



University of
South Australia

101 *things* *you might not know* *about* Unisa



30

UNSTOPPABLE
YEARS 1991 – 2021


University of
South Australia

PRIDHAM HALL

Our researchers have reached new heights developing a 'pandemic drone' in partnership with Draganfly Inc to detect people in crowds with infectious respiratory conditions such as COVID-19.



It's estimated that around 16 billion disposable coffee cups are used around the world each year, so UniSA researchers are working with packaging company Detpak to develop a recyclable takeaway cup that also doesn't leak through expert thin film coatings.

One of the world's best young universities

Ranked #25, 2020 THE Young University Rankings.



The historic UniSA Law Building on Hindley Street was originally the headquarters of the South Australian Brewing Company. This impressive heritage listed building has been fully restored, including the original boardroom.



160+ years of experience teaching visual arts

This incorporates the South Australian School of Art (one of Australia's oldest art schools), which opened in 1856 and became part of UniSA in 1991 when the University was established.



UniSA proudly holds Anthea Swan Bronze Accreditation from SAGE — a movement aimed at improving gender equity and diversity in STEM across universities worldwide.




The mastermind behind the iconic 1990s novel *Good Omens*, Neil Gaiman, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate for his stellar contribution to literature and the creative industries.



Australia's first Science on a Sphere is located in our futuristic museum of discovery (MOD) – a 3D video projection that displays planetary data onto a room-sized sphere giving visitors an astronaut's view without leaving the ground.

World top 100 for exercise and sport science


2021 QS Subject Rankings, Sport-Related Subjects.

A stylized map of Australia is shown on the right side of the image. The map is rendered in a textured, painterly style. The landmass is primarily yellow and orange, with black and white dotted patterns (resembling Indigenous art) overlaid. The surrounding water is depicted in shades of blue and green. The map is positioned on the right side of the image, partially overlapping the red background.

UniSA was the first university in Australia to make a stated commitment to reconciliation. We were also the first in South Australia to launch a Reconciliation Action Plan, followed by a Stretch RAP.



The late Professor Denise Bradley AC set the tone for what UniSA was to be: unshackled by tradition, where optimism, industry connectivity and inclusion were foundational values. Her contribution to the University, to higher education more broadly and to aspiring female leaders around Australia is immeasurable. In her honour, the Bradley Building stands as a modern symbol of her legacy – a place for unstoppable people to learn, discover, create and explore.




Our scientists have developed the world's first blood test that can pinpoint a specific protein, providing a new biomarker for identifying mood disorders such as depression and bipolar.



Yett Soo War Way Lee was a Chinese rice miller, who against the backdrop of rising racism in Adelaide during the 19th century, introduced the idea of international trade with China. Fighting through two false criminal accusations that were mounted by anti-Chinese political forces, Way Lee became highly respected for his contribution to the state and is honoured at our City West Campus as namesake of the Way Lee Building.

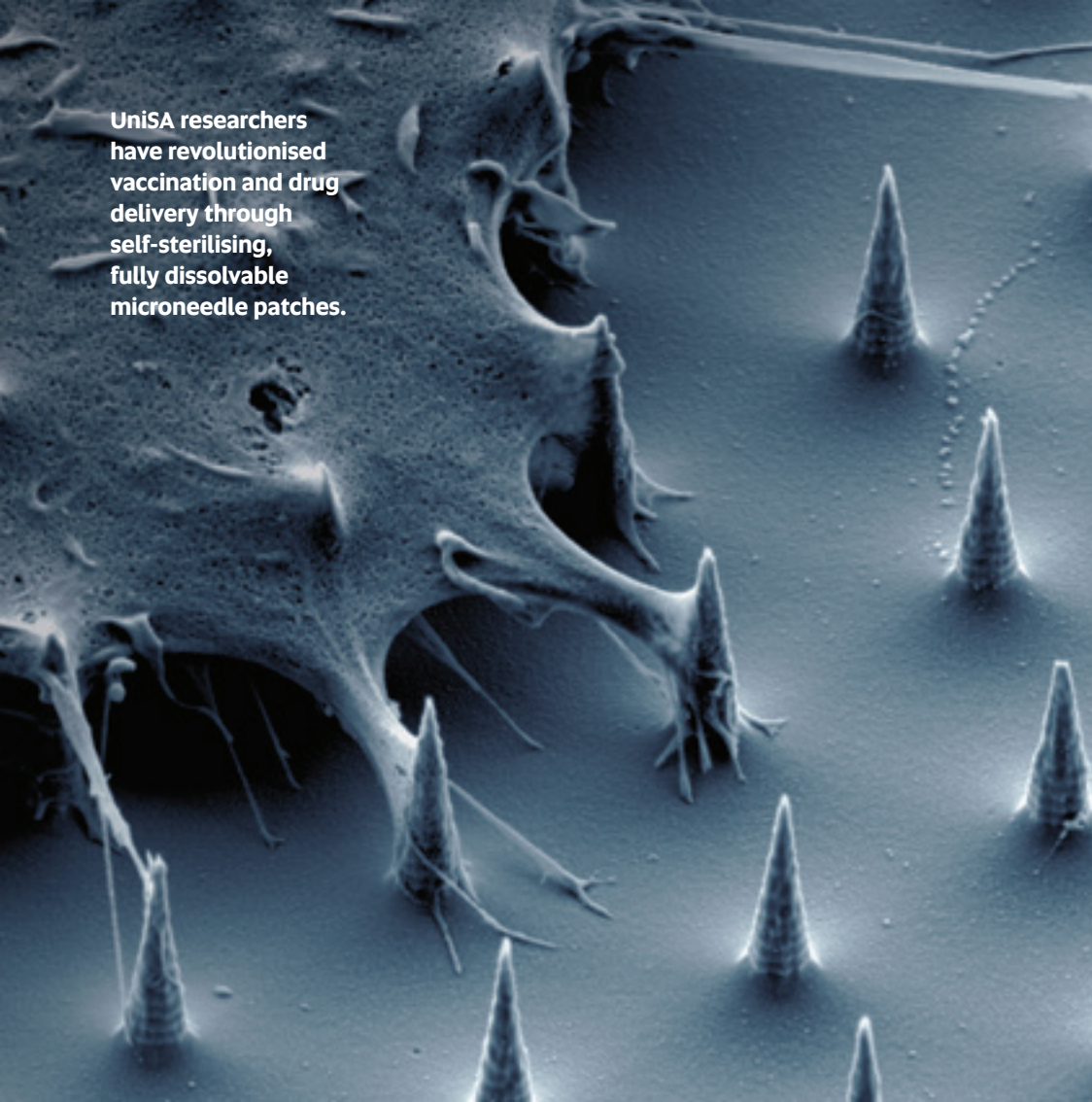
#1 in South Australia for graduate careers

