Vice Chancellor’s welcome to awards and prizes ceremony at the School of Engineering

Time: 4:00pm
Date: Friday 20th April, 2018
Place: Bradley Forum
• Ngangkirna, Miyurna! Naa marni Ngai nari David

• Ngai yarta-nungku yaku, ngai kunturrkinthi taakanthi ngaityu wardli

• Ngai pudlunthi naa-itya, ngai wangkanthi warra Kaurna meyurna, miipudlunthi ngaityu kuinyuntapinthi.

• What I just said, for those of you who lack the Kaurna language, is that my name is David and while I am not originally from this country, I am proud to call it my home and I do so in the language of the Kaurna people as a mark of my respect.

• The Kaurna people have performed ceremonies on this land for many centuries, and we pay respect to their living culture and the unique role they continue to play in the life of the Adelaide region.

• Hello
This is a very special occasion because we get to recognise and reward some very special students

students who have every intention of being the next generation of brilliant aviators and engineers to help build this nation’s economy.

Not that I’m putting any pressure on you.

It’s because of your own efforts and the support of a group of very generous sponsors and donors, that we have such high expectations of you.

You are the future of this nation and there are a number of very generous and high performing corporations who have taken notice of your potential and who are willing to put in the time and money and effort to help support you.

UniSA’s School of Engineering is giving you a great base to build upon.

and the university has made some significant contributions to ensuring that you have made the right
choice when you decided to bring your talents to study here.

- The School of Engineering has a long and proud history of success.

- We are the best engineering school in South Australia for research in engineering,

- the only university in South Australia to have all of its assessed engineering research rated well above world-class according to the 2015 Excellence in Research for Australia;

- in fact we have three ERA rankings of 5 - which is well above world standard;

- We are also investing in our curriculum to produce nation-leading programs in contemporary areas, including Defence Systems and Industry 4.0.

- Other major investments include the new open-backed 737 flight simulator which is being delivered piece by piece and carefully constructed so that it’s ready for operational use from Study Period 5.
• That’s the second part of this year for the non-academic amongst you – from July through November.

• The simulator was made possible by a grant from the Provost’s office which chipped in $128,000 towards the $256,000 cost.

• The training consoles were donated by Air Traffic Control.

• I tell you this because this flight simulator will provide a unique training environment for our aviation and our engineering students

• and will be also used for research opportunities in human factors.

• We are also going to use it for outreach activities,

• which means an awful lot of high school students and the general public will get a better idea of their potential to fly a 737 and not harm anyone in the process.
• As part of our investment in the School of Engineering, we have also recruited a new Aviation Discipline leader, Associate Professor Kate Quigley.

• Kate was appointed under UniSA’s Strategic Action Plan, where we committed to appointing 100 new academic staff in priority areas of teaching and research strength.

• And despite our investment Kate had no sooner joined us when she was hit by a car driven by someone who should have spent more time in a simulated driving environment.

• Kate came to us from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Asia,

• where she was responsible for academic programs, faculty hiring and development, and improving the teaching and learning experiences.

• She made a Herculean effort to join us today, so welcome Kate.
• The School is also expanding globally and our first intake of the Bachelor of Aviation (Management) program at the Hong Kong Baptist University began their studies last September.

• So we have grand plans for the School and that, of course, means we have grand plans for you.

• You’re surrounded today by opportunity.

• By representatives from

  o AFAP, the Australian Federation of Air Pilots;
  o Australian Air Pilots Mutual Benefits Fund;
  o the Royal Aeronautical Society;
  o the Sir Ross and Sir Keith Smith Fund;
  o Labtronics Innovative Control Solutions;
  o IET, the Knowledge Network;
  o Clipsal by Schneider Electric;
  o Engineers Australia;
  o Mechanical engineers, Oconnors;
  o Institution of Mechanical Engineers;
  o SA Power Networks;
o EESA, the Electrical Energy Society of Australia;
and
o Australian Executor Trustees

• all of whom are backing your futures with prizes and awards to recognise your high achievements.

• So start networking. And I congratulate you on your successes today, and look forward to hearing about your successes in future.

• We’re all very proud of you.