Institute Overview

Established in 1974, Great Southern Institute of Technology is the region’s largest training provider, covering an area of 40,500 square kilometres. The institute’s capacity for training stretches right across the region with more than 10 sites, including four major campuses.

The primary campus is located in Albany, and additional campuses are in Denmark, Mount Barker and Katanning. Albany is the region’s administrative hub and accounts for 60 per cent of the region’s population of 54,000. All hinterland campuses offer a broad range of qualifications, as well as professional and skills development courses to suit local community and business needs.

The institute employs 350 staff, and with an annual budget of $25.2 million, Great Southern Institute of Technology provides employment opportunities and skills development to enhance local enterprise.

Nationally Accredited Training

Nationally accredited qualifications are offered from Certificate to Advanced Diploma level and many feed in to university pathways. Alternative study options are made available through external studies, delivery and assessment in the workplace, skills recognition, recognition of prior learning and through a blended delivery approach that offers convenience and flexibility.

The institute provides vocational education and training products within the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF), consisting of training packages and courses accredited with the Training Accreditation Council (TAC). Customised fee-for-service training is also available.

A Customer Service Centre operates at the Albany campus, amalgamating all student services into one centralised and easily accessible facility.

Regional Context

Great Southern Institute of Technology provides 95 per cent of the region’s vocational education and training delivery. The institute also delivers several VET programs with statewide reach. This has been achieved through sound planning and strategic processes, and maintaining a client-driven culture where internationally recognised training services are developed locally in consultation with industry and agency partners. This intimate context demands that the institute engages meaningfully with the community at all levels. It requires creative leadership and well-timed development and delivery of market-driven products and services. In many ways, the institute’s achievements are the fruits of its capacity to steward, respond, innovate and contribute proactively in the regional community.

Mission and Culture
Great Southern Institute of Technology contributes to building Australia’s skill base for a productive, inclusive and sustainable future. Our core business is training and we provide our clients with a holistic and personalised service that meets, and often exceeds, their expectations. With ongoing research and a culture of continuous improvement, we support economic recovery and the productivity agendas of industry. We partner with individuals and enterprises in workforce development to increase participation and support ongoing up-skilling during economic recovery.

We build on training pathways across sectors to provide optimum opportunities for our students and clients. We support the government’s drive for increasing training participation, higher-level qualification outcomes and employment outcomes for Indigenous clients, clients with a disability and clients with low literacy and numeracy achievement. Our success is measured in the key results areas below which ensure a balanced and accountable measurement of our organisational strength and capacity.

- Relationships with our clients
- Sustainable business practices
- Excellence in training and service levels
- Staff knowledge and learning

Vision
To contribute to the sustainable economic and social development of the region.

Mission
To provide our students with the skills to fulfil their potential and build our region’s prosperity.

Core values

Respect - We treat our colleagues, students and clients with respect and sensitivity, recognising the importance of diversity. We respect all individuals and value their contributions.

Integrity - We have a clear commitment to ethical conduct in all aspects of our work.

Excellence - We strive to achieve best practice in all we do.
Enterprise - We encourage training strategies that are innovative, well resourced, responsive and entrepreneurial.

Risk tolerant - We encourage and reward entrepreneurship and prudent risk taking.

**Sustainability**

Great Southern Institute of Technology is committed to ensuring a better quality of life for everyone through the integration of environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity. The institute also accepts it has a responsibility to conduct all aspects of its business in an ethical and sustainable manner.

The Sustainability Action Plan encourages and empowers staff to support the sustainability of the organisation, which in turn contributes to the State’s goals and Code of Practice for government agencies.

The plan underpins institute planning, decision making and reporting and is managed by a Sustainability Action Group to ensure that the institute community embraces the principles of sustainability.

Great Southern Institute of Technology will continue to deliver the training that underpins community capacity building that is inherent in sustainability.

The Sustainability Action Group meets regularly throughout the year and outcomes have included:

- The formation of Water Efficiency Team (WET), responsible for a water audit of the institute with a number of initiatives underway, including the proposed installation of waterless urinals at the Albany campus and the phasing out of single-flush toilets.
- Incorporation of sustainability statements in section business planning pro-formas.
- Establishment of a computer recycling program and recycling of printer cartridges.
- Visits to a waste recycling facility to deepen understanding of sustainable action that may be taken to further reduce waste on campus.
- Attendance at a sustainable living conference from which a report was presented detailing the range of environmentally friendly products to be considered when purchasing.
- Endorsement of policy that the institute moves towards a fuel-efficient vehicle fleet.
- Paperless meetings for the Sustainability Action Group to test the viability of minimising paper wastage through the use of electronic tools.
Ensuring the Sustainability Action Plan and linked documents are available on the institute's intranet and circulating minutes and actions from each meeting to all staff.