Welcome

As Pro Vice Chancellor: Health Sciences, I extend a warm welcome to you as a prospective partner of our Division.

Home to the Sansom Institute for Health Research and the Centre for Cancer Biology and incorporating the schools of Health Sciences, Nursing & Midwifery and Pharmacy & Medical Sciences, the Division of Health Sciences has an outstanding reputation amongst industry, government and community for the education of health professionals and delivery of research excellence in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of health issues.

We collaborate with our partners to ensure our innovative research and consultancy is conducted with a focus on applied knowledge in key areas of health, including cancer treatment, genetic and infectious diseases, nutrition and exercise, population health and epidemiology, the early origins of adult health, and healthcare models.

We place a strong emphasis on practice-based learning, with significant investment in teaching and research facilities, including the Health Innovation Building in South Australia’s health and biomedical precinct. Our students gain valuable hands-on experience, learning within modern purpose-built laboratories and on-campus clinics that service the community.

Drawing on world-class skills, knowledge and facilities, we celebrate our successes and invite business, industry and government to explore valuable opportunities for collaboration, discovery, progress and innovation.

We look forward to partnering with you.

Professor Robert Vink
Pro Vice Chancellor
Division of Health Sciences

Acknowledgement of Country

UniSA respects the Kaurna, Boandik and Barngala peoples’ spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the diversity of Aboriginal peoples, past and present.

Find out more about the University’s commitment to reconciliation at unisa.edu.au/RAP
FOR GRADUATE STARTING SALARY, TEACHING QUALITY, GENERIC SKILLS AND OVERALL SATISFACTION IN HEALTH SCIENCES FIELD OF STUDY.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS AND 25TH PLACE AMONG THE WORLD’S TOP 50 2015/16 QS TOP 50 UNIVERSITIES AGED 50 AND UNDER.

WELL ABOVE WORLD-STANDARD
World-class research in Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Clinical Sciences, Human Movement and Sports Science, Nursing, Nutrition and Dietetics, Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Medical Physiology.*

5-STAR RATING
For Research, Facilities, Internationalisation and Teaching.*

RANKED 1ST
For Graduate Starting Salary, Teaching Quality, Generic Skills and Overall Satisfaction in Health Sciences field of study.**

ENTERPRISING RESEARCH
More than $25m annual research income.

QUALITY TEACHING
Seven out of 10 academic staff hold PhDs.

21,000 HEALTH GRADUATES SINCE 2001
We are the largest provider of health industry graduates in South Australia.

THE ONLY UNIVERSITY IN SA
Offering degrees qualifying pharmacists, podiatrists, medical radiation professionals and exercise physiologists.

2015 Excellence in Research for Australia QS Star rating
2016 Good Universities Guide

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Through a range of strategic research partnerships, we engage in collaborative research at the highest level, networking with the community, government and industry in a way that is making significant change for a better future.

The Sansom Institute for Health Research

Led by renowned oncologist, cancer researcher and bioethicist Professor Ian Oliver, AM, the Sansom Institute for Health Research is the University’s premier health and biomedical research concentration. The institute brings together a diverse group of leading scientists with the key aims of intervening early to prevent illness, improving health systems and services, creating more effective therapies, and advancing health equality. From the molecular to the global, researchers are involved in a diverse range of research activities across a broad spectrum of health and medical sciences.

Our research areas

Cancer

Our researchers are dedicated to the control of cancer and its effects. Research extends from discovering and developing new drugs, novel treatments and methods of detection and diagnosis to improving prevention, screening, treatment and supportive care strategies. Research is based on evidence which supports best practice and consideration of the wider impact of cancer not only on the individual, but also on the community.

Healthy Lifestyles

With emphasis on attaining and maintaining a healthy lifestyle, our researchers are investigating health, starting at the fundamental genetic level, and the impact of our choices and habits on our health, from conception into adulthood and throughout the ageing process. Our researchers assess the impact of factors including nutrition, exercise and activity with a focus on preventing disease and our ability to maintain our health and wellbeing in a rapidly changing world.

