



Call for Abstracts

NAPSA Conference 2025

National Association of Prospective Student Advisers

6 & 7 November 2025 | Geelong, Victoria

Access for all:
A Pathway to Higher Education.



 napsa

napsaconference.com.au



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Important Dates

Call for Abstracts open

Tuesday, 12 November 2024

Abstracts are due by

Friday, 28 February 2025

Presenters will be advised of the outcome of their submission by

Friday, 21 March 2025

Full Conference Program will be published on the Conference Website by

Tuesday, 22 April 2025

Audio Visual Presentations due by

Monday, 3 November 2025

If you require further information about the 2025 NAPSA Conference, please contact:

Sarah Robinson

Senior Conference Manager

GEMS Event Management Australia

P: +61 2 9744 5252 E: srobinson@gemsevents.com.au

For information about technical content of presentations, please contact:

Anthony Harvey

Conference Program Chair

2025 NAPSA Conference

E: napsacommittee@gmail.com



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Invitation for Conference Presentation Abstracts

The 2025 National Association of Prospective Student Advisers (NAPSA) Conference will be held on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 November 2025 at Deakin University, Waterfront Campus in Geelong, Victoria.

The Australian Universities Accord offers a crucial framework to implement strategies to effectively engage under-represented future students in regional and rural communities. How can the Education sector ensure higher education offerings stay accessible, relevant and beneficial to enable these and other underrepresented students to find their pathway to education and a career?

The NAPSA Conference 2025 theme "**Access for all: A Pathway to Higher Education**" is calling on insights and initiatives aimed at attracting and supporting students from regional and other underrepresented areas in their pursuit of higher education. The focus is on addressing barriers these students face, such as access to information, resources, and financial aid. NAPSA is looking at highlighting the importance of partnerships between educational institutions and local communities, as well as programs designed to enhance student engagement and retention. NAPSA's Conference aim is to create a more inclusive educational environment that encourages all students to pursue and succeed in higher education.

The Conference Committee is seeking submissions to conduct plenary presentations from stakeholders across all facets of the Future Student Recruitment sector. Authors are encouraged to submit an abstract for review and possible selection as an oral presentation at the Conference.

The NAPSA National Conference showcases innovation, strategy and success of professionals in the future student's space. It's an opportunity for our members to share ideas, network and enhance their professional career.

For information on how to submit an abstract for consideration, please refer to the Abstract Submission Guidelines on the following pages.

We are excited to convene the 2025 NAPSA Conference and look forward to seeing everyone in Geelong in November 2025.

Anthony Harvey

Conference Program Chair
2025 NAPSA Conference

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Conference Program and Audience

The Conference will bring together thought leaders and innovators, and provide opportunities for the industry to share successes, as well as provide education that can be used to provide tangible benefits for the Future Student Recruitment sector. It's an opportunity for our members to share ideas, network and enhance their professional career.

The Conference program will include two days of plenary sessions to gain insight into the Future Student Recruitment sector.

The primary audience for the 2025 Conference will include student advisers, student recruitment officers, coordinators, managers and directors in the higher education sector working in domestic markets. The Conference also attracts University Marketing, Admissions and Communications teams, including professionals from VTAC, UAC, SATAC (University Admission Centre's) and Faculty Academics across all Areas of Study.

Presentation Types

Case Study

Successful programs or initiatives that have improved access and retention of rural students. These sessions range between 30 and 45 minutes long, including time for questions.

Research Study

Original research on the unique challenges faced by rural students and effective interventions. These sessions range between 30 and 45 minutes long, including time for questions.

Panel or Symposia

A limited number of panel or symposia sessions will be included in the Conference program. The Committee is seeking diverse perspectives on regional education challenges and solutions from educators, students, and community leaders. These will be a **strict 90 minutes** in length, including time for questions, with no more than 5 presenters.

Workshop

Interactive sessions focusing on skill development, networking, or mental health strategies. This presentation type must be in a participatory format that allows for dialogue and engagement. These will be a **strict 90 minutes** in length, including time for questions.



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Presentation Categories / Topics

Under the banner of 'Access for All: A Pathway to Higher Education', presenters will be required to indicate in which stream or topic they wish their contribution to be considered in, including, but not limited to the concepts listed below:

1. **Access and Equity in Higher Education**
 - Strategies to improve access for all underrepresented groups, including rural, low socioeconomic, Indigenous and culturally diverse students.
 - Addressing barriers faced by underrepresented students in accessing and/or succeeding in higher education.
2. **Innovative Learning Models**
 - Blended and flexible learning approaches to support diverse student needs, including those with limited access to campus-based resources.
 - Utilising technology to enhance education for students facing geographic, socioeconomic, or connectivity barriers.
3. **Community and Industry Partnerships**
 - Collaborations between universities, communities, and industry to create supportive pathways for underrepresented students.
 - Case studies of successful community-university partnerships.
4. **Career Readiness and Employability**
 - Developing career pathways and support for underrepresented students to ensure career readiness.
 - Skill-building initiatives that prepare students for diverse job markets.
5. **Mental Health and Wellbeing**
 - Programs addressing mental health challenges specific to underrepresented groups.
 - Initiatives aimed at building resilience and community support networks.
6. **Inclusion and Diversity**
 - Highlighting diverse perspectives and celebrating Indigenous knowledge and diverse perspectives in higher education.
 - Strategies to promote cultural and diverse competence among educators and students.
7. **Sustainability and Rural Development**
 - Integrating sustainability and social responsibility into higher education programs, particularly those that engage underrepresented students.
 - Projects that connect students to real-world impact and community development opportunities.
8. **Student Voices and Leadership**
 - Empowering students to take on leadership roles and contribute to positive change.
 - Platforms amplifying the experiences and perspectives of underrepresented students.