ComparED (QILT) Graduate Outcomes Survey 2018-20 – Full-time Employment Indicator (Undergraduate). Public SA-founded universities only.



In 2017, we launched UniSA Online, giving our students the ultimate flexibility over their studies through 100% online degrees.

UniSA researchers have revolutionised vaccination and drug delivery through self-sterilising, fully dissolvable microneedle patches.



We're home to one of the largest augmented reality research and development facilities in the Southern Hemisphere – the Australian Research Centre for Interactive and Virtual Environments (IVE).

Under the current climate of escalating cyber attacks, UniSA has partnered with Optus to establish a Cyber Security Research and Collaboration Hub at Lot Fourteen, tasked with driving new innovations and helping to deliver the best education for Australia's next cybersecurity and data science professionals.



We're home to the Samsung SMARTSchool – one of Australia's most technologically advanced teacher training facilities.

37,000+
students

2020 figures

UniSA's Bradley Building is home to the
TALLEST digital billboard in Australia, located
on North Terrace in the Adelaide CBD.





Jeffrey Smart was an iconic painter, graduating from the former South Australian School of Art and known for his depictions of urban landscapes full of private jokes and playful allusions. He passed away at age 91, leaving behind an unprecedented legacy in the Australian art scene. Smart's unending quest for inspiration made him the perfect choice as the namesake of the \$85 million learning centre at City West Campus.





We back new startups through our



**INNOVATION &
COLLABORATION
CENTRE**


- Mentored 75+ startup companies
- Raised \$55+ million in funding
- Supported 140+ student internships

UniSA Business is the only business school in South Australia accredited by both AACSB International and EFMD (EQUIS) – the world's leading accreditation bodies.



*100% of our
assessed research
is rated at or above
world-class*

2018 Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA), 4-digit Fields of Research.



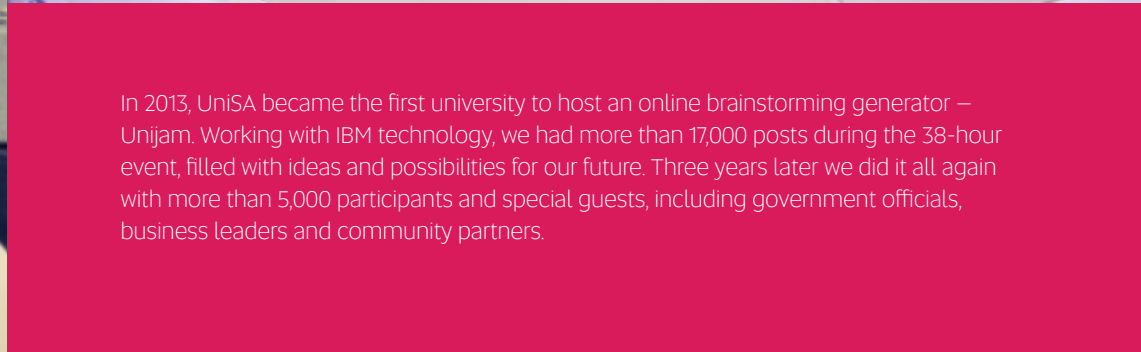
Did you know that UniSA facilitated the world's first Invictus Pathways Program? Inspired by Prince Harry's Invictus Games, this unique training program provides learning and placement opportunities for our health students as they explore how the power of sport can help wounded, injured and sick service personnel.



Research by our Ehrenberg-Bass Institute for Marketing Science was behind the South Australian Government's decision in 2009 to ban single-use plastic bags. Following the move, our researchers discovered that 80% of people supported it and changed their shopping behaviour.



Nelson Mandela was made an Honorary Doctor of UniSA in 1998 at a special ceremony at Fort Hare University, recognised for his achievements in progressing social justice. His close relationship with former Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, also saw Mandela accept an invitation to become International Patron of the Hawke Centre – a bond that we shared until his passing in 2013.



