

Conference Report



THE LIMENETWORK
Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education

LIMECONNECTIONX

Held in collaboration with the Australian National University on
Ngambri & Ngunnawal Country / Canberra, Australia

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Message Stick

LIME Connection Message Stick, designed in 2019.

Message Sticks are passed between different clans and language groups and are used to establish information and transmit messages. The LIME Connection Message Stick combines elements designed by Mick Harding, Bernard Singleton, Raymond Austin, Paul Graham and Josh and Tara Stephens, and incorporates elements from Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori culture.

In 2023, Aunty Gina Bundle OAM donated a possum skin to wrap around the Message Stick to keep it safe while transporting from conference host to conference host. The possum skin has been painted in the imagery of with cave paintings. Gina has made possum cloaks for Victorian Treaty Advancement Commission, CATSINAM and Tennis Australia.



Connection X – Overview

Background

The LIME Network is dedicated to ensuring the quality and effectiveness of teaching and learning of Indigenous health in medical education, and best practice in the recruitment and retention of Indigenous medical students and trainees. We do this through establishing a continuing bi-national presence that encourages and supports collaboration within and between medical education institutions in Australia and Aotearoa/New Zealand, and by building linkages with local Indigenous communities and with other health science sectors. The LIME Network receives funding from the Australian Government Department of Health.

Summary

The tenth biennial Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education Network (LIME) Connection was co-hosted by the Australian National University and held on Ngambri and Ngunnawal Countries (Canberra), Australia from 22 to 25 October 2023. The theme was

Decolonising education – through critique to transformative learning and teaching.

Decolonisation requires an interrogation of the processes, culture, and assumptions of power. It is to seek transformation through education; to critique the replication of existing structures and ways of thinking. It is a disruption, seeking to broaden thinking beyond accepted knowledge, practice, theory, and research.

Purpose

LIME Connection has occurred every two years, since the first LIME Connection was held in Fremantle in 2004. It provides a space to celebrate successes, an opportunity for robust and thoughtful discussion on curriculum innovation, leadership, and collaboration in Indigenous health education.

Gathering together was especially significant for Connection X as it marked the first face-to-face conference since 2019, due to the global pandemic.

The conference provided opportunities for:

- Collaboration, information sharing and networking across nations
- Professional development and capacity-building
- Linking with community, Specialist Medical Colleges, and those from all health disciplines
- Discussion and critique of current practices; and
- Exploration of emerging tools and techniques to drive improvement in Indigenous health education.

The conference builds on the strengths and evidence-based presentations from previous LIME Connection conferences, highlighting initiatives related to Indigenous health learning and teaching, curriculum development and research, Indigenous health workforce, community engagement, and the recruitment and graduation of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori students and post-graduate trainees in the health professions.

LIME Network is funded by the federal Australian Department of Health.

LIME Connection is an outcome of the Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) Network Program.

LIME Network is auspiced by Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand. It is supported by Te Ohu Rata O Aotearoa (Te ORA) Māori Medical Practitioners Association.

“... got connected with a number of others working in the same field. It was a great opportunity to connect with like-minded people to share experiences and learn.”

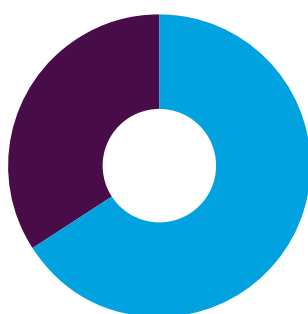
Delegates



LIME Connection is a leading international event in Indigenous health education (in tertiary and post-graduation education). It attracts medical students, Indigenous community members, health practitioners, Indigenous health educators and policymakers.

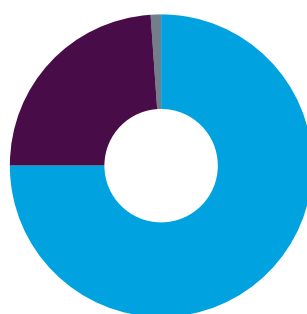
Who were the delegates?

Figure 1: Indigenous delegates



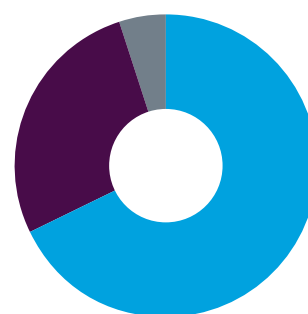
■ Indigenous 66%
■ Non-Indigenous 34%

Figure 2: Gender of delegates



■ Female 75%
■ Male 24%
■ Non-binary 1%

Figure 3: Country of delegates



■ Australia 68%
■ Aotearoa/New Zealand 27%
■ Canada 5%

202

people registered
to attend LIME Connection in
October 2023.

Most delegates were Indigenous, and female, from Australia, Aotearoa, and Canada (Figures 1, 2 and 3).

Most delegates were university academics, with medical students and medical practitioners being the second and third most represented group of attendees respectively. Other delegates included individuals from the specialist medical colleges. Additionally, 7% of delegates were Indigenous community members involved in Indigenous health education (Figure 4).

For most delegates, the Connection provided an opportunity to meet with others in the discipline, to support each other, and to represent their organisation or institution (Figure 5).

Reasons for attending

When surveyed for their reasons for attending Connection, delegates commonly reported that they attended the conference to network and share with current and emerging Indigenous health educators and students. Many wanted to learn about new developments in Indigenous health education to grow their experience, capability, and inter-connectedness, and to share their own work.