Neuroscience and Mental Health

Focusing on brain health, our researchers are investigating a range of populations from individuals experiencing chronic pain to suicide prevention and rehabilitation after neurotrauma, neurodegeneration or drug use. We place an emphasis on the translation of discoveries in mechanisms and pathways through to clinical and community settings.

Pharmaceuticals

With world-class expertise and access to state-of-the-art facilities, our researchers are developing advanced therapeutics, designing targeted delivery systems to obtain the maximum benefit from our medicines and implementing strategies to ensure and improve the safety and efficacy of medications, in support of improved health outcomes.

Population Health

Using their skills in real-world policy development and delivery, and combining these with complex modelling of large-scale data sets to provide the evidence base, our researchers are working to deliver outcomes which will directly impact health, both in specific populations and in the broader community. This research is firmly guided by community priorities— from Aboriginal health, to medicines policy, to the impact of environment on health.

Research with impact

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS WITH MORE THAN 120 INSTITUTIONS ACROSS 22 COUNTRIES

For more information, please visit: unisa.edu.au/sansominstitute

The Centre for Cancer Biology

The Centre for Cancer Biology is an alliance between UniSA and SA Pathology. The Centre delivers innovative research and breakthrough discoveries in the causes of cancer that translate into prevention and treatment outcomes. This group is directed by Professor Angel Lopez and Professor Sharad Kumar.

For more information, please visit: centreforcancerbiology.org.au

For more information, please visit: unisa.edu.au/sansominstitute
SHUDONG WANG
A pioneer in drug discovery and development, Professor Shudong Wang’s research uses multidisciplinary approaches to develop new drugs for targeted cancer therapy research, holding promise for rapid advancement of these discoveries towards clinical application. Professor Wang is the chair of Medicinal Chemistry within the School of Pharmacy & Medical Sciences, Head of the Sansom Institute’s Centre of Research Excellence in Drug Discovery & Development, and inventor of a large patent portfolio. Her innovative research has attracted a number of collaborations with world-class research teams in Australia, China, Netherlands, the United Kingdom (UK) and United States of America (USA).

NICHOLAS PROCTOR
Inspired by the issues of people living with mental distress and the needs of their carers, Professor Nicholas Procter’s research aims to enable recovery with dignity and teach best practice to the next generation of mental health nursing professionals. As the inaugural Chair of Mental Health Nursing and three-time recipient of the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Community Engagement, Professor Procter is driving a variety of innovative programs that are advancing policy, clinical practice and community understandings surrounding mental health, suicide prevention and social inclusion. A lead researcher in his field, Professor Procter tackles important issues in mental health nursing and a regularly called upon as an advisor to state and federal government.

ELINA HYPPÖNEN
Making a difference in empowering positive diet and lifestyle choices, Professor Elina Hyppönen’s research enables individuals to improve their own health. As Director of the Centre for Population Health Research, Professor Hyppönen uses genetic epidemiological approaches to identify strategies to prevent disease and to promote healthy aging. Her research is centred on the prevention of age-related cognitive decline and cardiovascular disease through diet and lifestyle modifications and is conducted in a collaborative context, working with large-scale international organisations across the UK, Europe and the USA.

SHARAD KUMAR
A breakthrough researcher in cancer biology, Professor Sharad Kumar’s discoveries have contributed fundamental knowledge to a number of fields and to the alleviation of cancer-related suffering. One of Australia’s most eminent cell biologists and cancer researchers, Chair of Cancer Biology at the Centre for Cancer Biology and Unisa Research Professor of Cell Biology, Professor Kumar has established a diverse, collaborative research program and made significant progress in developmentally-programmed cell death, animal biology and caesape and cancer biology.

