

CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY

Politicians on the Central Coast [CC] have a choice: support a two-shard extension of a distant University with its encrusted vested interests, or support a real university ... a multi-disciplinary CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY with responsibility for Central Coast data, analysis, and policy options concerning our economy, environment, youth, & under-achieving school students. **The Central Coast:**

- **economy** needs a multi-disciplinary, innovative, intellectual centre ... a CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY.
- **environment**, species extinction, lakes and lagoons need a CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY.
- **youth** need/deserve a comprehensive Youth Policy that includes a CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY.
- **school-children** need the motivation, aspiration, and higher expectations that come with a desire to proudly attend a CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY.
- **capital, Gosford** especially its CBD will illuminate and pulse with economic activity with a CBD-located CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY.

Just like Newcastle University is good for Newcastle, and Wollongong University is good for Wollongong, so too will Central Coast University be good for our Central Coast. With the NSW Government's decision to form a mega-city from Wollongong to Newcastle, the absence of a real University on the Central Coast is even more stark.

The Central Coast is more than doctors, lawyers, and business entrepreneurs ... it comprises children and their worker parents across the economy: child and aged care, emergency and support services, education and nursing, cleaning and serving, driving & delivering, researching, manufacturing ... an entire community not just a necessary-but-already-privileged section of society looking after itself with the help of a distant university's expansionary business plan.

SCHOOL CHILDREN

Future university study, and its accompanying lifestyle, is intensely motivating for many school-students, and gives teachers an important additional motivational tool.

Right now, the children of the Central Coast see no CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY [CCU] presence ... no CCU sporting teams, no CCU theatrics, no CCU events, no CCU students walking the streets with youthful joy and belonging. Unmotivated schooling outcomes are depressed. Shards of a distant university don't help with this, whereas a real university, a CCU, would.

Central Coast school children, like all kids, look ahead ... and they see a loathsome, time-wasted daily trip to Sydney or UoN. Less motivated students learn & achieve less. Shards won't help. A CCU will.

TERTIARY-AGE YOUTH

Tertiary-age youth on the Central Coast ... the entire cohort of students who qualify for university entrance, just like the youth in Wollongong, Newcastle, and other regional centres, DESERVE an excellent, local, cross-disciplines, education ... intertwined with a university-associated life-style of participation in high-interest extra-curricula activities: clubs; theatre, art, politics, sport, IT, entrepreneurial exploration ... all with their trackies and T-shirts emblazoned proudly with "CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY". Shards of a distant uni don't help with this. A CCU would.

This is, or should be, a crucial element in a Coast-wide Youth Policy designed to replace boredom and purposelessness, with high-interest education, social and extra-curricula engagement.

ENVIRONMENT –ECONOMY – EXTINCTIONS

The Central Coast is replete with environmental complexities: rivers, creeks, lagoons, lakes, bays, escarpments, indigenous art and sacred places, national parks, open spaces, beaches ... and all this is being assaulted in various ways that require LOCAL research and local action. Shards ... medical, legal, entrepreneurial shards won't help. A CCU will.

The Victorian Government is now fencing off the entire 60,000 hectares of Wilson's Promontory and eradicating feral cats and foxes behind the feral-proof fence. Sydney Basin is surrounded by abutting National Parks. They're infested with cats and foxes which kill millions of our native animals. They could be feral-free, fenced, managed scientifically, even attached to an Extinctions Research Centre in our new CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY.

"INSURMOUNTABLE" DIFFICULTIES???

Cost of land ... I'm told by those who support \$80 billion nuclear submarines, \$140 billion tax cuts to the already wealthy, and those who stash their private \$billions in the Cayman Islands, that a multi-disciplinary CCU is "too costly". Because we want integrated planning, NOT ad hoc messes, we need to think about a number of issues simultaneously.

Those issues are:

- Site[s] ... and cost
- Public transport ... and cost
- Desirable effects on local economy ... and cost.
- Student amenity and student accommodation ... and cost.

Conclusions:

- Imagine a UTS-style building, cut it in half, call one half "Sciences" and the other half "Humanities"
- Use the free NSW Govt-owned land in, and around, Wyong and Gosford Stations, to place the Science Tower [Wyong] and the Humanities Tower [Gosford] above each train station
- Transport hubs, train and buses servicing the hinterland, exist right now at Gosford and Wyong Stations
- Existing train line joins Gosford and Ourimbah and Wyong Stations [an estimated 15 minute, direct trip]
- On top of the Gosford Tower, give 4 or 5 stories to the Cultural Centre.
- CBDs effervesce with economic activity, including a plethora of innovative start-ups
- Legislate for the CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY to give primacy in its R and D to matters of concern to the wealth & health of the Central Coast.

The NSW Government, in an atrocious act of chicanery, is persistently presenting narrow shards of a distant, parent university as a university for the Central Coast. It is happening right now, fanned and trumpeted by narrow vested interests, including politically. This 'push' is a betrayal of the wider Central Coast community of workers, and their children. The chicanery [and resulting ad hocery] is despicable.

Shards of Newcastle ... just shards ... but, no CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY!

THE ECONOMY: TRANSITION TO RENEWABLES, ENVIRONMENTAL HARMONY, INNOVATION, WEALTH CREATION

For the hard-nosed capitalist, this is probably the most important reason for a multi-disciplinary, innovative, and Central Coast-focussed CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY. Our Central Coast must transition away from Carbon to industries which are benign, or regenerative of Central Coast's delicate environment. This will need Central Coast-focussed data-sets from across the disciplines, collaborative analysis, collective research, integrated thinking and policy options. To be specific, we need to build local industry ... and investigate into:

- Seaweed & shellfish farming ... a co-op? [see Greenwave Ocean Farming – the Basics]
- Hydrogen R and D and component manufacture
- Lithium battery research and production
- Bio-fuel production
- Battery development and component manufacture
- Off-shore generators ... wind/tide/wave [scientist and entrepreneur ready to talk]
- On-shore generators and batteries – solar/wind
- On-shore sea-food farming
- Regenerative agriculture ... including collaborating with indigenous land management [see 2020 Millard Report to Victorian Parliament]
- A fenced, feral-free, mega-sanctuary, of abutting National Parks from M1 through Blue Mountains to Nattai attached Sanctuary Research Centre located at CENTRAL COAST UNIVERSITY
- Component R & D, and manufacture ... electric cars, motorcycles, scooters, trucks, air & watercraft
- Renewables infrastructure ... component manufacture and distribution
- Light aircraft - 1200m Warnervale runway + assoc enterprises: sport; emergency; training; tourism
- Indigenous grass-seeds & yam farming & produce [see Millard Report 2020 ... & Pascoe, Dark Emu]
- A plethora of art-craft-heritage start-up industries driven by :
 - a Central Coast Cultural Centre ... and ...
 - a very quick NBN capacity
- Low-cost food halls linked to local food-producers [co-op[s]]
- Creation of European-style piazzas ... public spaces, Sydney sandstone façade structure
- Re-wiring the Central Coast
- An expanded "caring" industry comprising highly trained providers of: aged care; child care; veterans; those with a disability; victims of violence; health & hospitals
- ... and many others that will come from a multi-disciplinary intellectual centre with a specific brief to attend to these matters of economy, environment, social and equality issues



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