Brenton Ragless, Rebecca Morse, Sally Sara, Sabra Lane, Clive Mathieson, Michael Vincent, Lainie Anderson, Emma Rebellato, Helen McCabe, Phoebe Bowden and Matthew Doran. UniSA has been graduating some of Australia's finest journalists, editors, commentators and media personalities since 1973.

In 2013, UniSA became the first university to host an online brainstorming generator – Unijam. Working with IBM technology, we had more than 17,000 posts during the 38-hour event, filled with ideas and possibilities for our future. Three years later we did it all again with more than 5,000 participants and special guests, including government officials, business leaders and community partners.


***1 million+
placement hours***
*completed by our
health students
each year*

Our Mawson Lakes Campus boasts its own solar power research field and has more than 5,000 solar panels, generating approximately 2,500 megawatt-hours of electricity and reducing around 1,275 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions every year.






The Hawke Centre has been at the forefront of thought-provoking discussions for more than 20 years, featuring a long list of highly influential speakers. This includes, The Hon Julia Gillard AC, Professor Ross Garnaut AO, Dr Elizabeth Blackburn AC, along with the late Hon. Robert J Hawke AC, who hosted the inaugural lecture in 1998, where he explored the national ideal of a 'fair go', which seemed to be fading in the emerging politics of polarisation and division at the time.

A young man with short dark hair, wearing a red, white, and blue checkered button-down shirt, dark blue trousers, and brown leather shoes, is sitting on a teal velvet armchair. He is smiling and holding a thick book in his lap. The background features dark wood paneling and a staircase. A floor lamp with a white shade is visible behind him.

Since 2011, the UniSA Legal Advice Clinic has provided more than \$2 million of pro bono work, offering free and confidential advice on wills, power of attorney and personal injury matters.

A close-up, top-down view of a shatterproof mirror. The mirror is composed of several large, irregular, light blue plastic pieces held together by a network of black lines. The pieces are secured with metal brackets and screws at the corners and along the lines. The background is a dark grey surface.

Researchers from UniSA's Future Industries Institute, in partnership with SMR Automotive, produced the world's first shatterproof mirror made entirely out of plastic.

#1 in South Australia for student satisfaction

ComparED (QILT) Course Experience Questionnaire 2019-20 – Overall Satisfaction Indicator (Undergraduate). Public SA-founded universities only.



Researchers from our Centre for Workplace Excellence are leading the world's first observatory that will examine the value that employers place on psychological health. With almost half of the Australian workforce feeling like their workplaces are psychologically unhealthy, the research will focus on assessing the psychosocial safety climate of businesses with the aim of improving conditions.



In 2017, we awarded our first graduation parchment with a translation in braille.



Our staff, students and the wider community have access to General Practitioners on campus at City West and City East through the UniSA Health and Medical Clinics.



UniSA was the first in allied health education in South Australia with more than 50 years of experience in the field.



Better detection of invasive cancers is now possible through a new magnetometer probe, designed to be the same size as a ballpoint pen, thanks to our world-class researchers and medical device company, Ferronova.

#1 young university in Australia for industry collaborations

2020 THE Young University Rankings – Industry Income Indicator.



We've partnered with world-renowned VFX company, Rising Sun Pictures, to give our film and television students the opportunity to work alongside some of the best visual effects artists who have created sequences for blockbusters such as Thor: Ragnarok, Game of Thrones, X-Men, Mortal Kombat and the Harry Potter series.

PRIDHAM HALL

In 2016, the University received its single largest private donation from Australian investment banker and UniSA property alumni, Andrew Pridham, and his family. To acknowledge this historic contribution, our signature building was named Pridham Hall. Home to graduation ceremonies, sporting activities and events, this building has become our new heart. It's completed by a 25 metre underground lap pool.





We played host to Australia's
LONGEST gaming speedrun
marathon – a fast and furious
ride for 45 video game enthusiasts
from around the country.

