



Ivan Chavarria (2016)

TEN YEARS OF A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

In late 2006, two universities on opposite sides of the world formed a partnership based on their shared mission and commitment to providing an accessible and excellent education experience for student populations of the 21st century. This monograph has been compiled to tell the stories of the people, programs, collaborations, and knowledge building activities conducted as part of the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) and Victoria University (VU) in Melbourne ten year partnership and is being published to mark the ten year partnership and launched during the VU centenary year, 2016.

This collection of articles, reports, case studies and interviews written over the duration of the partnership highlights the focus on students. The student exchange program, for example, was designed to enable students from low-income families to have a global experience with paid work on campus to accompany their study program. For students who were unable to travel, collaborations with peers via technology in the Global Learning Community and in the Health Sciences Research Seminars provided opportunities to meet with peers across the globe.

The use of technology to establish and maintain relationships has been used extensively to internationalise the student experience and institutional collaborations without the expense of travel. In 2008, for instance, the library collaboration commenced when the VU and UTEP libraries developed a strong relationship of cooperation and shared projects resulting in significant changes at both locations that improved, and continue to provide, integrated educational services to students at VU and UTEP.

A fraction of the knowledge exchange that has occurred over the past decade is captured in this monograph to provide a sense of the work which has been done and lays the groundwork for future endeavors. The monograph is available in both online and print versions.

We acknowledge the staff who have contributed to this monograph, in particular students graphic designer Chloe Watson and editor Ella Salome; as well as the many faculty, staff, and students at UTEP and VU who have made this work possible over the past decade.

In particular, we wish to acknowledge the visionary leadership of Dr Diana Natalicio, UTEP President, along with Professor Elizabeth Harman, former Vice Chancellor of VU, and Professor Peter Dawkins, current Vice Chancellor of VU. This work would not have been possible without their strong commitment to student success and willingness to look beyond their traditional networks for other educational leaders desirous to make a difference for their students.

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University of Texas at El Paso: www.utep.edu

Victoria University: www.vu.edu.au

Online access to this Monograph: <http://books.vu.edu.au>



University of Texas at El Paso President Dr Diana Natalicio



Victoria University Vice Chancellor Professor Peter Dawkins