



University of  
South Australia

# 2024 Annual Review





Hon Susan Close MP  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science  
Level 13, 200 Victoria Square  
Adelaide SA 5000  
30 June 2025

Dear Minister,

In accordance with the requirements of regulations under Part 4, Section 18 – Annual Report of the *University of South Australia Act 1990*, it gives me great pleasure to submit for your information and presentation to Parliament the University of South Australia 2024 Annual Review and Financial Statements, for the year ending 31 December 2024.

The University Council approved the Annual Review and the Financial Statements at its meeting on 6 May 2025.

Yours sincerely,



Hon John Hill  
Chancellor

#### Your feedback

We welcome any comments or suggestions on the content or layout of this report. Please contact the Senior Manager, Corporate Communications on:

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Email: [megan.andrews@unisa.edu.au](mailto:megan.andrews@unisa.edu.au)

#### Further information

This report, as well as past annual reports, are available on our website [unisa.edu.au/publications](http://unisa.edu.au/publications)

For hard copies of this report write to:

Reception  
Chancellery  
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GPO Box 2471, Adelaide South Australia 5001



#### Acknowledgement of Country

UniSA respects the Kaurna, Boandik and Barngarla peoples' spiritual relationship with their country.

Artist: Ngupulya Pumani

Find out more about the University's commitment to reconciliation at [unisa.edu.au/RAP](http://unisa.edu.au/RAP)





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# Chancellor's report



2024 was an incredible year for UniSA, as we forged ahead in our transformative journey to becoming Adelaide University, in collaboration with our colleagues at the University of Adelaide.

Since stepping into the role of Chancellor in May, I've engaged in many discussions with our teams across UniSA and there is certainly a sense of excitement, but also immense pride in all that UniSA has built and achieved, which we look forward to continuing to celebrate and carry into the new institution.

The formation of the Transition Council saw our former chancellor, Pauline Carr, step down from UniSA to lead that charge – and I thank Pauline for her magnificent contribution as chancellor over the past six years. From academic transformation to pandemic to a new university, Pauline led with a calm head and strong heart, and I know she will deliver the same excellent governance at Adelaide University.

My role as the final chancellor of UniSA has been focussed on recognising and celebrating all that UniSA stands for and ensuring that the needs and interests of our students and staff are prioritised for a smooth transition.

Creating a new university which aims to be in the top one percent in the world is no small feat. I'm proud of the effort and work put in by our staff who have contributed to the significant milestones on our journey to Adelaide University.

Alongside acknowledging the milestones associated with building Adelaide University it is also worth noting the great successes UniSA has achieved in our own right.

In 2024, UniSA was once again named Australia's top young university and ranked #43 globally in the Times Higher Education Young University rankings. In the Academic Ranking of World Universities, we improved or maintained our ranking in all but one subject, climbing into the top 50 for hospitality and management, and the top 100 for education, and mining and mineral engineering.

We continue to be number one in South Australia for graduate careers and teaching quality, and we were named in the top 5 in Australia for research quality—a testament to the impact of our teaching and research on both a national and global scale.

2024 also saw expanded industry partnerships, and our people won impressive state and national awards.

All this has only happened through the ongoing dedication and “unstoppable” nature of our staff, both professional and academic. Even amidst the challenges that come with merging two large-scale institutions, I am inspired by their commitment in our penultimate year of UniSA.

I'd especially like to thank members of Council, the Enterprise Leadership Team and our Vice Chancellor and President, Professor David Lloyd for their expert guidance and their leadership as we navigate this once-in-a-generation opportunity for higher education and the state of South Australia.

As we look ahead, we know that 2025 will be our final year as UniSA, but it will not be the end.

Our legacy will continue through our people and our values as they flow into Adelaide University. And, just as the people of our antecedent institutions have shaped who UniSA is today, I'm confident we too will play a defining role in Adelaide University.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John Hill', written in a cursive style.

Hon John Hill  
Chancellor



# Vice Chancellor's report



This year, 2024, has been another milestone year for UniSA. As we continued business-as-usual as one of the world's top young universities and the number one in the state for student equity and graduate careers, our work to bring the new Adelaide University to the world ramped up.

