



18 August 2023

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
Suite 102, 2401 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103, United States of America

Re: Letter of Affirmation for the Technology Enabled Active Learning (TEAL) Spaces

Dear Members of the STARS Steering Committee

On behalf of TAFE Queensland's Robina Campus, I am writing this letter of affirmation to support the innovation of designing and using Technology Enabled Active Learning (TEAL) spaces at Robina Campus.

My expertise in this area has been developed through my studies undertaken in my Masters in Learning Innovation, Masters of Business Administration and 22 years of experience in education and training across multiple sectors (public, private, Vocational Education and Training, Universities and Schools). I have also worked with global consulting firm EY, in an Asia Pacific role, where I was exposed to innovative learning practices across the world and led standing up specific innovation centres across multiple countries. My input into the design of Robina learning spaces commenced in 2021.

The focus of the design was to create flexible learning spaces with:

- Innovative desk designs (height adjustable, shape and ability to join together through magnetic connections)
- Moveable furniture
- Designs to allow optimal group collaboration
- Breakout booths and collaboration rooms
- Room visibility with large television screens on multiple walls
- Focus on no 'front of class' experience for students
- Roof-mounted cameras allowing for live streaming of lessons to different geographical locations
- Wireless technology to enable a seamless learning experience
- Students bringing their own devices and/or ability to borrow electronic devices to ensure no disadvantage
- Industry led designs i.e. kitchens, to replicate industry work environments, with technology integrated to allow for improved student experience (i.e., ceiling mounted cameras and wall mounted television screens to showcase direct cooking experiences and provide real time feedback to students).

Creating learning spaces to be accessible, inclusive and supportive of equitable quality education has been a major aim for the Robina campus. Not only have the educators been equipped with technology that allows them to move around the room, engage in flexible delivery, and stream wirelessly to the multiple screens, they have also completed a 9-month Professional Learning Program (PLP).

Part of the PLP included workshops on 'Planning, Applied Learning and Technology'. The goal of this professional development was for participants to experience the technology and teaching spaces at Robina Campus, from both the learner and educator perspectives. The use of the TEAL spaces has helped our educators to deliver the embedded sustainability units of their courses.

In summary, through our live training facilities and TEAL spaces, Robina Campus is positioned as a living laboratory of learning.

Yours sincerely

Shane Palmada

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane Palmada".

**Executive Director, Education and Training
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