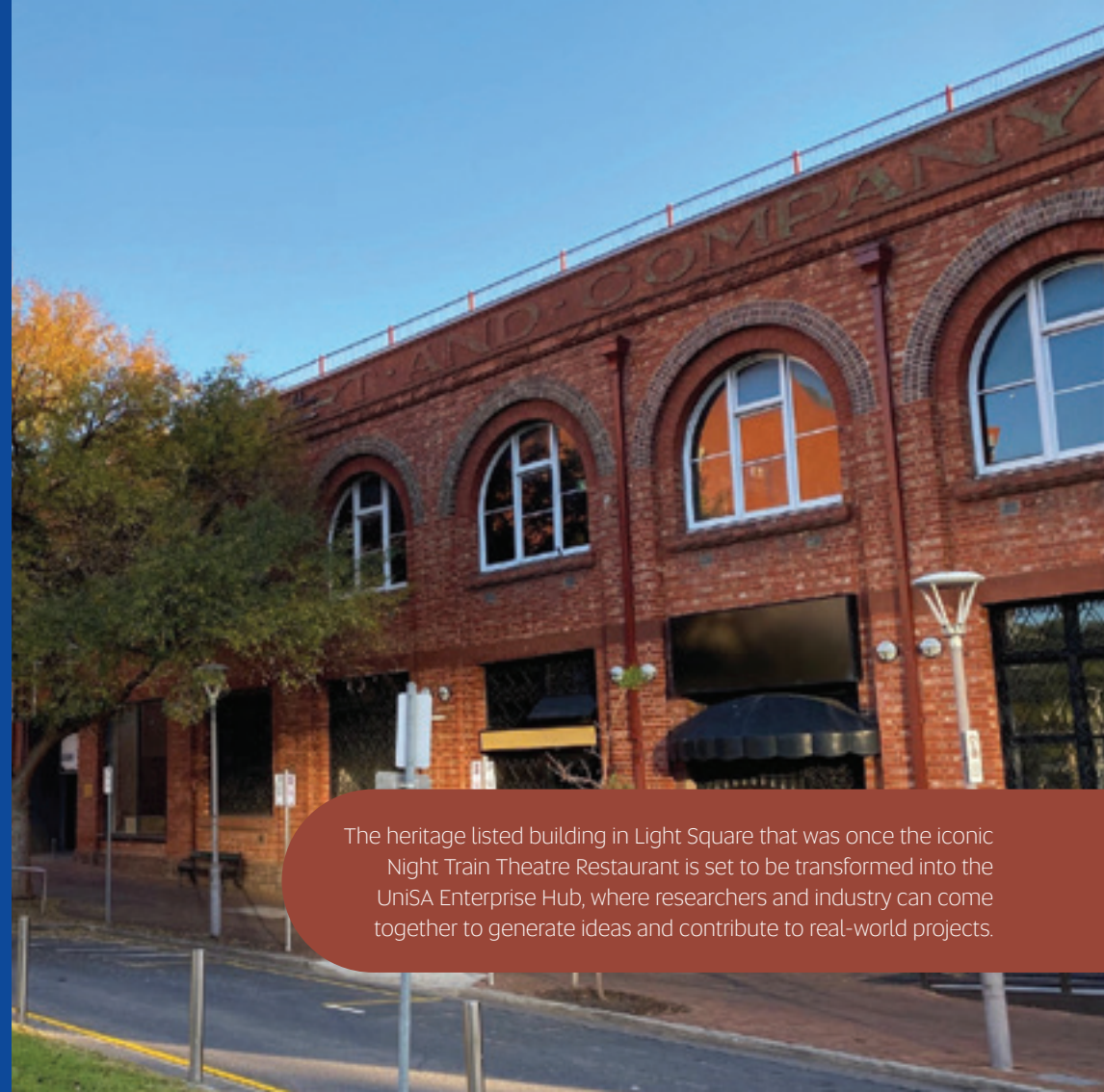


We're proud premier partners of the Adelaide Football Club –
a partnership of two South Australian brands, both focused on
reaching new heights in human performance. We've joined forces
to provide our students with placement and research opportunities
that will spearhead new discoveries in exercise science.



226,000+ alumni

2020 figures



The heritage listed building in Light Square that was once the iconic Night Train Theatre Restaurant is set to be transformed into the UniSA Enterprise Hub, where researchers and industry can come together to generate ideas and contribute to real-world projects.



One of Australia's most thought-provoking speakers and survivor of the 2005 London bombings, Gill Hicks AM BE FRSA, received an Honorary Doctorate for her continued mission to promote peace and counter violent extremism. She was the last living victim rescued after the attack, a symbol of true resilience and hope.



Equity and access to higher education is a cornerstone of our foundation and future. Our student community is the most diverse in South Australia, with the largest number students with a non-English speaking background, disability or low socio-economic status. We also have the largest cohort of regional and Aboriginal students, along with female students completing studies in non-traditional areas.

2019 Department of Education, Skills and Employment Data – Equity Groups



UNISA was the first tertiary provider of aviation education in Australia. Our future pilots train in a Boeing 737 Next Generation flight simulator equipped with the latest technologies to simulate real flying conditions located on campus.



American artist Gordon Samstag, a talented painter and lecturer at the former South Australian School of Art, made one of the greatest cultural bequests in this country – through the Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarships. These generous scholarships administered through the Samstag Museum of Art (located at City West Campus) have shaped the careers of a generation of Australian visual artists since 1993.

#1 in Australia for industry research income


2021 THE World University Rankings




A \$2 million high-tech Industry 4.0 Testlab has been established at Mawson Lakes Campus, providing a space for businesses and researchers to trial, explore and showcase new technologies, with a focus on advanced digitisation of manufacturing.



The University of South Australia was founded in 1991 through the amalgamation of the South Australian Institute of Technology and the Magill, Salisbury and Underdale campuses of the South Australian College of Advanced Education.



The UniSA Ally Network celebrates sexual and gender diversity. It's about building on our University culture so that all students, staff and visitors feel empowered to be who they are. The volunteers provide a presence and voice for our rainbow community, along with non-judgemental support services.



South Australia's rich architectural history is celebrated in the only museum of its kind in Australia based at City West Campus. Formed in the mid-1970s by architectural historian, Donald Leslie Johnson, the collection formed the first local repository of drawings, practice records, photos, slides, books and periodicals. In 1990, Donald donated the collection to UniSA.



World top 100 for nursing

2021 QS Subject Rankings



UniSA researchers are using machine-learning algorithms to demonstrate how your eyes may be an indicator of your personality type, simply by the way you move. Initial findings show that eye movements can tell whether people are sociable, conscientious or curious. The research delivers important insights for how we can make robots more natural and better at interpreting human social signals.



