



**A STUDY OF STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF
THEIR PARTICIPATION WITHIN THE CONTEXT
OF A JOINT EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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Certificate

I certify that the substance of this thesis has not already been submitted for any degree and is not being currently submitted for any other degrees.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge any help received in preparing this thesis, and all sources used, have been acknowledged in this thesis.

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the author.

Signature

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ABSTRACT

This study is an investigation of students' perceptions of their participation within the context of a joint educational development at Coffs Harbour Education Campus, which is a partnership between the North Coast Institute of TAFE, the Department of School Education (Senior College) and Southern Cross University. Joint developments are designed to provide potential benefits for students by sharing of joint facilities and access to a broader range of educational provision.

The study shows, through a qualitative approach, how students perceive the Campus, rather than the planning and administration perspective of providers. It explores the major aspects of students' participation, and the framework is underpinned by what students themselves consider to be the significant issues. The aspects that emerge from the study relate to the physical presence of the campus, educational outcomes, social relationships and attitudes toward education. The potential benefits and concerns of students are discussed and whether this unique educational environment meets their needs. General recommendations and further research are suggested to assist planners in future joint development projects.