# MAKING THE CONNECTION: AUSTRALIA'S GLOBAL ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

aiec MELBOURNE
19 October 2016

Ron Fairchild – Vice-President and Chief Advancement Officer
Deakin University

## **DEAKIN ALUMNI**

- 220,000 alumni
- First alumni in 1977
- 24,000 international alumni from more than 100 countries
- Engagement Program is focused on creating opportunities for Deakin to have a relationship with our alumni and be involved in all stages of their life:
  - Life-long learning initiatives
  - Alumni communities –chapters and networks
  - Networking and career progression
  - Volunteering –Advisory Boards, mentoring, ambassadors
  - Reward and recognition programs
  - Philanthropy

# THE THREE PILLAR STRATEGY



### INTERNAL COLLABORATION

The Alumni Strategy is built upon a university-wide collaborative and integrated approach.



#### **RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**

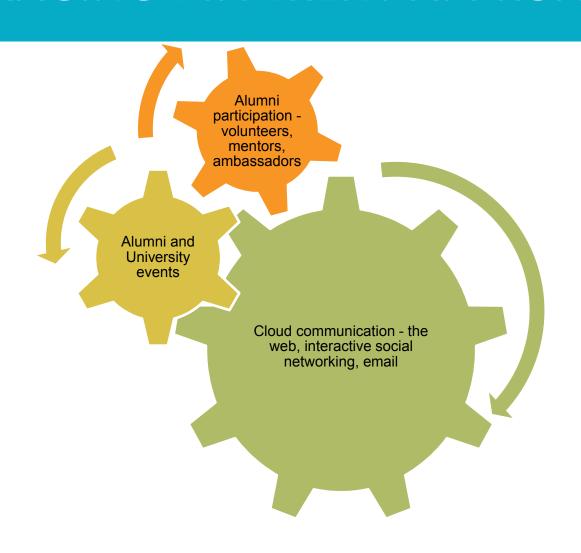
Relationship building recognises the differences within our alumni cohorts and should commence at the beginning of the student lifecycle. This is a reciprocal relationship.



#### **RESEARCH AND REVIEW**

The alumni strategy is based upon global best practice, on-going and active evaluation, with established metrics.

## LEVERAGING DIFFERENT APPROACHES



# FACTORS AT PLAY

- The student experience
- Stage of life
- An openness to be engaged
- Relevance and perceived value
- A relationship with mutual benefit

## MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION: GOVERNMENT, UNIVERSITIES AND INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

- Being coordinated and collaborative is critical
- Potential for information overload disengagement
- Must clearly sell the value
- Data sharing clear rules of engagement