Figure 4: Attendees

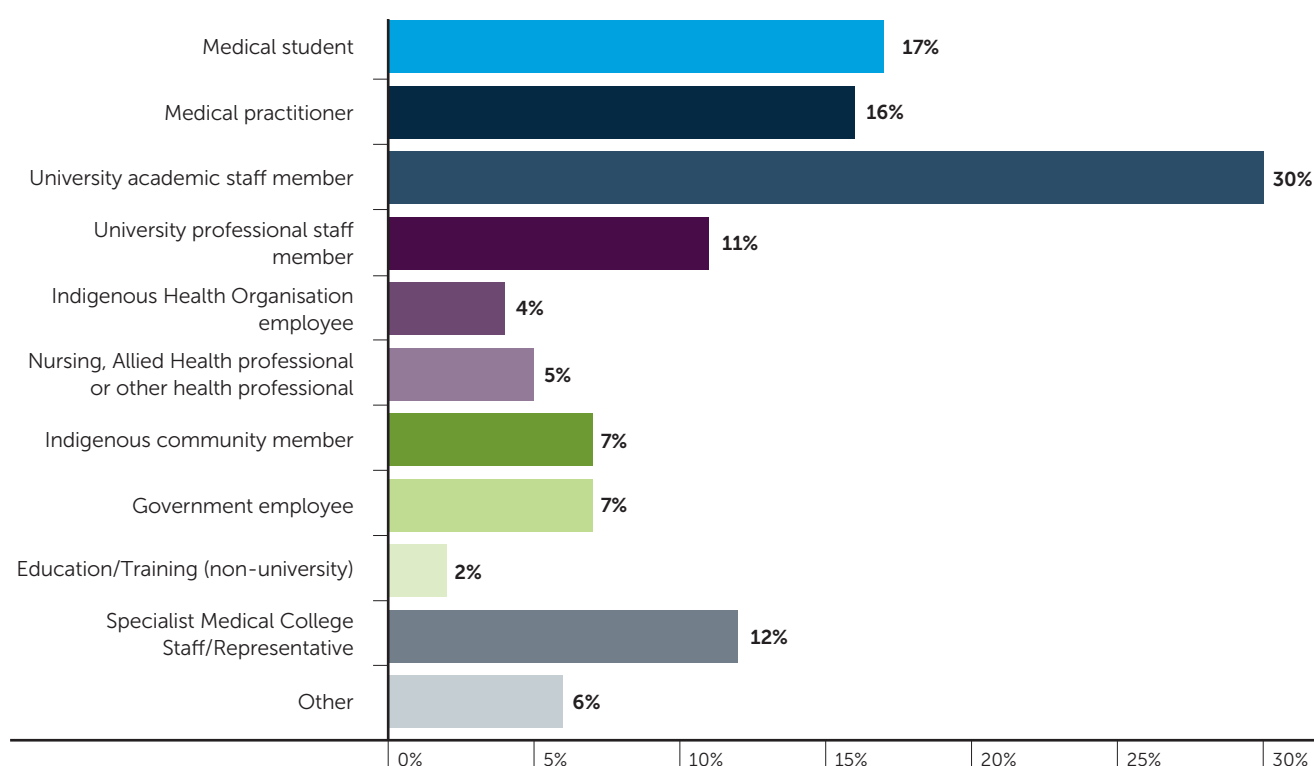
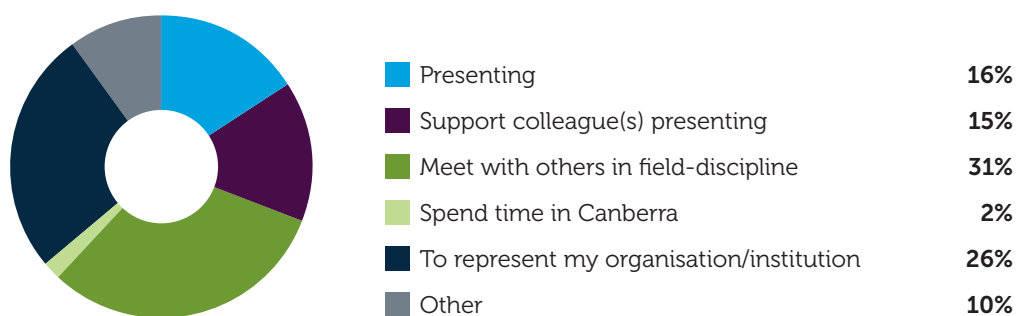


Figure 5: Reason for attendance



Benefits of attending Connection

When asked about the most beneficial aspects of attending Connection X, we received an overwhelmingly positive response. Below are the first sixteen responses:

"Validating the work our org is doing in this space with LIME and knowing that we can't move forward without LIME and other key stakeholders"

"Networking and listening to others. Sharing stories and understanding our cultures and the power of collective spirit."

"Meeting with mob"

"The most beneficial aspects of attending LIME Connection X were networking with other Indigenous students and academics. I gained valuable insights from academics on topics such as research outcomes and diverse approaches to teaching Aboriginal health from various Indigenous nations."

"Learning about indigenous culture, building relationships and hearing about the awesome work that is happening in Aotearoa, Australia and Canada."

"Being able to form new connections with like minded people."

"Make connections for collaboration."

"The learnings which I am taking back to my organisation."

"Networking, learning, broadening my knowledge in the areas of colonialism"

"Being able to connect with other organisations, and to talk to people about the potential to collaborate with each other. Why keep reinventing the wheel and work in silo when we can collaborate with each other as we all want the same thing – to create blakcellence and deadly doctors!"

"Networking"

"Witnessing the work that our project does in the NT is at such a top tier level."

"To see so many First Nation people doing great things. It was refreshing and inspiring."

"Friendly"

"Cultural healing"

"The connections formed!"



When asked if there was enough time to socialise and build relationships, nobody felt there was too much time allocated for socialising, and an overwhelming majority felt there was enough time allocated for socialising (Figure 6). When asked if they were able to build on, or develop new relationships at LIME Connection, only 3% responded that they hadn't. A pleasing number of comments received were enthusiastic.

"Absolutely, it was amazing to connect with everyone at the conference. It felt good to be among our colleagues both nationally, and internationally."

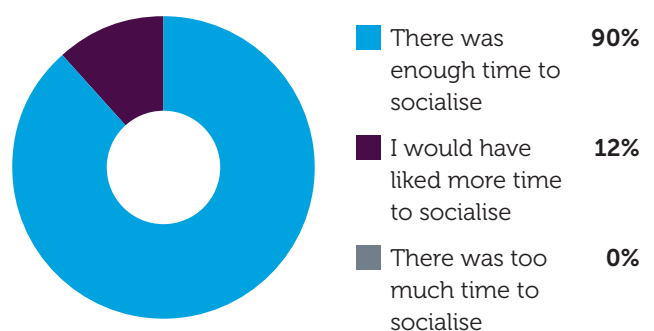
"YES!"

"Yes! Definitely and made new connections."