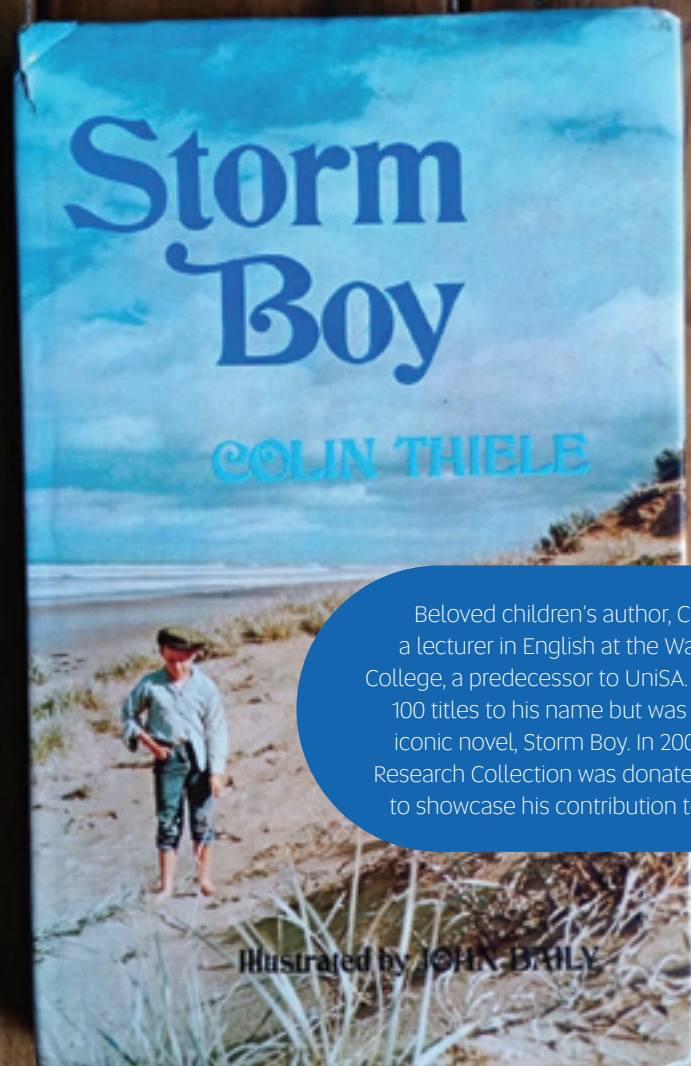
We've partnered with DXC Technology – one of the largest technology companies in the world – to offer our IT students six-month paid internships where they are mentored by industry experts and work on large-scale IT projects.

The dragonfly's 360-degree vision is the latest inspiration being applied to improve navigation cameras for driverless cars thanks to UniSA researchers. The next step is to use similar mathematical models to improve sound detection systems, including weaponised drones that are difficult to detect from long distances.





Over the years, there have been plenty of stories swirling about the ghosts of Murray House at Magill Campus. Of all the stories, it's the one of a little girl called May that spooks even the biggest of sceptics. An inquisitive child with blonde hair, she takes her place at the top of the stairs dressed in period finery and often surprises guests with her presence.



Beloved children's author, Colin Thiele AC, was a lecturer in English at the Wattle Park Teachers College, a predecessor to UniSA. He had more than 100 titles to his name but was best known for his iconic novel, Storm Boy. In 2000, the Colin Thiele Research Collection was donated to the University to showcase his contribution to children's fiction.



*For the first time in
the University's history,
we've been awarded
with a 5 Star Plus rating
for excellence by
Quacquarelli Symonds.*

2020 QS Stars Ratings




The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Library at City West Campus features a unique collection of research materials and memorabilia from Hawke's time before, during and after parliament. The Bob Hawke Collection started with a transfer of his private records from the National Archives of Australia to UniSA in 1997. The collection tripled, through 2018 and 2019, with an additional 370 boxes transferred from Hawke's office and home.


Archive image from the Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Library Collection.



Our engineering students teamed up with energy giant, Santos, to create the world's longest bike. It measured just over 41 metres, which is approximately twice the length of a bowling lane, officially making it into the Guinness World Records.

