Vice Chancellor’s launch of UniSA Samsung SMART School

Time: 12:00pm – 2:00pm
Date: Wednesday 21 February, 2018
Place: Magill Campus
• Good afternoon and welcome to the future of education.

• That might seem like a sweeping statement but when you look around at some of the Samsung gear we’re displaying here and

• see what it is capable of achieving, you have to conclude that the old days of a teacher preaching to a rapt audience of learners, are well and truly over.

• You won’t have seen anything like this – the UniSA Samsung SMARTSchool is the first school of its kind in Australia and

• it was made possible because, as Australia’s University of Enterprise, we are adept at forming partnerships with the right people,

• the kind of people and organisations who can put their expertise together with ours, and come up with something really special.
• Samsung has become such a partner.

• And I would like to say at the outset that this project could not have been achieved without Samsung.

• Both Samsung’s technology and – just as critical – Samsung’s expertise on educational applications of technology, have been absolutely essential.

• I would like to thank Samsung – especially Tess Ariotti and her colleagues – very warmly for their enthusiasm for the partnership that has led to the creation of the UniSA Samsung SMARTSchool.

• It’s a great partnership:

• - UniSA, one of the world’s best young universities and Samsung, the world’s second largest electronics company by revenue (according to Forbes magazine)-

• joining forces to create an interactive, collaborative learning environment that makes learning fun.

• Before we get to specifics, let’s start with the givens:
• One: Science, technology, engineering and mathematics knowledge is associated with 75% of the fastest growing occupations, innovations and wage premiums.

• YET, 11% fewer Year 12 students study maths than did in 1992 and there has been a 35% drop in enrolment in information technology subjects at universities since 2001.

• 10 years ago there were 6 billion connected devices online,

• today there are 15 billion,

• by 2020 there will be 200 billion.

• and 2: UniSA educates more of the state’s teachers than any other university.

• And we aim for those graduates to be exceptional, to positively impact on the learning and wellbeing of all the young people in their charge.
That means that they must be digitally literate, able to effectively employ technology-enhanced teaching and learning methodologies to optimise student engagement in learning.

This afternoon you’ll see one of the changes we’re bringing about to ensure that exceptionalism.

The UniSA Samsung SMARTSchool is a $4 million investment in advanced teaching and learning spaces, with the technology and much of the technology know-how contributed by Samsung.

It is a high tech learning environment with an emphasis on STEM and collaborative inquiry based learning.

And it is aimed just as much at teachers as it is at their students.

Learning and teaching practices are at the heart of the Samsung SMARTSchool.
• For pre-service teachers, the large open-plan spaces are designed for interdisciplinary learning across the primary and secondary curricula,

• while the observation room and the closed-circuit video streaming allows for live pedagogical analysis and reflection.

• The difference with our Samsung SMARTSchool is the synergy between Samsung’s cutting-edge products, like the VR headsets, wearable technologies and high-end tablets

• and the inquiry-based and interdisciplinary learning and teaching methods being employed.

• We plan on at least three categories of access to the Samsung SMARTSchool space:
  o Planned in advance days offered on multiple occasions to all schools;
  o a bookable space to support innovative pedagogies for South Australian schools; and
- an opportunity for teachers to showcase their innovations to other schools.

- UniSA Connect, which offers programs that inspire STEM study and career awareness with secondary school students, will lead the School’s learning and teaching provision

- and most of the programs available through them are the one-day bookable program type where a school might typically bring in groups of 25 students for a one-day experience.

- The programs begin on 6 March and will cover experiences like students using smart basketballs, Bluetooth technology and Vernier Spirometers that measure things like air flow and lung volume, to conduct experiments and collect data.

- The program provides students with valuable experience and knowledge in completing sport science practicals.
• Another program explores ways that science and engineering can be put to a humanitarian use.

• Students learn how map-making, satellite communication and GPS can be used to address environmental and humanitarian problems,

• how using simple materials and sensible engineering processes to purify dirty drinking water,

• and how renewable energy technologies can bring effective and accessible power to improve the lives of people living in developing communities.

• The Samsung SMARTSchool is taking the stuffy out of STEM.

• This is an opportunity for collaborative and creative group work for teachers and students,
• who will use technologies such as virtual reality, robotics and wearables that will push the boundaries of traditional STEM education,

• and better prepare them to harness the technology that’s guiding us into the future.

• Thank you for joining us this afternoon and enjoy your UniSA Samsung SMARTSchool experience.

• And now I would like to introduce you to Tess Ariotti, Head of Corporate Social Responsibility at Samsung Electronics Australia.

• Tess?

(WAIT FOR TESS ARIOTTI TO JOIN YOU ON STAGE)