"Yes definitely. Great opportunity to reconnect with people and to meet other people working in indigenous health education."

"Yes !!"

Figure 6: Time to socialise and build relationships



Highlights

Highlights of the conference reported by delegates included: the engaging Keynote Speakers and plenary panel sessions, the valuable networking opportunities, the creation of a safe and inclusive space (especially significant given the conference's timing shortly after the no vote to The Voice to Parliament), the heartfelt Welcome to Country and the inspiring LIMELight Awards night. A special mention was given to LIME Bursary recipient and student, Yarlalu Thompson for his talk 'Lyfe Language.'

The program

Welcome to Country, Ngambri (Kambri), Australian National University

The first day of Connection X was an exciting opportunity for people to gather for the first time since the beginning of the global pandemic. This was held on the campus of the Australian National University, at Ngambri (Kambri).

Delegates were Welcomed to Country by Elders, Aunty Dr Matilda Williams-House and her son, Paul Girrawah House JP.

Participants valued the generous sharing of culture by the Kambri community and the opportunity it provided for reflection, connection, and learning. Attendees commented on the weather and recommended future events have increased access to shade cover (Figure 7).

Comments about the day were overwhelmingly positive.

"The cultural day was awesome and a great way to kick off the conference, broke the ice and made me feel very safe and welcome"

"It was an excellent day – though I should have brought sunscreen!"

"Welcome to Country is so important. I also was grateful of the meeting and networking opportunity. The food was fantastic."

"What can I say apart from the day was exemplary. Huge respects and aroha to Aunty Matilda and her whānau, Ngunnuwal and Ngambri people, and the ANU. It couldn't have been better."

Figure 7: Experience of Ngambri (Kambri) (Day 1)



Keynote presentations

Most delegates appreciated the keynotes and many mentioned particular aspects of the presentation they found valuable.

"I really enjoyed the keynote speakers as I found them to be inspirational."



Keynote speakers

Professor Ian Anderson AO



Professor Ian Anderson AO, our first keynote speaker, is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at the University of Tasmania. As an academic and public servant, he has made significant contributions to Indigenous health and education over many years. His extensive background in research, including public health and the social and cultural determinants of health, has enabled him to provide invaluable insights into program and policy development in these fields.

A Palawa man, Professor Anderson AO was born in Devonport and is deeply connected to his traditional culture and community through his ties to Tebrakunna country in northeast Tasmania. He has an unwavering dedication to preserving and honouring his heritage. His non-Aboriginal family are largely of convict descent from across lutruwita (Tasmania).

"It was an honour to be welcomed to Country, experience Culture, and hear from Prof. Anderson"

Dr Andrea McKivett



The second keynote speaker was Dr Andrea McKivett. She is a Gija health academic from the Kimberley with Scottish and Irish ancestry. She graduated in medicine from the University of Western Australia and since then, has had deep involvement in Aboriginal Health Professional research and education activities that promote health equity and social justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Dr McKivett's work is guided by a strong approach to Indigenous Governance. For her PhD research she collaborated with an Indigenous Governance Group who informed her approach and strengthened the process and outcomes of the work.

"Dr Andrea McKivett as keynote speaker. Very interesting topic and challenged the current practices and thinking of universities. Her introduction of Decolonisation and Indigenisation was a breath of fresh air."

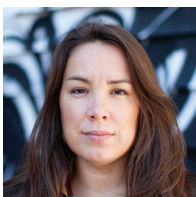
Associate Professor Te Kawehau Hoskins



Te Kawehau is an Associate Professor in Te Puna Wānanga (The School of Māori and Indigenous Education) and Ihonuku Pro-Vice Chancellor Māori at Waipapa Taumata Rau, The University of Auckland. She researches in the areas of Indigenous – Māori philosophies, including Kaupapa Māori; and the politics and ethics of Indigenous-settler relations. She has a longstanding research and practice focus on Te Tiriti (The Treaty of Waitangi) in educational governance and policy and Māori community agency in these settings. She is currently leading conversations about Indigenisation in University settings.

"Loved the presentation by Te Kawehau Hoskins – stimulating, thoughtful, perfect end to the conference"

Professor Eve Tuck



Eve Tuck is Professor of Critical Race and Indigenous Studies at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto. She is Canada Research Chair of Indigenous Methodologies with Youth and Communities. She is the founding director of the Tkaronto CIRCLE Lab. Tuck is Unanga and is an enrolled member of the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, Alaska. She grew up outside of her community, living in Pennsylvania as a child, and New York City as a young adult. She earned a PhD in Urban Education from The Graduate Center, The City University of New York in 2008.

"Professor Eve Tuck was also brilliant. I think she turned everyone's world upside down after her speech. She challenged our contemporary world and way of thinking."



Scientific program



Speakers included Indigenous and non-Indigenous experts from across Australia, Aotearoa, and Canada.

Abstract submissions

Abstracts were submitted online, from Australia, Aotearoa, and Canada.

Of the 55 abstracts received and peer reviewed by the LIME Connection Scientific Committee in August 2023, 40 were successful and were presented at the conference. The Scientific Committee diligently reviewed submissions for presentations and workshops covering a wide spectrum of projects within Indigenous health and health professional education. These submissions encompassed areas such as Indigenous student recruitment, support, and graduation, spanning across universities, specialist colleges, and health professional organisations. The projects evaluated included research initiatives, projects of interest, and engaging workshops.

Plenary panel sessions

There were three panel sessions in the plenary sessions. They spanned the spectrum of medical education – and looked beyond to the tertiary education sector more broadly.

Career pathways for specialist medical trainees

Presenters	Chair
Alicia Veasey, Olivia O'Donoghue, Mahatia Minnicon, Rebecca Alvarez	Glenn Harrison

Decolonising education across the tertiary sector

Presenters	Chair
Eddie Cubillo, Kelly Menzel, Vicki Kerrigan, Renata Watene	Shaun Ewen

Looking ahead – Student Panel

Presenters	Chair
Kyle Ryan, Tessa Shepherd, Yarlalu Thomas, Zoe Cotter, Thomas Harrington	Nicole Mercer

The sessions were greatly appreciated. Many delegates singled out panellists for comment, and recognised the breadth of experience, expertise and understanding they brought to the room.