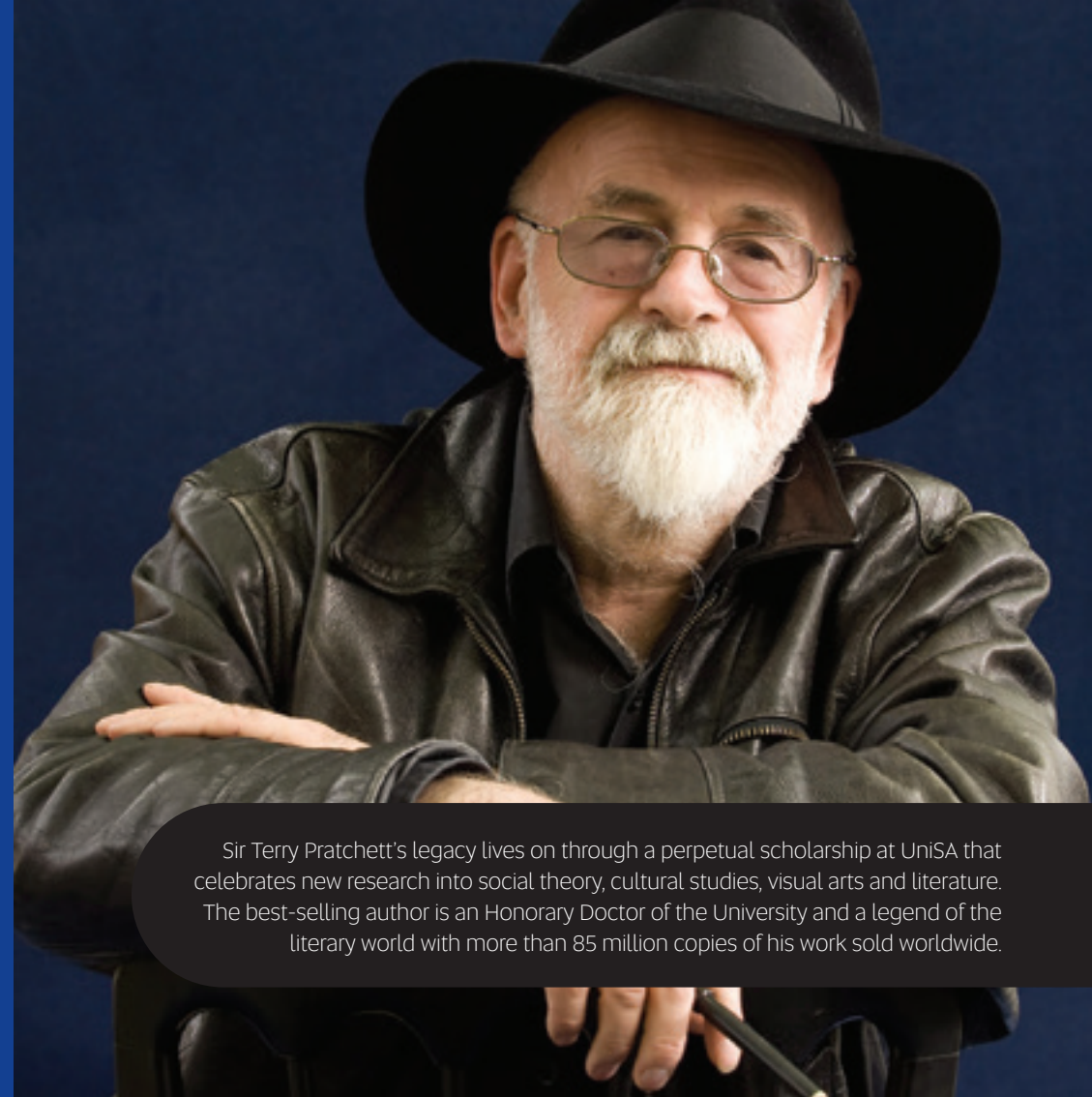
A portrait of Pauline Carr, a woman with short brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a red jacket over a black and white patterned top. The background is a light blue gradient.

In 2018, UniSA was proud to announce the appointment of our first female Chancellor, Pauline Carr – a powerhouse with more than 30 years of management and commercial experience in the resources industry across both Australian and internationally-listed companies.

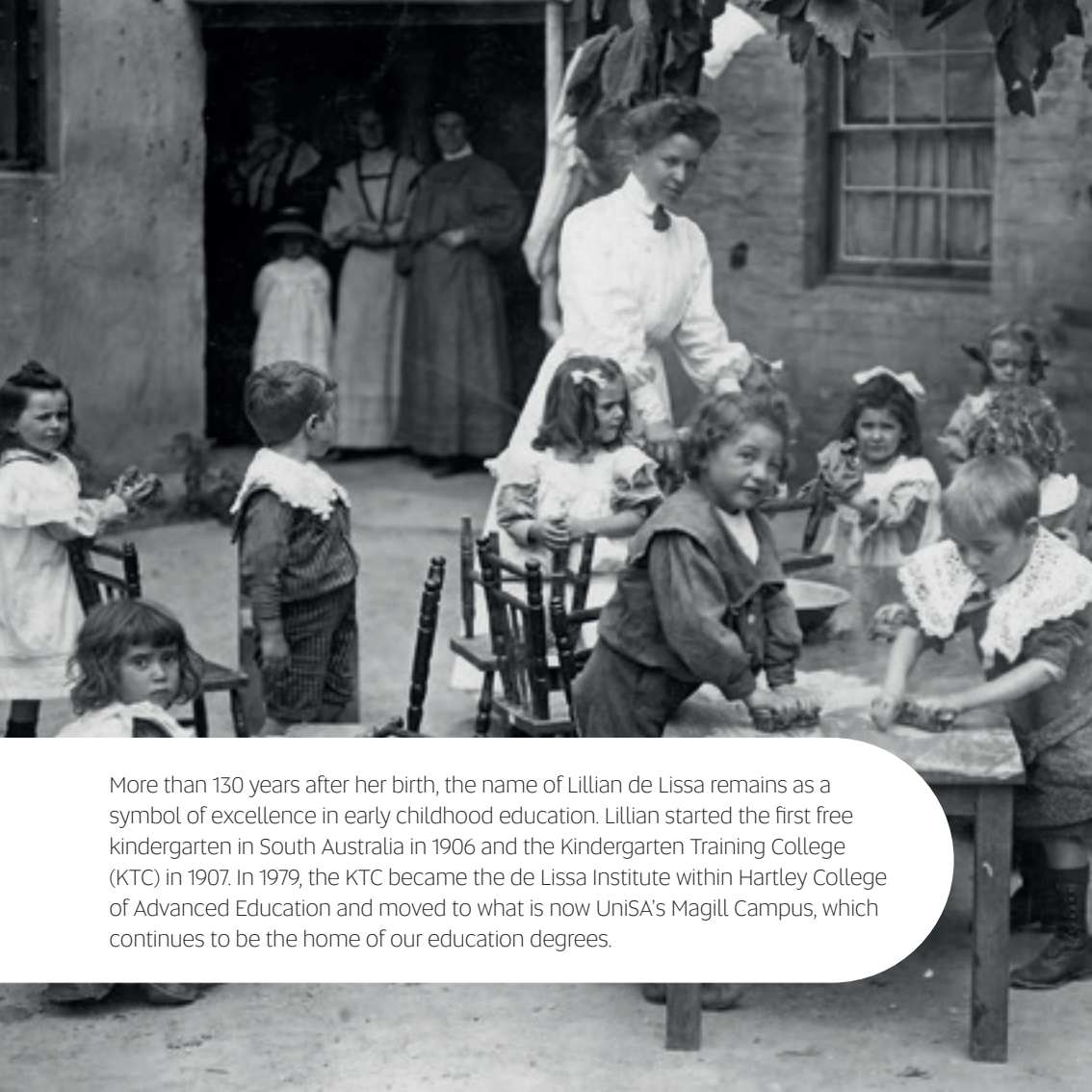
A 3D anatomical model of the human torso, focusing on the esophagus. The model is semi-transparent, showing internal organs and muscles. A red, textured 3D-printed stent is visible inside the esophagus, positioned near a red, irregular mass representing a tumor. The background is a warm, glowing orange and yellow gradient.