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9. Funding and Resource Allocation

- Innovative funding models to support underrepresented students, including those from low socioeconomic, rural, and diverse backgrounds.
- Addressing disparities in resource distribution to ensure all students have equitable access to learning opportunities and support services.

10. Technology and Connectivity

- The impact of internet and technology access on learning outcomes for underrepresented students.
- Tools and platforms that facilitate accessible and flexible education for students facing connectivity challenges.

11. Strategies for Ongoing Success and Retention

- Approaches to support underrepresented students not only to access higher education but to thrive during their studies.
- Programs designed to enhance student retention, engagement, and academic success.

Abstract Submission Guidelines

The following guidelines apply for the submission of abstracts for all concurrent presentations.

- All abstracts must be submitted via the online [Abstract Submission Portal](#) here.
- In total, abstracts should be no more than 400 words in length. Abstracts exceeding this limit will not be considered.
- Submissions must include a biography of the presenter of up to 200 words. Submissions not including a biography of the presenter will not be considered.
- Abstracts must include the following information:

Author(s):	Preferred Given Name, and Surname of all Authors
Presenter:	Name of person/s who will conduct the presentation at the Conference. Multiple presenters are allowed, with a maximum of 5 presenters for panel/symposia.
Title: e.g.	Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, Prof for all persons listed above.
Position:	Official job title of the presenter/s e.g., Project Manager.
Organisation:	The organisation/institution with which the presenter/s are affiliated.
Contact Details:	Mobile and email details must be provided for the presenter/s.
Presentation Title:	This is the title that will be included in the Program, Conference App, and promotional material for the Conference.
Topic:	Please indicate the most appropriate category/topic for your presentation based on the options outlined in this document.



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- Abstracts should be submitted by no later than **Friday, 28 February 2025**. Presenters will be advised of the outcome of their submission by no later than **Friday, 21 March 2025**.
- Please note that the Conference Organisers and/or Committee will communicate only with the 'first author' of a presentation. In the case of co-authored presentations, it will be the responsibility of the 'first author' to pass on to the co-author(s), communications from the editors.
- All concurrent presenters are required to register and pay to attend the Conference.

Important Information

Please note the following important information prior to submitting your abstract:

- All presenters will retain the intellectual property of their presentation.
- Each presenter must make their PowerPoint available prior to their presentation and agree for it to be uploaded to the NAPSA Conference Website following the Conference.
- The presenter(s) grants GEMS Event Management Australia and NAPSA the right to use any images taken at the Conference for the purposes of future publications conducted on behalf of NAPSA. This includes, but is not limited to, publication on websites, electronic and print journals, and trade and non-trade publications. GEMS/ NAPSA claim copyright of any image and may 'alter' any image for the lawful purpose of GEMS/ NAPSA and the presenter/s release GEMS/ NAPSA from all claims and liability relating to any images taken or used.
- All presenters are required to register as paying delegates for at least the day of which they are to present at the Conference.
- Self-promotion and Commercial promotion in presentations is unacceptable.

Review of Abstracts

All Abstracts will be blind reviewed and evaluated by members of the Conference Organising Committee to determine suitability for the Conference, as per the Evaluation Criteria. Presenters may be asked to make amendments to their abstracts and proposed presentations as suggested by the reviewers.

The selection process will be competitive, and the number of presentations selected will be determined by reviewer feedback and conference scheduling. The Conference Organising Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any submissions.

Contributors will be provided with advice of acceptance or rejection of their submission by **Friday, 21 March 2025**.



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Abstract Evaluation Criteria

Abstracts will be evaluated against the following criteria:

		5 To an Outstanding Degree	4 To a Strong Degree	3 Somewhat or Mixed	2 To a Limited Degree	1 Unclear To No Degree
1	Consistency with the nominated Stream: Does the abstract contain questions/challenges and identify the answers that will be discussed					
2.	Originality: The presentation is an original piece of work, be it research, experience or case studies of projects undertaken.					
3.	Significance of the subject/project: The presentation adds to the knowledge, understanding and practical application of educational practices.					
4.	Technical Content and Methods: The methodology used to collect the data/develop the case study is sound and clearly outlined.					
5.	Shared Lessons and Replicability: The project demonstrates solutions and provides information about the lessons learned, allowing others to learn from/apply those lessons.					
6.	Evidence of effectiveness: The material presented is derived from high quality research.					
	Sub Total					
	Total		Average Score (between 5 and 0)			



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Further Information

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