"These sessions were incredible to hear from the panel members, so thought provoking and valuable discussions with fantastic panel moderators."

The student panel was another highlight, hearing their unique journeys into medicine.

"Eddie Cubillo panel – hearing about how decolonisation is needed in all places not just medicine was breath taking."

"As a specialist medical college we have a commitment to the health of Indigenous peoples and a critical success factor in that action is through the education and training of our members."

Breakout sessions

The breakout sessions included short presentations, and workshops. Many particularly thanked the Canadian delegates for their attendance, and their work.

"I found decolonisation sessions really good. It was great to see the work that is going on in other countries."

"Great presentation – Lyfe language presentation by Yarlalu Thomas."

"Miaia Melbourne talk around supporting Māori registrars was very interesting."



Session	Presentation	Authors
Interdisciplinary	Achieving the Hauora Māori learning outcomes for Year 5 medical students in psychiatry: a single-centre qualitative study in Aotearoa/New Zealand	Rātahi Bell, Jade Tamatea, David Menkes, Rhys Jones
	Decolonising medical education: a critical need for abolitionist teaching and theorising	Donna Cormack, Jaclyn Aramoana
	The National Consortium for Indigenous Medical Education (NCIME): Phase I, Moving from concept to strategic change in medical education 2021–2024.	Marcia Anderson, Danielle Soucy
	Indigenous Knowledges in postgraduate Epidemiology – weaving an interface	Sadia Hossain, Pip Henderson, Courtney Ryder
	Lyfe Languages: The universal medical translator	Yarlalu Thomas
	Outcome measures for Māori with non-traumatic dental presentations: a retrospective observational study and Kaupapa Māori approach examining inequities in dental care.	Sam Cameron-Dunn, Calum Fisher, Tania Huria, Andrew McCombie, Angela Forbes, Laura Joyce
	Indigenous Health Curriculum in Canadian Medicine: an understanding of non-Indigenous Medical Educators Perceptions of Professional Competency for the Integration and Delivery of Indigenous Health Curriculum	Danielle Soucy
	Media discourse analysis: Exploring medical students' future contribution to anti-racism and re-Indigenisation by deepening understanding of colonisation, marginalisation, and racism	Jeannine Stairmand, Rhiannon Jones, Nohoana Findlay, Jake Aitken, Bridget Robson

Session	Presentation	Authors
Student support and Pastoral Care	A Causal Layered Analysis: How Oppression Impacts the Retainment of Indigenous Medical Students in Australia.	Mahatia Minniecon
	Cultural Connection and Community Building at the Annual Indigenous Medical Education Gathering	Meghan MacGillivray, James Andrew
	Racism, discrimination, bullying and harassment for Māori medical students: results from the Te Whakahaumarū Taiao study	Donna Cormack, Claire Gooder
	At the Foot of the Mountain: Taking the First Steps Towards Reconciliation and Decolonization as a Faculty of Medicine	Daniel Tham, Courtney Kohonen, Michael Allard
	Hikitia te Ora, student, and staff perspectives: a pilot study	William Nepia, Tracey Winter, Anneka Anderson, John P Egan, Luis Camacho, Petelo Raass, Kanewa Stokes, Papaarangi Reid
	Progress towards selecting medical students to reflect the society they will serve. A nationwide cross-sectional study in Aotearoa New Zealand	Elana Curtis, Warwick Bagg, Peter Crampton
	Wānanga – An Indigenous approach to studying for medical students' final exam	Mairarangi Haimona
	Me he pipiwharau, takoto te pai, takoto te pai. Like the flight of the shining cuckoo, harbinger of good for people.	Maia Melbourne-Wilcox, Te Oraitī Reedy
	Measuring the perception of cultural safety with students and academics	Maria Mackay
	The Indigenous Health Stream, Educating Medical Students in understanding working with people and Communities	Stewart Sutherland, Christine Phillips
	A national cross-sectional study of the sociodemographic characteristics of Aotearoa New Zealand's regulated health workforce pre-registration students. A mirror on society?	Elana Curtis, Warwick Bagg, Peter Crampton
	Experiencing Media Issues When Reporting on Indigenous Excellence	James Andrew, Katie White
	Turning the Tide, Decolonising the Academy	Cheryl Davis

Session	Presentation	Authors
Workforce	Leaders in Indigenous Pharmacy Profession Education (LIPPE) Network – Transforming from within	Aleena Williams, Alex Burke, Lloyd Dolan, Chastina Heck, Faye McMillan, Anna Tiatia Fa'atoese Latu, Leanne Te Karu
	Tū Taura Hauora: Aspiring to equity in Aotearoa New Zealand's health sciences education and health workforce.	Griffin Leonard
	Ask the Specialist Plus: communication and cultural safety training for healthcare providers	Stuart Yiwarr McGrath, Tiana Alley, Vicki Kerrigan
	Changing perspectives: The Aboriginal Health Podcast assessment	Julia Vnuk, Kym Thomas
	The Evaluation of a Self-Determined Indigenous Residency Site	Elder Roberta Price, Terri Aldred, Cassandra Felske-Durksen, Sarah De Leeuw, Helen Hsu, Carlea Remodo, Rebecca Howse, Rita Wakelin, Emily Green, Neil Webb
Curriculum	Extending Culturally safe learning in clinical areas through cultural humility	Witana Petley
	Changing the tide: decolonising legal curriculum stories from Melbourne Law School	Eddie Cubillo, Jaynaya Dwyer
	Deepening the Ripples of Medical Education	Wayne Williams
	The Indigenous Speakers Series at the UBC Faculty of Medicine	Derek Thompson
	Expanding a medical student's perspective of health beyond the construct of biomedicine	Suzanne Bain-Donohue, Amanda Wingett
	Cultural safety and health equity: A partnership approach to advancing the medical profession in Aotearoa New Zealand	Richard Tankersley, Kiri Rikihana, Joan Simeon

Workshops

Presentation	Authors
Shared sovereignty in the cycle of AMC (AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL COUNCIL) standards	Belinda Gibb, Daan Verhoeven
Expert perspectives on the assessment of Indigenous health in medical schools	Lilon Bandler, Talila Milroy
Your thoughts – Patients' perception of cultural safety	Kay Brumpton, Rebecca Evans, Raelene Ward, Hannah Woodall, Tarun Sen Gupta



Format of the scientific program

"Safe, inclusive, informative and invaluable to making and nurturing connections."