UniSA has developed the world's first 3D-printed oesophageal stents that will revolutionise the delivery of chemotherapy drugs for patients with oesophageal cancer.

*Collaborating
with 2,500+
companies
worldwide*



Sir Terry Pratchett's legacy lives on through a perpetual scholarship at UniSA that celebrates new research into social theory, cultural studies, visual arts and literature. The best-selling author is an Honorary Doctor of the University and a legend of the literary world with more than 85 million copies of his work sold worldwide.



More than 130 years after her birth, the name of Lillian de Lissa remains as a symbol of excellence in early childhood education. Lillian started the first free kindergarten in South Australia in 1906 and the Kindergarten Training College (KTC) in 1907. In 1979, the KTC became the de Lissa Institute within Hartley College of Advanced Education and moved to what is now UniSA's Magill Campus, which continues to be the home of our education degrees.



Our researchers led an international wastewater study to determine how prevalent party pills are in different parts of the world. Results showed that The Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand and the United States are consuming the highest amount of designer drugs from a sample of eight countries.



UniSA was the first South Australian university to develop a student learning space featuring a market data feed and financial analysis tools – the same technology used by the world's leading banks and investment firms.

Cutting-edge VR technology is helping aged care residents to improve their mental health. UniSA researchers are using virtual reality as a tool for 'reminiscence therapy', allowing seniors to immerse themselves in happier memories from the past.



#1 in SA for employer satisfaction

2020 QILT Employer Satisfaction Survey – Overall Satisfaction Indicator.



AFL legend Adam Goodes is a hero on and off the field, fighting against racism and empowering Aboriginal youth by creating opportunities for further education. Also, an Honorary Doctor of UniSA, his work will have a lasting impact for generations to come.



The man responsible for discovering the link between iodine deficiency and brain development was not only a highly regarded medical researcher, but also served as the University's Chancellor from 1992–1998. The late Hon Dr Basil Hetzel AC was fundamental in health campaigning across the world and his legacy now lives on through the Basil Hetzel Institute for Translational Health Research with a 'bench to bedside' approach to improving public health outcomes.




Through UniSA's Open Door Clinic, physiotherapy and podiatry students provide essential services to people experiencing homelessness, in partnership with The Salvation Army.



Established in 1962 as the South Australian Institute of Technology, UniSA's Whyalla Campus continues to serve the local and surrounding communities as the only university campus located in regional South Australia.



*Offering South Australia's only
bachelor degrees in pharmacy,
interior architecture, product
design, medical radiation
science, aviation, property,
ageing and disability,
film and television,
podiatry and journalism.*



AC/DC's iconic track, Thunderstruck, has been used by UniSA researchers to effectively coat cancer fighting drugs with a plasma polymer, designed to improve their efficacy. Playing the rock song through a loudspeaker causes microparticles to vibrate in a vacuum, creating a greater surface area for those particles to be given the all-important polymer overlay.