In March 2024 Adelaide University was formally established with the formation of the Transition Council and by April the strategic direction was set with the release of the *Strategic Ambition and Direction 2024-2034* document. Critical regulatory milestones for Adelaide University were achieved throughout May and June ahead of the new institution's public launch in July.

Meanwhile at UniSA we welcomed the Honourable John Hill into the position of Chancellor in May, farewelling Pauline Carr after almost five and a half years, as she took up the position of Transition Chancellor of Adelaide University.

While of course these milestones and changes were impactful, we continued to stay true to our enterprising ethos, working with energy and dedication, demonstrating our unstoppable nature.

Our commitment to the betterment of society propelled our involvement in major projects in the state, which included opening a new advanced manufacturing facility alongside launching four new space projects totalling over \$18m under the iLAUNCH program, progression of the much anticipated \$90m South Australian Sports Institute (SASI) and announcing the new Forestry Centre of Excellence in Mount Gambier.

We also forged ahead with expanding student access to higher education, launching UniStart, a 100% fee-free online pathway program. UniStart will support university access to a wider cohort of prospective students and will ensure we continue to lead the way as the state's most diverse university.

We continued to shape our teaching and facilities in response to industry need, welcoming our first cohort of software engineering degree apprentices in collaboration with major defence employers BAE Systems, ASC and Consunet. In Whyalla we unveiled refurbished facilities in preparation for students enrolling in new allied health programs offered at the campus to support the state government's *Rural Allied and Scientific Health Workforce Plan 2021-2026* which aims to address health workforce shortages in regional areas.

2024 also saw the significant milestone of graduating our 200,000th student in April, Emily Wilson, with a Bachelor of Psychology (Cognitive Neuroscience) followed just a few months later by our last ever UniSA open days, supported by our faithful 'blue army' of volunteer staff and students.

As we look to 2025, our last year as the University of South Australia, there will be many more moments of finality, however, with these will come opportunities for reflection on just how far we have come as Australia's University of Enterprise.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "David Lloyd".

Professor David Lloyd  
**Vice Chancellor and President**



# 2024 at a glance



34,087

**STUDENTS**

**7216** low SES domestic

**6251** aged 21 and under  
(commencing undergraduate)

**3729** mature-aged learners  
(commencing undergraduate)



7

**ACADEMIC UNITS**

UniSA Allied Health & Human Performance  
UniSA Business  
UniSA Clinical & Health Sciences  
UniSA Creative  
UniSA Education Futures  
UniSA Justice & Society  
UniSA STEM