Over 90% of delegates found the overall program very good or excellent (Figure 8).

Many attendees did not or could not attend breakout sessions or workshop, often because of the timing of the streams. The majority of people found the format of the program excellent, particularly the keynote sessions (Figure 8).

Most attended the keynote and plenary panel sessions; about half did not attend the three workshops and a third did not attend breakout sessions.

Though there were many who felt that there could have been more discussion time (is there ever enough?), about 80% of delegates felt that the topics were balanced, relevant and appreciated the content and delivery (Figure 9).

Figure 8: Session formats

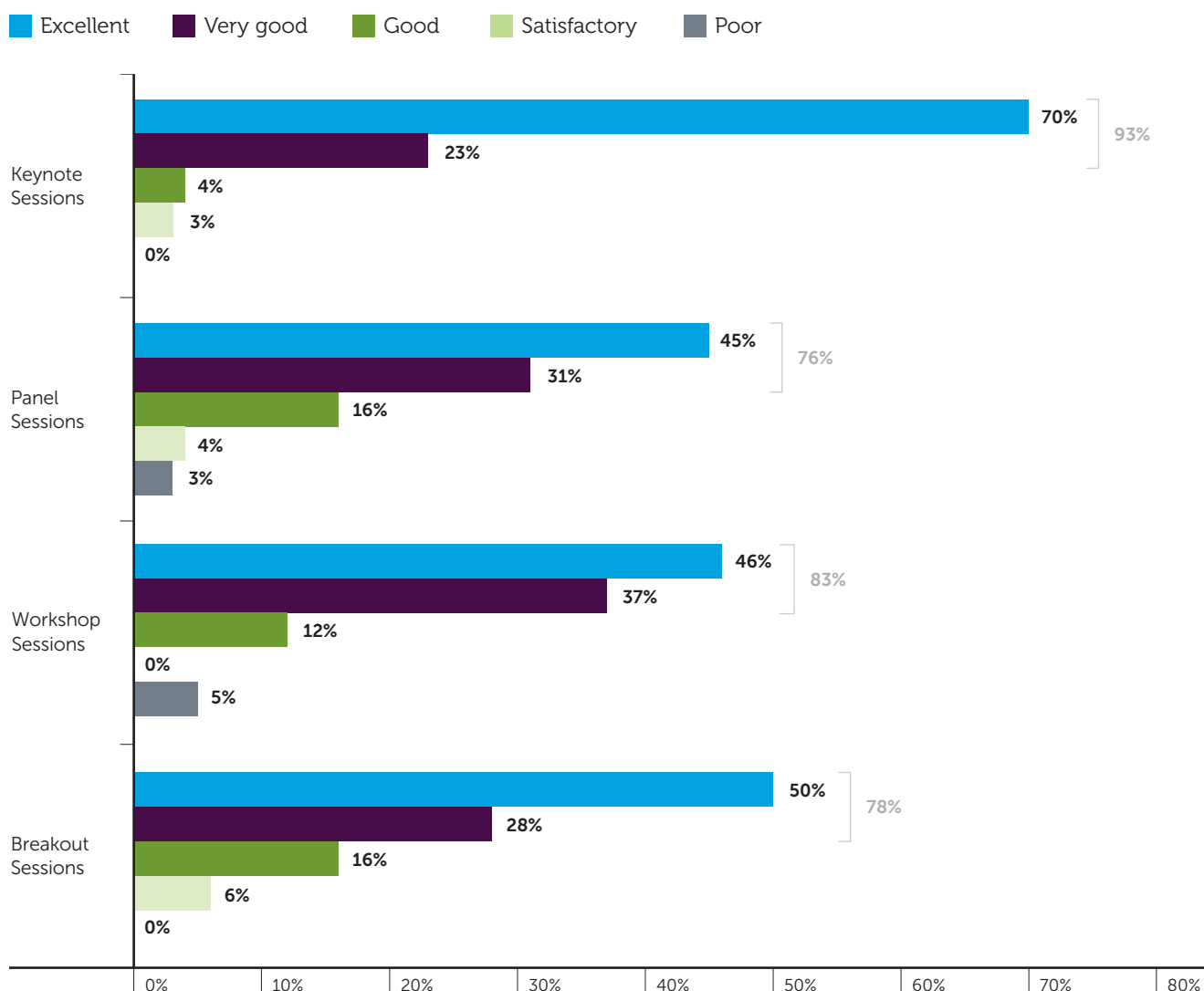
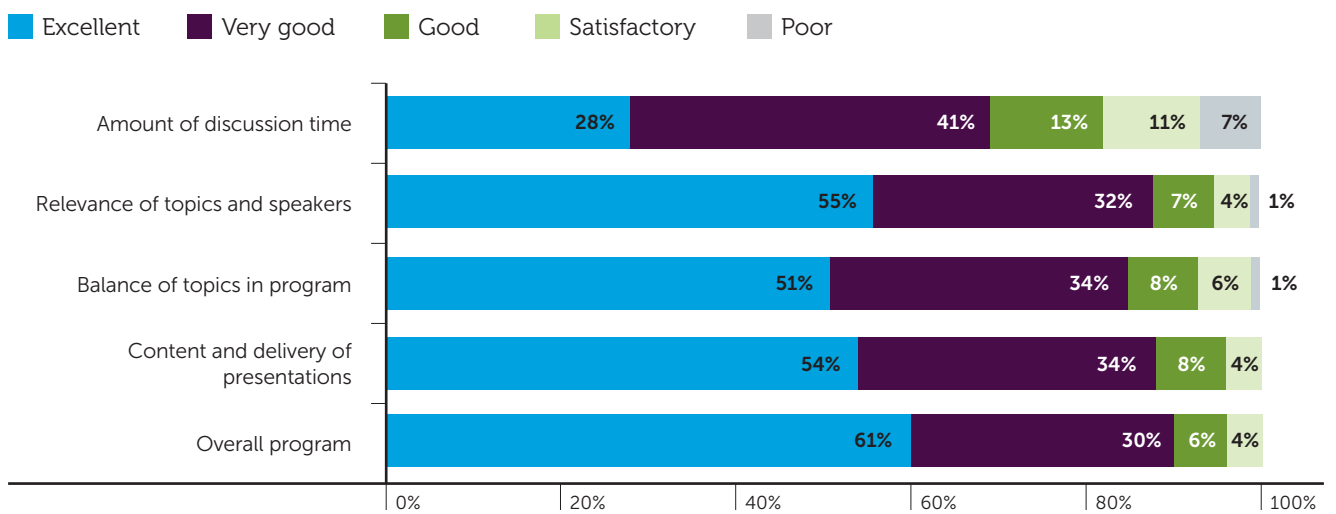




Figure 9: Scientific program



Social events



Bursary Dinner

Monster Kitchen and Bar

"It was lovely to see our students meet others, laugh and share their experiences and feel less alone."