LORIMER MOSELEY
An award-winning clinical scientist, Professor Lorimer Moseley is making breakthrough discoveries in the investigation of pain in humans. As a leading international researcher in clinical neurosciences and physiotherapy, Professor Moseley makes a significant global contribution to pain sciences knowledge and has authored more than 200 research papers, several books and numerous chapters, and regularly deliver keynote presentations at interdisciplinary conferences across the world. Having educated more than 10,000 practitioners across seven countries, his research findings are changing the landscape of the medical and health industries.

Research luminaries
Partnering for success

Our partnerships underpin health care solutions and link our students and graduates to industry. From elite sporting teams to multinational companies and community-based organisations, we’re driving advancements for a healthier future.

Our close working relationship with SA Health has facilitated collaboration across a variety of state health research policies and projects, including the development of the new Royal Adelaide Hospital. The Division works with SA Health to identify placement growth opportunities, which in turn has a positive impact on the state’s future health workforce, particularly in anticipation of a shortage of practitioners addressing the needs of Australia’s ageing population.

We are engaged in research that is of national and international benefit, collaborating with world-recognised researchers at the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI). These collaborations facilitate our significant contributions to improving the prevention, treatment and diagnosis of some of the greatest health issues facing society, including chronic disease, obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and mental health.

A collaborative research centre established between Shandong University and UniSA, the China-Australia Centre for Health Science Research, adopts a multidisciplinary approach to research in order to provide valuable impact at a policy development level in China and Australia, with a view to addressing global health issues.

UniSA’s partnership with Melbourne-based biotech company, Sementis, is also allowing researchers to develop vaccines to treat allergies, cancers and infectious diseases, such as the mosquito-borne Zika virus, which is fast becoming an urgent global health priority.

A significant collaboration with one of China’s leading pharmaceutical companies, Yabao Pharmaceutical Co. Inc., has been established to develop new cancer treatments and to identify drug candidates in a co-funded laboratory.

Our partnerships with Helping Hand Aged Care, the ACH Group and Southern Cross Care are challenging conventional thinking and practice within the aged care industry, exploring new ways of supporting older people, facilitating rewarding student placement opportunities and improving health outcomes for the elderly, locally and internationally.

Our long-standing relationship with the iconic Port Adelaide Football Club (PAFC) is built on joint expertise in the field of sports science. This high performance collaboration focuses on research and education in elite sport science, coaching and player development, as well as a commitment to engage and connect with remote Aboriginal communities and the Asia region.

MORE THAN 500 CLINICAL PLACEMENT PARTNERS AND OVER 500 RESEARCH PARTNERS

15,600+ CLINICAL PLACEMENT HOURS PROVIDED BY UNISA STUDENTS TO THE HELPING HAND AGED CARE COMMUNITY EACH YEAR

“UniSA’s partnership with Port Adelaide Football Club allows me to obtain invaluable work experience within an elite performance sport environment. As part of my research, more than half of my time is spent assisting strength coaches and physiotherapists in their daily tasks, so it is very practical. In this way, I can develop important applied skills, while also working in an environment which stimulates ideas and guides my research.”

/ DANIEL ROGERS
Bachelor of Human Movement graduate and PhD student
In 2014, scholarship recipient and national award winner, Trevor Ritchie, made history when he graduated from UniSA with a degree in Occupational Therapy, a milestone he views as an important step forward in closing the gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians.

Trevor’s first-hand experience of facing health inequalities whilst growing up on an Aboriginal mission has been a constant motivation throughout his studies. Trevor hopes to push for generational change through his interactions with Aboriginal clients, ensuring they receive the best evidence-based care.

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**World-class facilities**

**Teaching facilities**
Following significant investment in teaching facilities, UniSA’s City East campus has become home to modern, purpose-built laboratories, sophisticated equipment and on-campus physiotherapy, podiatry and exercise physiology clinics, which service the community whilst providing valuable learning experience to students. We strongly emphasise practice-based learning, and our teaching facilities ensure graduates are industry-ready. We provide expertise that reflects the needs of rural and regional Australians, with nursing degrees also taught through our Whyalla and Mount Gambier campuses. These regional settings offer a stimulating and supportive environment for teaching, learning and research.