6

**CAMPUSES**

City East  
City West  
Magill  
Mawson Lakes  
Mount Gambier  
Whyalla



6267

**INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENTS**



6198

**INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENTS ONSHORE**



81

**STUDENT EXCHANGE  
PARTNER INSTITUTIONS**



2987\*

**STAFF POPULATION**

\*Actual headcount



254,582

**UNIVERSITY ALUMNI**



7827

**PARCHMENTS AWARDED**



# Key statistics

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,966</b>	<b>33,813</b>	<b>35,330</b>	<b>37,941</b>	<b>37,873</b>	<b>36,375</b>	<b>34,878</b>	<b>34,087</b>
Commencing	12,484	14,073	14,370	15,590	14,407	13,875	13,349	13,120
<b>STUDENT LOAD (EFTSL)*</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,142</b>	<b>22,976</b>	<b>24,406</b>	<b>25,768</b>	<b>24,850</b>	<b>23,211</b>	<b>22,511</b>	<b>22,744</b>
Undergraduate	18,557	19,157	20,158	21,340	21,229	19,678	18,307	18,485
Postgraduate	3585	3819	4248	4428	3620	3533	4204	4259
<b>STUDENT LOAD BY FUNDING SOURCE (EFTSL)</b>								
Commonwealth Grant Scheme	17,119	17,607	18,333	19,502	19,933	18,184	16,851	16,916
Commonwealth Research Training Scheme	500	464	475	482	466	456	438	413
Domestic fee paying	437	422	394	451	410	442	477	474
International onshore	3933	4312	5021	5134	3880	4034	4678	4896
Transnational	148	164	177	194	157	95	64	39
<b>AWARD COMPLETIONS</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>7378</b>	<b>7180</b>	<b>6986</b>	<b>7336</b>	<b>7537</b>	<b>7351</b>	<b>7161</b>	<b>7827</b>
Undergraduate	5208	4973	4754	5008	5149	5386	4984	5283
Postgraduate	2170	2207	2232	2328	2388	1973	2177	2562
<b>STAFF (FTE)</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>2595</b>	<b>2642</b>	<b>2675</b>	<b>2740</b>	<b>2598</b>	<b>2650</b>	<b>2723</b>	<b>2775</b>
Academic	1122	1131	1143	1161	1174	1186	1203	1222
Professional	1473	1511	1532	1579	1424	1464	1520	1553
<b>FINANCIALS</b>								
Consolidated operating result (\$M)	13.2	19.5	21.3	21.3	53.3	-7.7	-17.1	-42.8
Safety margin	2.2%	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	7.8%	-1.2%	-2.4%	-5.3%
Net assets (\$M)	1188.8	1209.2	1250.2	1282.9	1382.7	1477.2	1461.8	1421.3
Total assets (\$M)	1786.7	1796.4	1906.0	1924.5	1971.0	2016.7	2054.3	2025.4
Total revenue (\$M)	610.8	658.5	685.7	696.4	678.8	667.5	715.5	803.9

## Notes:

\*Student load by funding source.

Load is expressed as Equivalent Full Time Student Load (EFTSL).

Staff figures are full-time equivalent positions of full-time and part-time continuing and fixed term staff as at 31 March 2023.

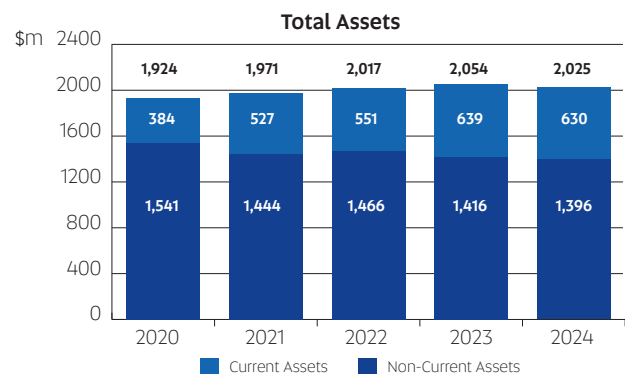
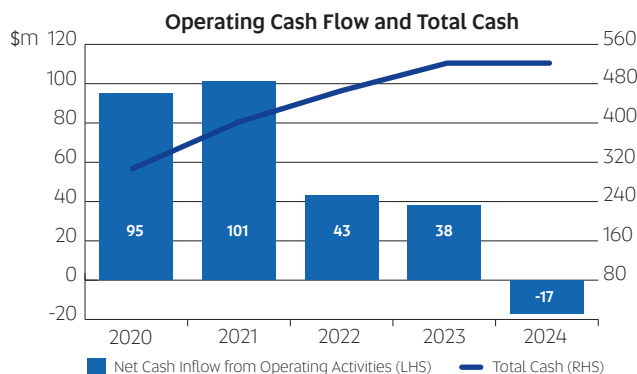
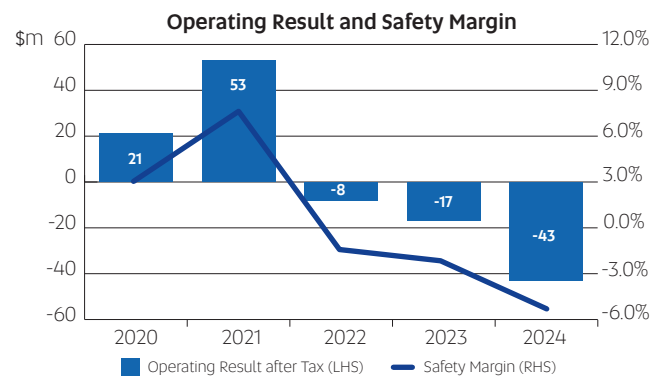
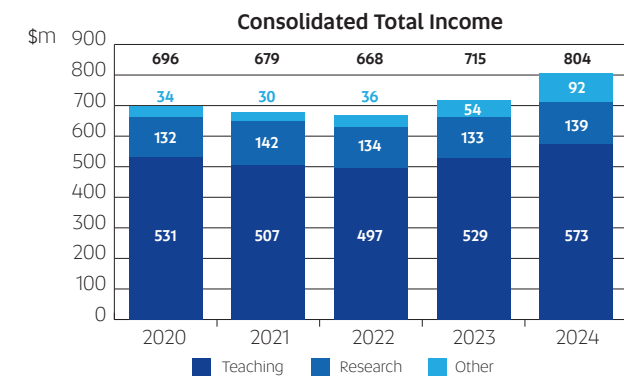
2023 student data as at 3 April 2024.



