## How do student and alumni perceptions of engagement and success align with the goals of the Griffith Honours College?

Georgia Hayley, Cheyenne Apap, and Dr Abigail Winter SFHEA

E: abbewinter04@gmail.com

cheyenne.apap@griffithuni.edu.au

georgia.hayley@griffithuni.edu.au



Queensland, Australia

### Introduction





### **Research Question**

#### What impact has the Griffith Honours College had on its

#### current students and recent graduates?



Knowledgeable and skilled, with critical judgement



ble Effective vith communicators nent and collaborators

Innovative, creative and entrepreneurial



Socially responsible and engaged in their communities



Culturally capable when working with First Australians



Effective in culturally diverse and international environments



### Literature (1) – Sense of Belonging

- The sense of community and the opportunities it creates is an important aspect of honours education. (Young et al., 2016)
- In order to excel in university, it is vital students feel a sense of community and belonging among their fellow students. *(Cownie, 2017)*
- Alumni engagement has been identified in the literature as significantly correlated with student engagement and success. (Bowman, 2020; Gallo, 2012)
- A sense of belonging within student communities instils connection. *(Bowman, 2020; Gallo, 2012)*

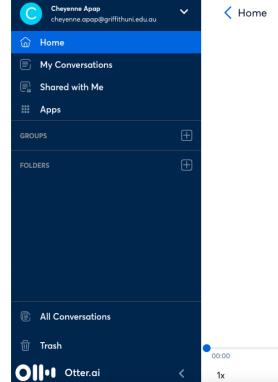


### Literature (2) – Citizenship and Leadership

 Through exposure to leadership, mentoring and volunteering opportunities, students are pushed to extend themselves both personally and professionally. By broadening their educational environment, students are exposed to a diversity they are not privy to in their traditional discipline-specific learning.



### **Method**



#### Search this conversation.. +Å ••• Edit ZOOM0007\_Tr1 Mon, 11/9 · 3:33 PM 19:52 SUMMARY KEYWORDS honours ghc college scholarships support mentor give workshops career opportunities life academic travel great personal experience degree team singapore specific invested Director 🕑 0:11 So Tanner, we're going to go straight into that question that we've been practicing. So we're starting with, "Being a part of..." Tanner Noakes 🔗 0:17 τN Being a part of the Honours College has enabled me to be a part of so many overseas opportunities in London, Kazakhstan, Beijing, Hong Kong, Chicago, Boston. And now I'm going on a scholarship in Singapore for the next two years. 19:52 5 5 ?



### **Results (1) – Sense of Community and Belonging**

66 A collection of future world leaders and changers - Ryan

<sup>66</sup> Everyone is like-minded in that everyone has a similar work-ethic and approach to education - Eesha

#### "

(We have) the ability to achieve together, be motivated and driven by each other

"

- Alana



### **Results (2) – Academic and Career-related Support**

#### "

#### "

One of the best things about mentorship is it gives you some clarity and vision of your academic or industry career. The benefit that I got mainly was some really helpful life advice and wisdom that really directly applied to my academic pursuits.



### **Results (3) – Relationships for Life**

<sup>66</sup> A couple of years after graduating university, I was struggling to reconcile my academic nature with the business and consulting world. I reached out to the GHC, and Jeanne (then-manager of GHC) very willingly had a coffee catchup with myself to discuss my issues... then connected me with a friend of hers in Sydney.

- Alana



### **Conclusion and Further Research**





### References

- Bowman, N. A., Bowman, N. A., Culver, K., & Culver, K. (2018). When do honours programs make the grade? conditional effects on college satisfaction, achievement, retention, and graduation. *Research in Higher Education*, 59(3), 249-272. doi:10.1007/s11162 017-9466-y.
- Cownie, F. (2017). Gratitude and its drivers within higher education. *Journal of Marketing for Higher Education*, 27(2), 290-308.
- Gallo, M. (2012). Beyond Philanthropy: Recognising the value of alumni to benefit higher education institutions. *Tertiary Education Management*, 18(1), 41-55.
- Young III, J. H., Story, L., Tarver, S., Weinauer, E., Keeler, J., & McQuirter, A. (2016). The honours college experience reconsidered: Exploring the student perspective. *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, 17(2), 177-189.

Queensland, Australia

# **QUESTIONS?**

### Georgia Hayley, Cheyenne Apap, and Dr Abigail Winter SFHER

E:abbewinter04@gmail.com cheyenne.apap@griffithuni.edu.au

