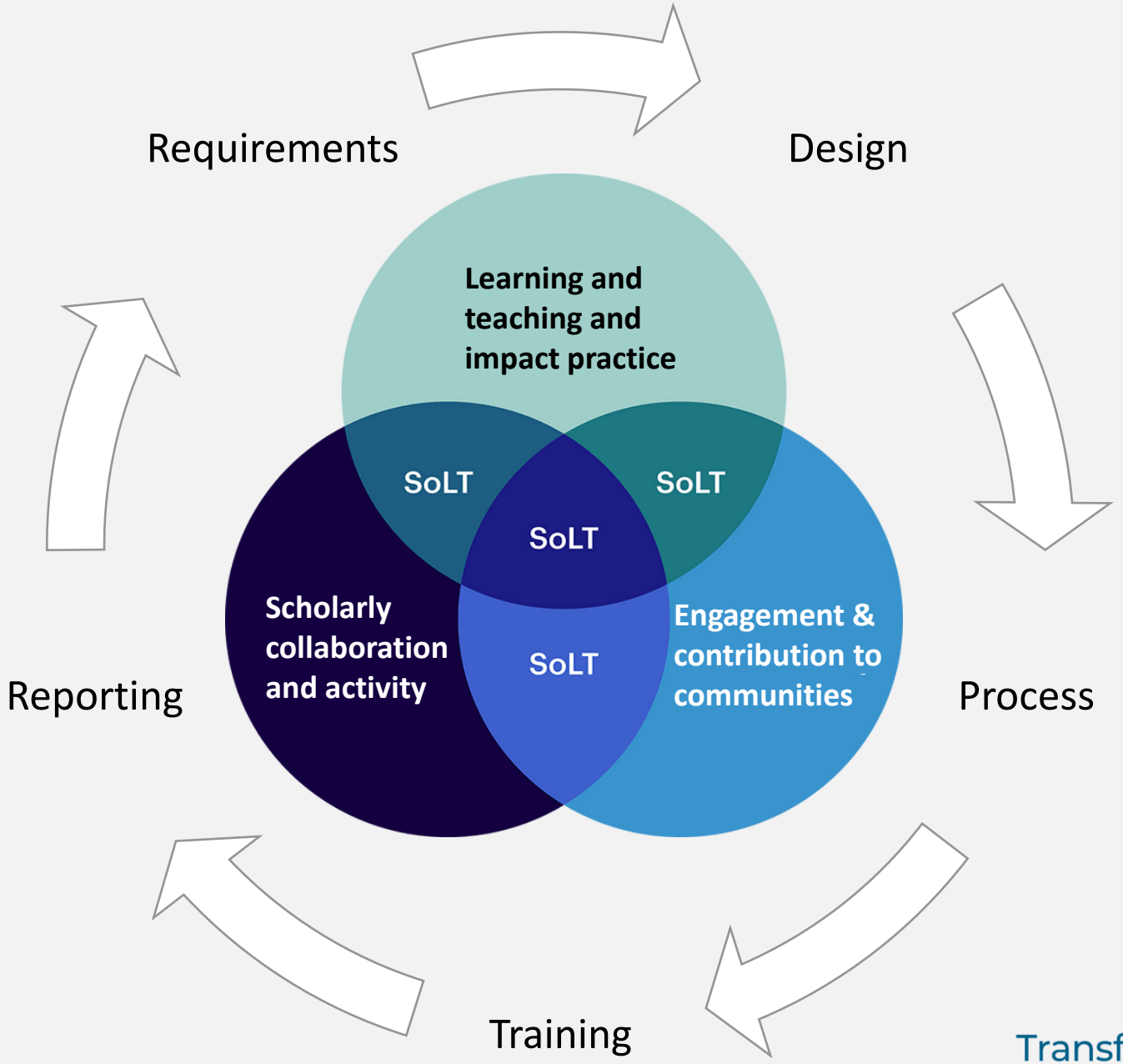
| SoLT type | Activity title | Approved as SoLT | Activity date | Researcher Members names list | Description | SoLT attributes | Research topics and keywords |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Engagement & contribution to communities: Evidence-based practice | **Teaching Under the SC Model I: Designing Courses** | No: Activity not approved as SoLT | 19/06/2024 to 19/06/2024 | SC10918 - Haw, John (); SC106127 - Kalamir, Nikola (Presenter); SC8649 - Nisbet, Sharen (Presenter); SC124162 - Robbins, Michael (Presenter) | Funded by the Australia Awards Papua New Guinea through their academic strengthening initiative, this full-day workshop provided local lecturers at IBSU Port Moresby with the opportunity to learn about the structure of the innovative SC Model and its courses. The morning session included discussion and group activities on integrated curriculum, graduate attributes, course learning outcomes, threshold standards, and accreditation competency areas. The afternoon session was focussed on constructive alignment theory and the assessment driven nature of the SC Model. Participants were required to write unit learning outcomes using Blooms taxonomy and suggest authentic assessment tasks, learning activities and relevant content. At the conclusion of the day, participants were invited to anonymously evaluate the workshop with a 7-item survey. | Course development; Curriculum development; Improved pedagogy ; L&T Workshop | Academic Development; Constructive Alignment; Course Mapping; SC Model; Teaching and Learning Policy |
| | | No: Activity not approved as SoLT | | | | | |

Yes: Activity approved as SoLT

| SoLT type | Activity title | Approved as SoLT | Activity date | Researcher Members names list | Description | SoLT attributes | Research topics and keywords | Course Id |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scholarly collaboration & activity: Teaching | **Adobe US Study Tour and EduMax 23** | Yes: Activity approved as SoLT | 16/10/2023 to 20/10/2023 | SC124553 - Greenaway, Ruth () | Adobe US Study Tour and EduMax 23 includes gaining key insights on how institutions are future proofing by strategically embedding innovative pedagogies & technologies into their institutions.   glimpsing into the future by exploring the pertinent, top | International; L&T innovation | | |

Southern Cross University

# Review and refine



Southern Cross University

# Challenges

Internal challenges

- Wordiness of labels
- Vagueness and overlap between categories
- Conflicting needs from stakeholder organisation units
- Unclear requirements for reporting
- Increased workload

System challenges

- Top level Activity Category couldn’t be renamed
- Unable to make fields required
- Training challenges: translation between SoLT and Esploro entities
- Building reports for proof of concept – can’t be done in Sandbox

Southern Cross University

# Benefits

Institution

- Tangible evidence of SoLT at SCU for TEQSA
- Solution within existing infrastructure

Academics

- Tangible evidence of SoLT for Academic Promotion

Future of Cross Connect at SCU

- Beyond an institutional repository

Southern Cross University

# Where to from here

- Review and refine processes
- Streamline ingest using templates where possible
- Define reporting requirements for Academic Board
- Expand Esploro Activity Categories use to capture Academic engagement beyond SoLT

Southern Cross University

# Questions?

**Southern Cross University**

Maureen Bezanson and Margie Pembroke

crossconnect@scu.edu.au

Transforming › Tomorrow