OUR VISION
To foster caring, connected and socially-engaged citizens who actively contribute to the wellbeing of their communities.

OUR PURPOSE
To create and foster community-minded thinkers and leaders.
To inspire students and the UWA community, and the broader Western Australian community to become active, life-long contributors to our local, regional and global communities – and in the process, encourage and support others to do likewise.
To promote awareness about challenging social issues in our communities - and the contribution citizens can make in addressing them.
Oskar Zalstrovs
Public Sector Commission

Commerce graduate Oskar helped design a dashboard to report on diversity across the public sector.

The 23-year old compiled data on public sector employees, specifically focused on Aboriginal people, people from culturally-diverse backgrounds, women in senior executive positions, young people, and people with disabilities.

The dashboard sets out current levels of diversity and recommended improvements.

Felicity Negus
Magistrates Court of WA

Law student Felicity helped draft the operation guidelines for the WA's Mental Health Court Diversion Program 'Start Court'.

This included all aspects of its goals and operations from eligibility criteria through to consent and confidentiality issues.

Felicity attended meetings and workshops and often did extra hours from home.

Felicity was supported in writing the guidelines by the court’s Magistrate Felicity Zempilas.

"Felicity continues to come in on a voluntary basis and there will definitely be ongoing work for her here."

Magistrate Felicity Zempilas

OF ORGANISATIONS SAID THE INTERN DEMONSTRATED AN OVERALL CAPACITY TO CONTRIBUTE AS AN ACTIVE CITIZEN

99%

OF ORGANISATIONS HAD A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE OF HOSTING A MCCUSKER CENTRE INTERNS

98%

OF STUDENTS LEARNED MORE ABOUT THE ISSUES BEING ADDRESSED IN THEIR HOST ORGANISATION'S COMMUNITY

97%

"During the internship, you quickly realise that this is an experience you simply can’t get at university and that your small contribution can help make a big difference."

Felicity Negus
MAX MIOCEVICH  
Australian Department of Education and Training

Mechanical Engineering Masters student Max completed a literature review at the Australian Department of Education and Training. The review will help policymakers develop policies and programs to improve the early childhood development of Australians.

JOSEPH SABBAGH  
Office of Multicultural Interests

Political science student Joseph worked on electoral engagement with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

“What the McCusker Centre promotes through community work is just objectively human; it’s not about politics or ideology.”

Joseph researched the issues and barriers these communities face and reported on the best ways to encourage their participation in the electoral process.

He conducted interviews in the community and engaged electoral commissions, academics and other stakeholders.

“There is a great need for young people to contribute to internships like the McCusker Centre offers. They can reflect their own personal views and those of their peers, and that’s very important for a bureaucracy to embed that type of thinking within its development of programs and policies.”

OMI Executive Director  
Rebecca Ball

EUAN GLEESON-BROWN  
Public Sector Commission

Commerce student Euan helped develop a framework for talent management structures within the public sector during his internship at the Public Sector Commission.

“Before this internship, working in government seemed so far away from what I could possibly do.”
SHENHAV NAVE  
Public Sector Commission

Psychology student Shenhav conducted research and analysed diversity statistics in order to identify the ‘best practice’ for the Public Sector Commission to take when developing its future workforce plan.

The final project required her to succinctly summarise the purpose, resources required, timeline and anticipated benefits of the plan.

Her work will assist the Commission to develop their workplace plan for the next three years.

“The internship was a great way for me to learn about organisational culture and dynamics within a government organisation.”

SAM LOWTHER  
Legal Aid WA

Law student Sam Lowther helped develop resources for Legal Aid WA to explain the Child Protection legal process for Aboriginal people who speak English as an additional language.

This project involved stakeholder consultation, describing complicated legal concepts, and organising publication of early versions of the resources.

Sam also worked on Legal Aid’s program R U Legal and prepared online legal fact sheets.

“Through my placement at Legal Aid, I was involved in many projects and met many people working in the not-for-profit sector. It exposed me to areas of legal practice that I was unfamiliar with, which subsequently helped me to secure the position I am working in now.”

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