# Financial overview

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	\$M	\$M	\$M	\$M
<b>SUMMARY STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>				
<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>803.9</b>	<b>715.5</b>	<b>801.5</b>	<b>713.8</b>
Employee Related Expenses	475.7	461.6	473.8	460.3
Non-salary Expenses	371.0	271.0	370.6	270.4
<b>Operating Expenses (incl. Income Tax)</b>	<b>846.7</b>	<b>732.6</b>	<b>844.5</b>	<b>730.7</b>
<b>Operating Result after Income Tax</b>	<b>(42.8)</b>	<b>(17.1)</b>	<b>(43.0)</b>	<b>(16.9)</b>
Safety Margin <sup>1</sup>	(5.3%)	(2.4%)	(5.4%)	(2.4%)
<b>SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION</b>				
Current Assets	629.6	638.7	628.2	637.4
Non-current Assets	1,395.8	1,415.6	1,396.6	1,416.7
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,025.4</b>	<b>2,054.3</b>	<b>2,024.8</b>	<b>2,054.1</b>
Current Liabilities	294.8	268.5	294.2	268.3
Non-current Liabilities	309.3	324.0	309.3	324.0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>604.1</b>	<b>592.5</b>	<b>603.5</b>	<b>592.3</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>1,421.3</b>	<b>1,461.8</b>	<b>1,421.3</b>	<b>1,461.8</b>
<b>SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</b>				
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(16.7)	38.3	(16.5)	38.7
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	18.0	39.2	17.7	39.3

<sup>1</sup> Safety Margin: Operating Result after Income Tax ÷ Operating Income



# Financial summary

In 2024, the University of South Australia reported an operating deficit of \$42.8 million (-5.3% of Operating Income), primarily driven by \$74.5 million of integration costs for the creation of Adelaide University. Excluding the integration costs the operating result would translate to an operating surplus of \$31.7 million.

The establishment of Adelaide University has progressed following the passage of the Adelaide University Act, proclaimed on 14 December 2023. Adelaide University was legally established on 8 March 2024, with a Transition Council appointed as its governing body.

At the University of South Australia, international student enrolments increased in 2024, however, changes in Commonwealth Government migration policies and visa processing delays contributed to a decline in new enrolments. Domestic enrolments continue to be impacted by Australia's strong economy and historically low unemployment with total enrolments similar to 2023 levels.

Consolidated Operating Income increased by \$88.4 million to \$803.9 million (2023: \$715.5 million). Teaching Income increased by \$44.1 million or 8% mostly due to 7.8% indexation in Commonwealth funding and steady Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) (2024: 16,955 EFTSL; 2023: 16,893 EFTSL). Income from Fee-Paying Overseas Students (FPOS) increased by 10% to \$155.1 million (2023: \$140.7 million) benefiting from strong 2023 enrolments continuing studies in 2024. Research Income increased by 5% (\$6.7 million) due to increased activity and new grant funding.

Operating expenditure increased by 15.6% to \$846.7 million in 2024 (2023: \$732.6 million), mostly due to \$74.5m integration costs associated with establishing Adelaide University. Integration costs of \$7.1 million were incurred prior to the establishment of Adelaide University on 8 March 2024 and \$67.4 million subsequently.