**Health Innovation Building**
The new Health Innovation Building (HIB) will support a collaborative and holistic approach to health research. Scheduled to open in 2018, the HIB will be an integral part of the South Australian health and biomedical precinct on North Terrace. The HIB will provide an environment for collaboration, innovation and community engagement, leading to new health research, teaching and community engagement opportunities.

**Real-world experience with virtual reality cancer treatment training**
UniSA is one of only six universities in Australia with a Virtual Environment Radiotherapy Training (VERT) suite on campus. This 3D display of a radiation treatment room allows students to practice technique by treating virtual patients under the guidance of clinicians, and provides a deeper understanding of treatment concepts.

**Simulated hospital environments for practical learning**
As South Australia’s largest nursing school, we have world-class nursing facilities on campus which replicate a real hospital environment, an emergency department, high dependency unit, day surgery/recovery unit, medical unit, midwifery/antenatal unit, paediatric unit and a home setting, as well as mannequins that simulate real patients who can breathe, speak, deteriorate and be treated.
Driving Innovation in Rural Health

Our partnership with Marathon Health New South Wales ensures communities in rural and remote areas of far west New South Wales have access to a full range of podiatry services. An extension of clinic initiatives on campus, the partnership provides our podiatry students with unique clinical experiences and second-to-none quality podiatric care to this isolated region.

Our collaboration with the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Maari Ma Health and local general practices also allows us to meet individual community needs in rural areas such as Ivanhoe and Tibooburra. This long-term commitment to rural health inspires our students and broadens their platform to build rewarding careers.

Integral to the community

We develop innovative learning experiences for our students in collaboration with our communities, such as projects to enhance the health and wellbeing of regional communities and other opportunities to increase their employability. Advice on rural health challenges and rural health workforce development is also regularly sought by our communities and government, driving national policy on health workforce development in regional Australia.

Integral to the development and sustainability of healthy and thriving rural communities in regional South Australia, the Division’s Department of Rural Health develops evidence-based and targeted learning experiences for nursing and allied health students and the existing health workforce in regional South Australia.

MORE THAN 4,000 HOURS OF EDUCATION DELIVERED TO THE HEALTH WORKFORCE AND NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH STUDENTS, ACROSS REGIONAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA IN 2015

MORE THAN 500 NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH STUDENTS SUPPORTED FOR ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORTATION IN 2015

Driving Innovation

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Public Health Clinics

Spanning multiple locations and two mobile clinics, UniSA offers a wide range of affordable, supervised, student-delivered health assessment and treatment services. These services provide a positive impact on our communities and facilitate student learning and placements in a supportive and practical environment.

The Physiotherapy Clinic
Providing evidence-based, progressive physiotherapy services delivered by undergraduate and postgraduate students, under the supervision of qualified physiotherapists, the clinic also offers private treatment by fully-qualified physiotherapists.

The Podiatry Clinic
An undergraduate teaching clinic incorporating a unique children’s clinic, where students carry out podiatric assessment and treatment under the supervision of practising podiatrists.

The Exercise Physiology Clinic
Offering specialist exercise testing and prescription services to manage chronic health conditions, musculoskeletal rehabilitation, medical conditions, disabilities and mental health conditions.

The Mobile Allied Health Clinics
Specially-fitted vehicles that provide a valuable service to the community whilst offering hands-on learning experiences for students. The clinics provide a free service to the public by regularly visiting schools, shopping centres, aged care facilities, homeless shelters and community and sporting events.

MORE THAN $2M INVESTMENT IN ON-CAMPUS CLINICS OVER SIX YEARS
$230M INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE

The iconic new Health Innovation Building will open in 2018, adjacent to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital and the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute, within the Southern Hemisphere’s largest health and biomedical precinct.
University of South Australia

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For further information specific to international students, please visit: unisa.edu.au/international

The University of South Australia reserves the right to alter, amend or delete any program, fee, course, admission requirement, mode of delivery or other arrangement without prior notice.

Information correct at time of printing (March 2016)

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