

Strategic Plan

2021-2026

Excellent, high quality accredited education.

Engagement with wider community.

High quality education, development and promotion of Gestalt Therapy.

Highly skilled, diverse, cohesive faculty.

Active and engaged Gestalt community.

Our Vision

Gestalt Therapy Brisbane will be a leading global provider of Gestalt Therapy education

Our Mission

Gestalt Therapy Brisbane (GTB) is committed to providing excellent, high quality higher education in the relational Gestalt psychotherapy methodology. This education will be congruent with the principles and values of GTB and to the ongoing development and promotion of Gestalt theory and application in clinical, organisational and other contexts.

Our Values

- **Gestalt**. Commitment to the Gestalt principles of field perspective, dialogical relating, phenomenological and experimental approach within all aspects of GTB's institutional practices.
- **Excellence**. Relational, experiential, transformational student-centered education that is congruent with Gestalt principles and its holistic, existentialist, and field perspective.
- Community. A learning community that fosters collaboration and support as well as individual and collective responsibility for the joint effort.
- **Influence.** Encouraging diversity, inclusivity, and accessibility and promoting social change in the wider field.
- Rigor. Promoting academic skill and rigor as part of Gestalt practice.
 Fostering academic currency and thorough intellectual understanding of all learning as well as developing a practice and capacity for free intellectual enquiry, critical thinking and reflexive practice amongst students and within academic faculty.

Goals and Strategies

Goal 1: High Quality Higher Education Program

Continue to develop and improve the Gestalt Therapy Brisbane educational program to maintain and enhance an excellent, high quality higher education in Gestalt psychotherapy that is informed by current developments in the wider field.

Strategies	Actions
Ensure ongoing TEQSA accreditation for the GTB program.	 Maintain currency with TEQSA standards for higher education providers through continuous improvement measures. Continued implementation of the recommendations arising from the 2019 governance review. Ongoing implementation of the plan for the GTB's reaccreditation in 2024. Continued development of GTB's quality assurance processes.
Ensure ongoing PAFCA accreditation for the GTB program	 Implement PACFA accreditation standards for psychotherapy training programs through continuous improvement measures. Develop a workplan for GTB's PACFA reaccreditation in 2024.
Ensure GTB's academic quality assurance processes are effective	 Adhere to GTB's current academic planning to maintain a high standard of academic quality. Streamline and further develop academic governance processes and procedures.
Ensure innovation in program delivery and design	 Continue to embrace and develop opportunities for remote learning and virtual participation by guest lecturers. Maintain and continue to develop up-to-date student resources. Upgrade Moodle prior to 2022 course delivery Participate in interdisciplinary networking and liaise with other smaller higher education institutes.

Continue to develop GTB's administrative systems and processes

- Develop and maintain a new, user friendly and interactive website.
- Complete the upgrade to a new student management system.
- Upgrade Moodle platform
- Meet government reporting deadlines.
- Develop new administrative procedure manual.
- Review and update administrative policies.
- Source innovative technological solutions to streamline administrative processes.

Continue to be responsive to developments in the wider community.

- Ensure curriculum materials and processes are appropriately respectful of gender, racial and cultural diversity.
- Embed acknowledgement of First Nations cultures and custodians in organisational protocols and education program.
- Develop a holistic ecological focus in educational materials and processes. Include gender/race/acknowledgement of country/environment in curriculum/workshops/phrasing of language.
- Stay connected with the wider psychotherapy community in Australia and internationally.
- Seek opportunities to promote Gestalt therapy in the wider community, e.g. university talks, radio, podcasts, interviews, media projects.

Goal 2: High Quality Faculty

Develop and sustain a highly skilled, cohesive and diverse faculty to develop and deliver GTB educational programs.

Strategies	Actions
Sustain and renew the faculty through intentional succession planning and fostering of younger practitioners. Develop a healthy, respectful	 Seek experienced Gestalt educators to join the GTB faculty. Identify and engage suitable students, graduates and community for leadership roles. Create opportunities for younger graduates to take on teaching and curriculum roles. Create opportunities for graduate internships. Continue and refine the GTB mentorship program. Provide opportunities for faculty
and inclusive team culture among faculty.	 members to connect with each other informally. Develop processes for peer support and supervision. Develop a growth oriented learning culture where team members are encouraged to learn from each other and to learn from mistakes. Foster transparency and accountability in leadership.
Develop innovative professional development programs which ensure faculty continue to learn and develop.	 Collaborate with other Gestalt institutes in Australia and internationally on professional development. Invite visiting Gestalt Therapy thinkers and leaders to engage with faculty and students (in person or virtually). Promote interaction and dialogue with the broader psychotherapy field. Seek input and learning from people

of diverse backgrounds and cultures
and increase cultural understanding
within the faculty.

Goal 3: Active and engaged GTB Community

To develop and promote an engaged student and alumni interactive community.

Strategies	Actions
Develop events and processes that engage students, alumni and other Gestalt practitioners in ongoing learning and engagement.	 Host a series of dinner/speaker events to stimulate thought, discussion and connection.
Develop an active and empowered student community to contribute to GTB's development	 Provide opportunity for students to present their research and projects to the wider Gestalt community (e.g. via presentation at dinner events, podcasts, publication, online conversations). Develop a buddy/mentoring system between students in early and later years. Develop student leadership roles, e.g. student representatives.
Support and encourage student engagement with other Australian and international Gestalt institutes.	 Create projects (potentially facilitated by 4th-year students as their project) that are collaborative with other Gestalt institutes. Support engagement with students from other Australian and international institutes.

Goal 4: Connection with the Wider Community

To build connections with, develop GTB as a business and make a positive contribution to, the wider Brisbane, Queensland and international communities.

Strategies	Actions
Develop a student clinic to provide affordable therapeutic services from competent and well supervised professionals to community members.	 Assess the feasibility of establishing a student clinic. Establish processes for clinic management including administration, booking systems, etc. Establish policies, procedures, and processes around quality assurance, safety, insurance arrangements, etc.
Increase the visibility of GTB in the wider community.	 Establish a network of community connections with like-minded organisations and individuals. Publish a regular newsletter highlighting events and progress at GTB. Develop the 'brand' of GTB as exciting, quality, innovative, experiential, engaging and as a leading career option?
Establish GTB as the 'go-to' therapeutic training institute in Queensland and Australia.	 Promote GTB's educational programs to practitioners and teachers in related fields of endeavor. Develop online learning in Gestalt Therapy Develop micro-credentials