Closing Event and Market

National Convention Centre

The closing event provided a relaxed atmosphere with many local Indigenous market stalls and a weaving workshop.

"loved the market approach and supporting Indigenous business and enterprise"

LIMElight Awards Dinner

The National Museum of Australia

The Master of Ceremonies was Prof Papaarangi Reid and entertainment was provided by Aboriginal artist, Stewart Barton.

"Great to be amongst mob. LIME staff ROCK. Amazing awards dinner!"

"Awards dinner at the museum was also fantastic, a great way to acknowledge all the hard work people have done."

Venues

Bursary Dinner

Saturday 21 October 2023

Monster Kitchen, Canberra

Conference Day 1

Sunday 22 October 2023

Kambri, The Australian National University

- Welcome to Country
- Reception

Conference Days 2, 3, 4

Monday 23 to Wednesday 25 October

National Convention Centre Canberra

Conference Dinner

Tuesday 24 October 2023

The National Museum of Australia

Closing Event

Wednesday 25 October

National Convention Centre Canberra

Awards 2023

LIMElight Awards 2023

The LIMElight Awards are given in recognition of the significant and outstanding work undertaken by staff, students and medical schools in the learning and teaching of Indigenous health in health professional education and in Indigenous student recruitment, support, and graduation. The LIMElight Awards Committee recognised the work being done internationally to improve Indigenous health through health professional education. It was noted that this year we had the most nominations ever received. The committee congratulated all those who were nominated for an award this year. Further information about the 2024 award winners is available [on the LIME Network Website](#).

The Dennis McDermott Memorial Award for Excellence in Cultural Safety Award

Kym Thomas, Flinders University

Excellence in Community Engagement

Wurri-Ki Culture and Deakin School of Medicine
Indigenous Health Team

Excellence in Indigenous Health Curriculum Development and Implementation

Associate Professor Brett Biles, University of New South Wales

Excellence in Indigenous Student Recruitment, Support and Graduation

Mr James Andrew, University of British Columbia

Excellence in Indigenous Health Education Student Work

Kyle Ryan, University of Queensland

LIMELife Awards 2023

The inaugural LIMELife awards recognise the significant and outstanding work of LIME Network Reference Group Members, past Reference Group Members and other major contributors have made to The LIME Network over the past 18 years. LIMELife Award recipients contributed their time and cultural knowledge to The LIME Network and helped to form an international community of practice between Indigenous medical educators and non-Indigenous medical educators teaching Indigenous content. The LIMELife Awards were kept as a surprise for each award recipient and were nominated by the LIME Secretariat.

A/Prof Lilon Bandler	Principal Research Fellow, The LIME Network, The University of Melbourne
A/Prof Elana Curtis	Public Health Physician & Associate Professor Medical, Te Kupenga Hauora Māori, University of Auckland
Prof Shaun Ewen	Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education), Griffith University
Dr Peter O'Mara	Director, Thurru Indigenous Health Unit, University of Newcastle
Prof David Paul	Managing Director, Centre for Aboriginal Medical and Dental Health, University of Notre Dame, Fremantle
Prof Suzanne Pitama	Dean, University of Otago, Christchurch Campus
Prof Papaarangi Reid	Tumuaki, Te Kupenga Hauora Maori, The University of Auckland

Indigenous Medical Student and Community Member Bursaries

The conference gave me the vocabulary for situations and experiences that I experience as a medical student and health professional.

Purpose

The bursaries are designed to

- Support and encourage those with a demonstrated interest in and experience with Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health to gain professional development and increased learning
- Provide financial support for students who are interested in presenting at the conference
- Highlight the commitment of community members and students to improving Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health
- Increase and support leadership opportunities for those involved with Indigenous health from the community sector and student cohort
- Strengthen active involvement of students and community members
- Encourage students to pursue a career in medical education through collegiality and inclusion

Bursary places were offered to Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori medical students, and community members working with medical schools, with a strong interest in Indigenous health. Each bursary covered the costs of the conference registration, travel, accommodation, and meals.

Eligibility and selection

To be eligible to apply, candidates needed to be:

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent or whakapapa (Māori ancestry)

And

- Current medical student from Australian or Aotearoa and a student member of AIDA (Australian Indigenous Doctors Association) or Te ORA (Student Bursary). LIME Reference Group members are consulted to ensure students can get leave.

Or

- Actively working with a medical school (Community Members).

Bursaries were awarded based on the selection criteria, and the recommendation of a selection committee made up of a representative of the Australian Indigenous Doctors Association (AIDA), Te Ohu Rata o Aotearoa Māori Medical Practitioners Association (Te ORA) and the LIME Secretariat.

Promotion

The Bursaries were promoted via:

- Emails to LIME members
- Posters sent to medical schools and supporting organisations
- Facebook and Twitter posts
- LIME Newsletter articles
- Articles in other organisations' newsletters.



Funding

The Bursaries were funded by generous contributions from medical schools across Australia and Aotearoa, including:

- Deakin University
- Griffith University
- The University of Adelaide
- The University of Auckland
- The University of Melbourne
- The University of New South Wales
- The University of Notre Dame
- The University of Queensland
- The University of Sydney
- The University of Western Australia
- University of Otago
- University of Wollongong
- Western Sydney University

Recipients

There were 30 bursary places awarded for LIME Connection X to students and community members from across Australia and Aotearoa.