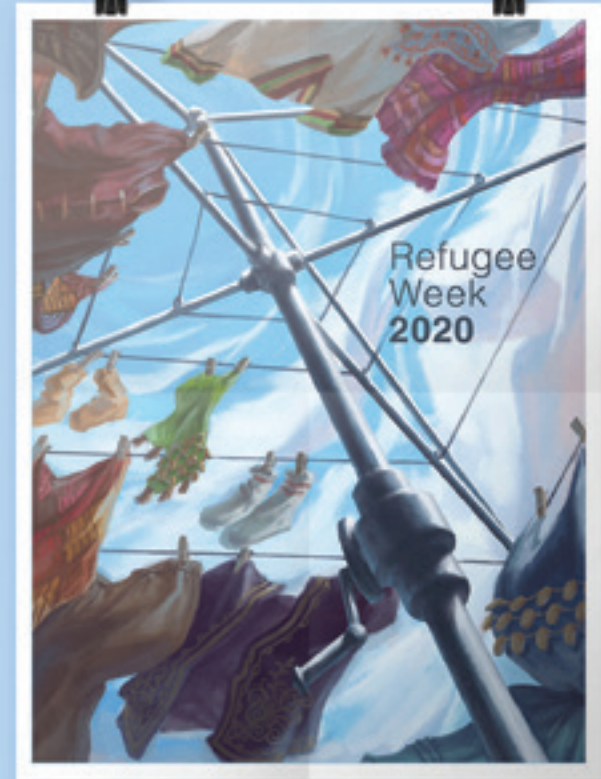
Broadcasting from our TV Studio at Magill Campus, our students work on national television programs like Our Time, The Divide and SA Sports Show, assisting with directing, lighting and stage management.



We lead one of world's largest student construction programs — offering architecture and design students hands-on experience producing buildings for local communities in Australia and overseas. Design Construct is also the longest program of its type in the nation.

The Fish River Aboriginal Ranger Accommodation Upgrade Project — Northern Territory.

In new insights for mental health, ground-breaking research from UniSA scientifically shows that the act of smiling can trick your mind into being more positive, simply by moving your facial muscles.



Home to the world's first Bachelor of Design program, established by Professor Emeritus Robert Miller-Smith in 1979 through the South Australian School of Art's Department of Design at Underdale.

Artwork by Kousuke Kuno, Bachelor of Design (Illustration and Animation).

We have the highest number of undergraduate students in South Australia who are the first in their family to attend university.

2021 Good Universities Guide



UniSA academics have combined icing sugar, chicken stock and flexible resin to create realistic foot ulcers as part of a world-first podiatric training initiative. The mixture is added to 3D printed feet to mimic infected diabetic foot wounds.



UniSA's award-winning Kaurina Building presents a transparent skin facing Hindley Street. This intentional design from John Wardle Architects is symbolic of our approach as an open and engaging institution. The 'explanatory' building features exposed elements, like service pipes and internal structures to show its inner workings, and is the perfect backdrop to help educate and inspire our architecture students.

GALLERY - 22 MARCH :: SASA GALLERY :: SCHOOL OF ART ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

Photo: Sam Noonan



UniSA has its very own Department of Rural Health, funded by the Commonwealth Government, which facilitates nursing and allied health placements across rural South Australia. Celebrating its 10th year, the initiative has supported thousands of student placements with many gaining direct employment after graduation to support our regional health network.

Providing alternative pathways
into university study, with a
focus on equity and access
to higher education for all.



30 research institutes and concentrations




Combining expertise in human factors, industrial design and anthropometrics, UniSA researchers have partnered with the defence industry to provide new design methodologies for sleeping berths and cabin concepts that will improve living conditions for future submarine crews.


We're getting one step closer to understanding the mysterious existence of octopuses through a new Tamagotchi-inspired app created by UniSA researchers. The team posed as avatars to help develop the game so users could get a simulated experience raising their own virtual octopus.



UniSA's world-first 'research-action' model has led to major reforms within Australia's child protection system. Over the past 15 years, the Australian Centre for Child Protection has pioneered an evidence-based approach that brings together research, policy and practice to transform the lives of vulnerable young people at the national level.



Australians know the devastating effects of bushfires all too well, so UniSA partnered with the Country Fire Service to create a virtual reality headset that immerses users into a computer-generated bushfire scenario to help them better prepare for a real-life evacuation.



*500+ international
research collaborations
across 45 countries*

Images of Research 2020, Porphyrin, Todd Gillam.



Here's an interesting fact: the colourful carpet in the foyer of the Piazza at our Mount Gambier Campus was handmade in England and is an abstract representation of the Limestone Coast.



Did you know that GPS tracking devices developed by UniSA are being used to monitor the fatigue of fast bowlers through an initiative with the South Australian Cricket Association? Their delivery generates a force that is up to nine times their body weight and often results in injury. For the first time, this technology is providing scientific insight into the signs of player fatigue.

Every year, our PhD students
can compete in our Three Minute
Thesis competition – summarising
80,000 words in just three minutes.



We've got some very inspiring alumni.

Tirana Hassan (*Deputy Executive Director and Chief Programs Officer at Human Rights Watch*);
Mike Burgess (*The Director General of ASIO*);
Senator The Hon Penny Wong (*political heavyweight*);
Glenn Cooper AM (*Chairman of Coopers Brewery*);
Angelica Cheung (*Founding Editor-in-Chief of Vogue China and Venture Partner at Sequoia Capital*); and
Professor Tom Calma AO (*Co-Chair Reconciliation Australia and Chancellor of the University of Canberra*).

Just to name a few.





University of South Australia

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Make an enquiry: ***unisa.edu.au/enquire***



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