5 Strategic approaches: Overview

1. Define engagement for yourselves as an institution
2. Acknowledge its complexity and multiple layers
3. Beware the “one-size-fits-all” trap
4. Engage your staff to engage your students
5. Listen to your students
1. Define engagement for yourselves

What does “engagement” mean to you?

Student involvement in activities that enhance their learning
1. Define engagement for yourselves

2. Acknowledge its complexity and multiple layers

Dimensions of engagement in first year:

- Transition engagement
- Academic engagement
- Peer engagement
- Student-staff engagement
- Intellectual engagement
- Online engagement
- Beyond-class engagement

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Review … what does “engagement” mean to you
Extending our view of engagement

- Engagement . . . as positive connection
- Engagement . . . as appointment
- Engagement . . . as battle, conflict

The First Year Experience in Australian Universities: Findings from 1994 to 2009

James, Krause, Jennings, 2010

- 2127 first year students across 9 universities
- Available online: http://www.cshe.unimelb.edu.au/
4. Engage your staff to engage your students

- Academic and professional staff
- Engaged with students
- Engaged with one another
- Engaged with the data
- Engaged with a whole-of-institution vision
- Rewarded and recognised for their engagement

** Significant, p<0.05; * Significant, p<0.01

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Meet Jayde and Nick

Indigenous student leaders at Griffith University
A student perspective on retention strategies

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Thank you