Welcome Dinner

A Welcome dinner was held on Saturday 21st October 2023, at the Monster Kitchen and Bar in Canberra. Bursary recipients, current and past Reference Group members, and others, were invited by the host university (ANU) and LIME Staff. This was an opportunity for bursary recipients to meet one another and make connections with the Reference Group members and LIME Staff prior to the conference.

Kambri day

Bursary recipients valued the first day of the conference at Kambri, appreciating the Welcome to Country by Kambri elder Aunty Possum and her son Paul House. Participants highly valued the generous sharing of culture by the Kambri community and the opportunity it provided for reflection, connection, and learning. Recipients commented on the weather and recommended future events have increased access to shade cover.

Participating in the Welcome to Country hosted by Paul House and Dr. Aunty Matilda House was a profound and beautiful experience, one that filled me with deep gratitude.

Key learnings

Bursary recipients were asked to consider their personal and professional experiences at the conference.

Some reported gaining deeper understandings of the challenges experienced by medical students, whilst others discussed developing greater understanding of approaches implemented by medical schools towards teaching and learning in Indigenous health.

... Professionally, I learned about the many areas such as research or medical education that are working in driving decolonising and re-indigenising strategies.

Learning from, and forming connections with people from diverse Indigenous cultures was mentioned as a key learning experience.

It was a real privilege to attend the tenth biennial Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) Network conference. I personally enjoyed learning about the different indigenous cultures that were present.

Recipients also reported gaining skills at the conference that will assist with their work and study going forward.

Key Themes

Gaining a deeper understanding of decolonisation (particularly related to the medical education space) was noted, along with the benefits of listening to shared stories and experiences from conference speakers and attendees.

The whole concept and theme of 'Decolonising Education' overall interested me. The workshops not only gave me a better definition and understanding of what this meant but also the different approaches ... which medical school could do this.

The key themes presented by keynote speakers, including Professor Eve Tuck and Dr Donna Cormack, were mentioned as impactful.

The importance of medical student advocacy and support was also noted.

A standout moment was the panel discussion on career pathways for specialist medical trainees, where the realities—both the joys and the hardships, especially for Indigenous doctors—were candidly addressed. The emphasis on honesty and passion resonated with me throughout the week.

Benefits and challenges

Bursary recipients found listening to stories and negative experiences regarding difficult scenarios such as institutionalised and interpersonalised racism challenging. However, these challenges were shared across the bursary cohort and bursary recipients appreciated the opportunity to develop networks and connections within the Indigenous medical education community. Being part of the bursary cohort was noted to be a benefit through feeling a sense of belonging to a group of like-minded people.

It allowed me to create valuable future networks in this space and gain a better insight to the trajectory of Indigenous Medical education.

Bursary recipients commented on the bursary's benefit in providing access to the conference, along with the support received by the LIME secretariat to allow recipients to focus on the conference activities.

In addition, the immense support we received from Shanel¹ made the week run so smoothly and allowed us to focus on learning from the conference.

Bursary recipients reported that they connected with colleagues and could discuss collaboration going forward. Also commented on was how, through the conference, recipients were able to form networks with peers, medical educators and other professionals in the space.

This was great to be able to connect and chat about how we can work together more.

Other challenges included finding out who conference delegates were, given the range of backgrounds and pre-existing professional networks of bursary recipients.

1 Shanel Cubillo works in the LIME secretariat and was responsible for all the arrangements (flights, other travel, accommodation, meals, well-being) for the bursary cohort, both students and community members.

Bursary Outcomes

Bursary recipients were asked to consider their personal and professional experiences at the conference.

"The most challenging aspect I found was hearing of negative experiences people have faced. Whether that be racism, discrimination or just talks around how the whole system is not made with indigenous populations in mind."

Recommendations

Bursary recipients valued the conference and the opportunities for learning and connection. Recommendations were made regarding more facilitated networking sessions and around some of the logistics of travel and accommodation. Continuing to fund attendance through the bursary scheme was encouraged.

I just want to thank the team one more time – I feel so privileged to have been offered this opportunity.



LIMECONNECTIONX – Organisation

As with any major event, many people were involved in making this event happen. We are grateful for the amazing contribution of so many people, and sincerely thank them. The conference could not have occurred with them.

Committees

LIME Connection X Organising Committee Members

Lilon Bandler

Shayne Bellingham

Jasmin Boys

Shanel Cubillo

Terri Jacobs

Candice McKenzie

Talila Milroy

Stewart Sutherland

Annette Tunnicliffe

The LIME Connection X Scientific Committee

Lilon Bandler

Shayne Bellingham

Candice McKenzie

Talila Milroy

David Paul

Paul Saunders

Jeannine Stairmand

Jade Tamatea

Maria McKay

LIME Secretariat (Support)

The LIMELight Awards Committee

Lilon Bandler

Shayne Bellingham

Jasmin Boys

Miriam Cavanagh

Shanel Cubillo

Jeannine Stairmand

The LIMELife Awards Committee

Shayne Bellingham

Jasmin Boys

Shanel Cubillo

The LIME Connection X Bursary Committee

Christine Carriage

Australian Indigenous Doctors Association

Te Oraití Reedy

Te ORA Māori Medical Practitioners Association

LIME Secretariat

(Support)

The LIME Network Team

Lilon Bandler

Shayne Bellingham

Jasmin Boys

Shanel Cubillo

Candice McKenzie

Talila Milroy

Annette Tunnicliffe

Additional support from Australian National University:
Terri Jacobs

The LIME Network Reference Group

Ngaree Blow	The University of Melbourne
Kay Brumpton	Griffith University
Miriam Cavanagh	The University of Notre Dame – Sydney
Christine Clinch	The University of Western Australia
Cheryl Davis	The University of Notre Dame – Fremantle
John Hunter	Macquarie University
Maria Mackay	University of Wollongong
Nicole Mercer	Deakin University
Kathleen Martin	Flinders University
Mel Muscat	The University of Queensland
Peter O'Mara	The University of Newcastle
Sophie Pitt	University of New South Wales
Paul Saunders	Western Sydney University
Tanya Schramm	University of Tasmania
Jeannine Stairmand	University of Otago
Stewart Sutherland	Australian National University
Jade Tamatea	The University of Auckland
Kym Thomas	The University of Adelaide
Emma Walke	The University of Sydney
Donald Whaleboat	James Cook University

Australian National University student volunteers

Throughout the conference students from ANU kindly volunteered, helping people find food, toilets and breakout rooms. Their help was appreciated by both delegates and organisers.

