Good morning.

Welcome to UniSA.

I remember my first day at university. The newness. The difference from what I was used to.

Today is the first day of an adventure that will change your life.

No pressure there but you need to know that the person you are today will become someone different before you leave this campus in three or four or more years,

Someone confident. Assured. Knowledgeable and prepared for a career anywhere in the world.

That’s what we’ll offer you anyway.

That’s what we’ll make possible.

What we ask of you is that you work hard,
• open your mind to new knowledge,

• take advantage of all the help and support that’s available and

• leave here and make the world a better place.

• As I said, no pressure.

• What I would also like you to know, on this day, is that we are very pleased and proud that you have chosen to study with us at UniSA.

• And that we will do our very best to support you in these changing times.

• This is now your university – and we will work hard to ensure the success of all of our students.

PAUSE
• Universities do two things:
  
  o we generate new knowledge through research; and
  o we transfer that knowledge through teaching.

• We do both of those things very well at UniSA.

• They’re both done in the interests of national and global economies,

• by helping solve the problems that business and the professions bring to us; and

• by providing the people – our graduates - you in a few years time,

• to help drive the economy into the future.

• We’re a University of Enterprise because we take an active role in helping to grow the knowledge economy.
• Which makes you - our future graduates – the new professionals driving the national and international economy through your skills, capabilities and innovation potential.

• Feeling the pressure yet?

PAUSE

• We have made some very big changes to the way we operate to make sure that you get the very best education that you will prepare you for your future.

• We have reviewed our curriculum and refreshed our focus on the courses and programs that have the best chance of providing you with a fulfilling career.

• We are building industry alliances and making sure that the programs we offer you are relevant and up-to-the minute;
• We’re conducting leading research around our society’s grand challenges,

• and that research will inform the teaching we offer you.

• Our new digital learning strategy gives you a new way of learning and engaging with your studies,

• and I think you’ll enjoy innovations like the flipped classroom.

• We’re putting around a billion dollars into our built environment,

• so that we provide an inspiring place to work and study,

• and to give you the very best experience possible in spaces that stimulate and foster creativity and innovation in all its forms.
Like every other university in Australia, we are facing the realities of a deregulated market and all the uncertainties that come with it.

But one of the certainties,

one thing that doesn’t change, is our focus on you and your future.

It is our responsibility to make sure that you are given every opportunity to begin the career that you’ve chosen,

that you are prepared to be resilient and quick to take advantage of new opportunities.

that you are creative, innovative and entrepreneurial and know how to solve problems.
• UniSA graduates are ready to get straight down to work in their chosen fields,

• and employers know that.

• We are number one in South Australia for the employment rate of our graduates.

• According to the *Graduate Destinations Survey*, 91% of UniSA graduates going on to full-time work are employed in a professional occupation within four months of completing their degree.

• In 2013 UniSA graduate employment rates were a full six percentage points higher than the national average.

• According to the *MyUniversity* website we are the state’s leading university for graduate careers and

• the *Good Universities Guide 2015* makes no equivocation when it ranks UniSA the highest in the state under the category ‘Getting a Full-time Job’.
• The fact that we receive almost half of all first preferences in this state means that our ability to set you on your chosen career path is readily recognised.

PAUSE

• But today is the day you start on that road to your future.

• It’s the first day of your association with UniSA

• and we hope that it’s the beginning of a wonderful relationship.

• We look forward to spending the next 3 or 4 or more years with you,

• as much as we look forward to seeing you succeed and return to show people just like you – on their first days here – just what success and achievement look like.
• You’ve chosen the right place to prepare yourselves

• and I wish you every success in the pursuit of your goals.

• Thank you.