

# Using **social media** to foster and sustain a **connected learning culture**

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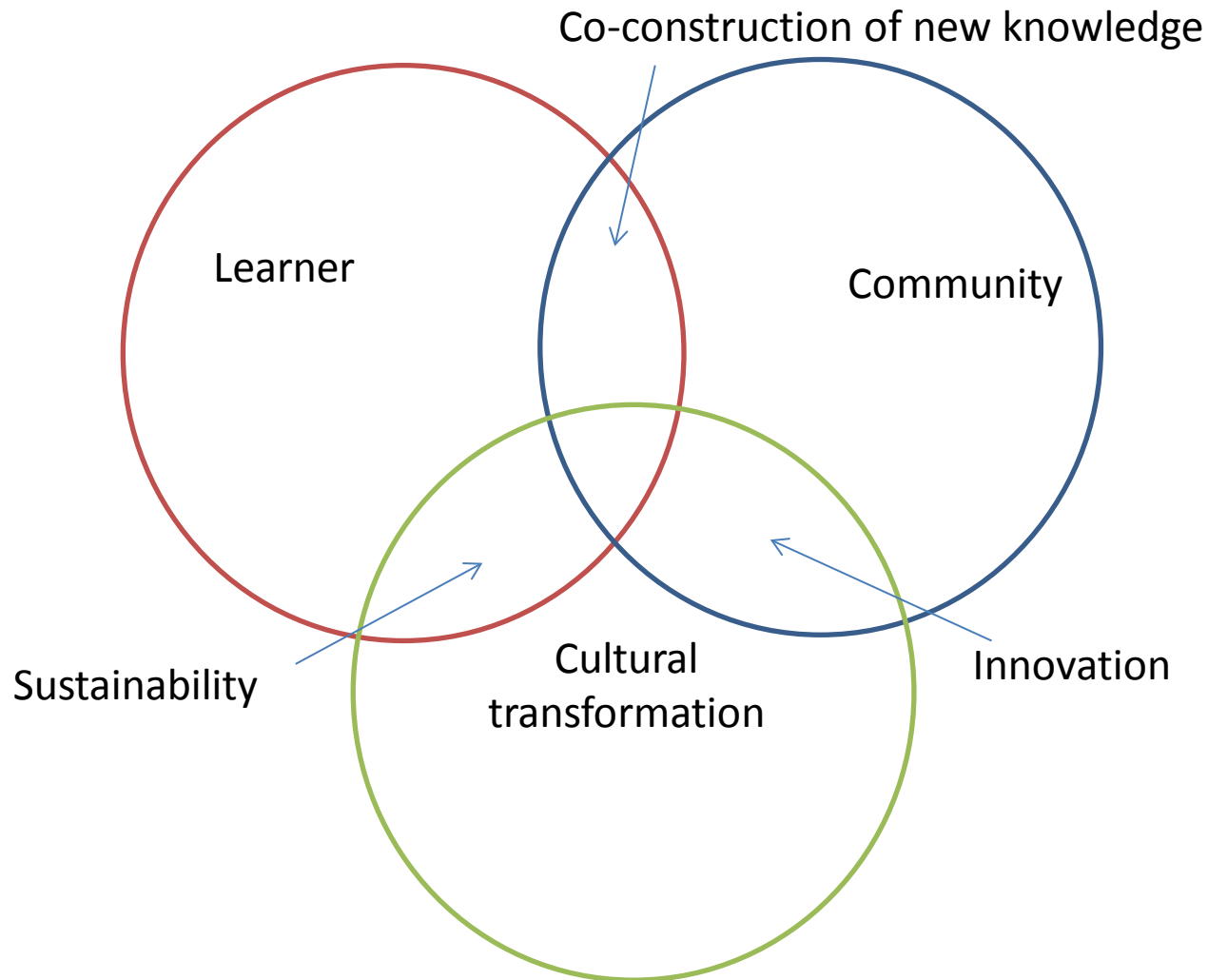


# ACU Teaching Development Grant

*“Learning at ACU should be a transformative experience taking you from one place and opening up many new places to discover. It will equip you to be a global citizen who is connected and empowered to make a difference to the world you live in. You will become future-focussed by participating in a challenging student-centred learning environment. Your studies will equip you to be inclusive of all people and ideas while still having a desire for new ideas and views. Your time at ACU will be engaging and set you up for employment in a range of fields.”*

*(ACU Learning and Teaching Framework draft, 2013)*

# Model of Connected Cultures of Learning



# Project Aims

1. Introduces ACU lecturers and students to current, innovative classroom practice
2. Provides a vehicle for ACU lecturers and students to demonstrate the breadth and quality of ACU programs to the wider community
3. Increases the opportunities for partnerships to develop within educational communities
4. ACU students become confident proficient ambassadors for the University in a public arena and showcase talents to potential employers
5. Builds a greater sense of community within ACU, both peer-to-peer and with alumni
6. Data collected from community/staff/student surveys undertaken at the various events will be used in a number of papers to be submitted to high quality peer-reviewed journals

# What

is Twitter?



**Why**  
use Twitter?



# Student cohort

- Year 1, Semester 1
  - Master of Teaching (Primary)
  - Graduate diploma (Secondary)
- Primary hashtag #ACUedu\_p
- Secondary hashtag #ACUedu\_s

## Duration

- 12 week semester (and beyond)

## Resources

- 2-hour tutorial
- Youtube links
- All teaching staff involved in the unit

# Data

*“It was valuable to be able to access twitter accounts of teachers already in the profession as it provided an insight into their careers” (Grad. Dip student)*

*“It was nice to have an online forum where ACU students liked or retweeted your tweets, there was a sense of solidarity” (Grad dip student)*

*“I loved getting engaged in an online discussion with other teachers that are not from this country” (Mteach student)*

*“A lot of teachers linked blogs or articles that had very insightful things to say about teaching, learning and the teaching profession” (Mteach student)*

*“I posted a twitter question and received a number of helpful comments – which helped me build my uni presentation” (Grad dip student)*

*“The first time I was retweeted it made me realise how accessible it was to connect with other educators. I was thinking about using comics in my class and my idea was encouraged. It was a great environment for expressing new ideas (Mteach student)*