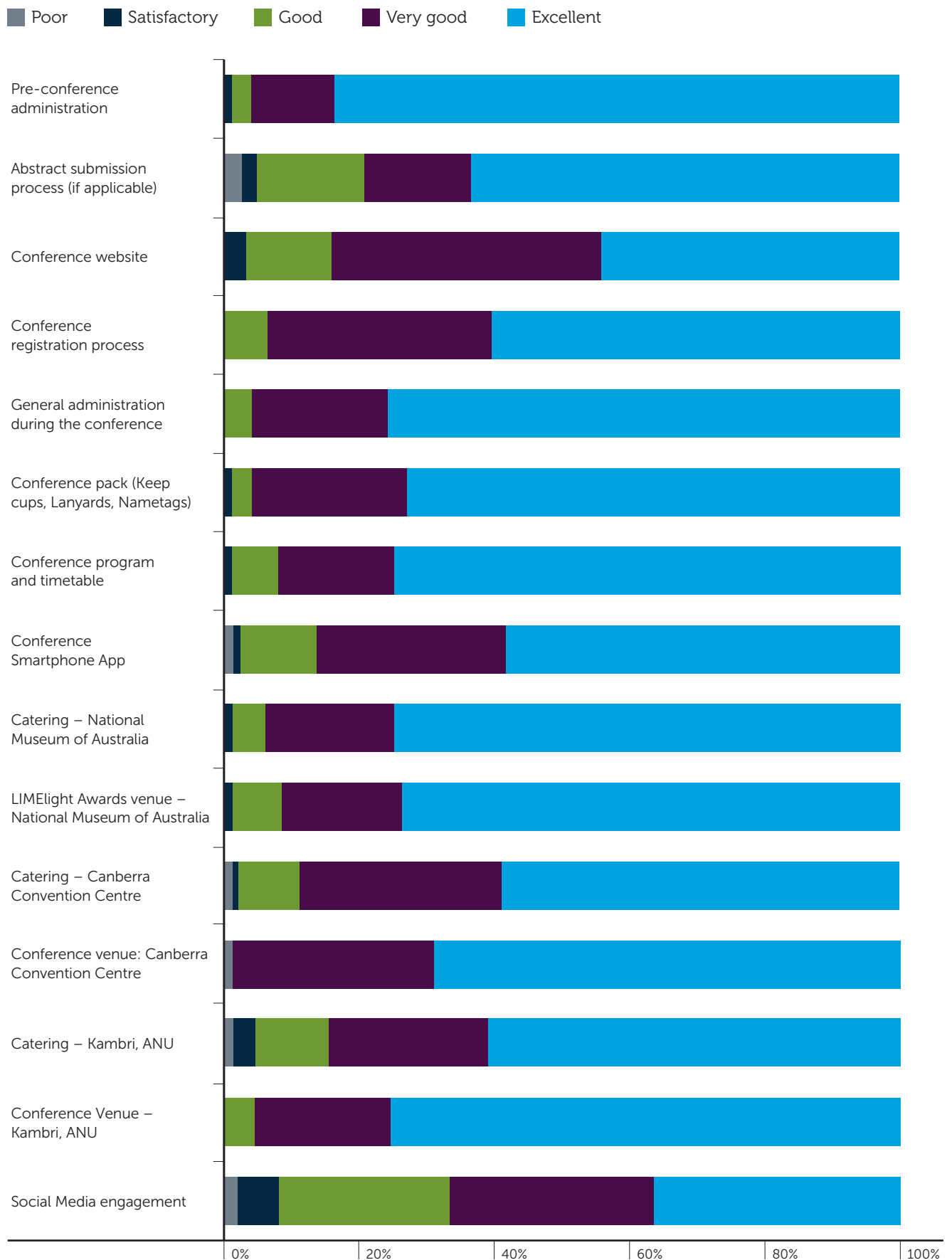
Evaluation of conference organisation

In general delegates found the conference organisation, and all the parts of that, were very good, or excellent (Figure 10).

"The conference was very well paced without information overload. Also ran to time!"

"Great commitment that was reflected by the conference proceedings (i.e., smooth running sessions etc)"

At the end of the conference, there were weaving classes, and an opportunity to shop at Indigenous market stalls. Many enjoyed a gentle end to the conference.

Figure 10: LIME conference processes

Sponsors

Our thanks to the sponsors who helped with this event. It is appreciated!

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OF DERMATOLOGISTS



The Royal
Australian &
New Zealand
College of
Psychiatrists

Support organisations



Medical Deans
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND



AIDA
AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS
DOCTORS' ASSOCIATION

TE OHU RATA O
AOTEAROA
MĀORI MEDICAL
PRACTITIONERS

TeORA

Photography

Photographs in this document were taken by [This Is Creative](#) unless noted. This Is Creative is a Canberra based creative agency working across Australia. They are an Australian Indigenous owned company. The LIME Connection X Smartphone App attracted big numbers during the conference. Delegates could view the program, speaker bios, abstracts, venues, maps, sponsors, and attendee contact details.

Promotional material

The Connection X promotional material was written and designed by the LIME Project team and Svetlana Andrienko from [Studio Eleveses](#). Material included:

- LIME Connection X flyers
- Electronic banners (email, Facebook, Twitter, newsletters, display screens)
- Sponsorship promotional banners
- Indigenous Student and Community Bursaries poster
- LIMELight Awards flyer

LIME Connection was promoted via other organisations' newsletters, websites, and social media profiles.

Website

The LIME Connection Website was parented by the LIME Network Website, drawing more traffic to the LIME Network website. The LIME Connection sub-page included

- A link to the registrations page
- Conference program and timetable
- Venues and accommodation
- Canberra (Ngambri and Ngunnawal Countries) information
- List of sponsors
- A link to the call for Papers and Abstract Submission
- LIMELight Awards applications form
- Student and Community Bursaries information and applications
- Committee information.







Contact details

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YouTube: www.youtube.com/LIMENetworkProgram

Flickr album: www.flickr.com/photos/limenetwork



THE LIMENETWORK

Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education