The consolidated financial position remains strong, with Net Assets decreasing by \$40.5 million or 2.8% to \$1.4 billion mainly due to the \$42.8 million deficit Operating Result for 2024. Total Cash decreased by \$2.3 million to \$524.3 million as at 31 December 2024 (2023: \$526.6 million), which included \$50 million from the sale of surplus land at Mawson Lakes. The University of South Australia contributed \$25 million—50% of the proceeds from the sale of surplus land at the Mawson Lakes Campus— to The University of Adelaide to support integration costs.





## 2024 in short

### Online learning gold

For the 17th year in a row UniSA was again ranked in the Graduate Outcomes Survey as South Australia's number one university for graduate careers. In the Times Higher Education (THE) Young University rankings we jumped almost ten places from number 52 to number 43 and held our number one ranking for industry income and collaborations. In the QS World University Sustainability Rankings we held our number one for equality and social impact, and rose seven places to be ranked number 65 globally for equality.

For the first time, the THE measured successful online learning, with UniSA being the only Australian university to be awarded gold status, making us one of the best universities in the world for online learning.

### New SASI facility

The nearly \$90 million South Australian Sport Institute (SASI) facility at Mile End commenced operations in early October 2024, with the build designed to give South Australian and SA-based athletes a competitive edge.

The Government invested \$68 million towards the development, which provides a world-class sport, research and education hub to high performance athletes, coaches and university students, with UniSA contributing a further \$20 million for capital costs.

The building will also be home to the UniSA Sports Science Hub on the second floor, with high performance sport science laboratories and teaching spaces for students undertaking a range of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, and the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, which was instrumental in the design and building process, alongside COX Architecture and Hansen Yuncken.

### Adelaide University launched

The new Adelaide University launched on 15 July, showcasing a transformative approach to education with an initial suite of approximately 200 coursework programs ahead of doors opening in January 2026.

Co-created by the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia, Adelaide University represents one of the most significant transformations in Australian higher education.

More than 3000 staff from UniSA and the University of Adelaide came together for the landmark launch event at the Adelaide Convention Centre to celebrate the achievements and legacies of their current institutions and the new chapter ahead.

Adelaide University is set to become a global leader in education, research, and innovation, with an unwavering commitment to excellence and impact.





## What the ratings agencies say about UniSA



### ONE OF THE WORLD'S TOP YOUNG UNIVERSITIES

Ranked #43, 2024 THE Young University Rankings.



### OVERALL FIVE STAR PLUS RATING FOR EXCELLENCE

2023 QS Stars Ratings.



### #1 IN SA FOR GRADUATE CAREERS 17 YEARS RUNNING

Graduate Destinations Survey 2007–2015 and Graduate Outcomes Survey 2016–2023 (Domestic Undergraduate Full-time Employment Indicator for SA public universities).



### TOP 5 IN AUSTRALIA FOR FIRST GENERATION STUDENTS

Ranked #5, 2024 Good Universities Guide.



### #1 IN SA FOR EQUALITY

2025 QS World University Sustainability Rankings.



### #1 IN SA FOR SOCIAL IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELLBEING

2025 QS World University Sustainability Rankings.



### #1 YOUNG UNIVERSITY IN AUSTRALIA FOR INDUSTRY COLLABORATIONS

2024 THE Young University Rankings – Industry Income Indicator.



### TOP 5 YOUNG UNIVERSITY IN AUSTRALIA FOR RESEARCH QUALITY

Ranked #4, 2024 THE Young University Rankings.





# Adelaide University: A bold vision for the future

The creation of Adelaide University represents one of the most significant transformations in Australian higher education. Building on the rich legacies of the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia, this new institution is set to become a global leader in education, research, and innovation, with an unwavering commitment to excellence and impact.

## A vision for Adelaide University

Adelaide University aspires to be a world-class institution, sustainably ranked in the top 1% of universities globally, securing its place as a leader in both education and research. It will be an innovation hub, driving economic growth through strong industry partnerships that align education and research with key sectors such as defence, sustainable energy, food production, health sciences and creative industries. By fostering job creation and workforce development, the University will play a critical role in economic transformation and strengthened social cohesion.

Sustainability will be at the core of its operations, with a commitment to embedding environmental responsibility across curricula, research, and institutional practices. The University will also cultivate a dynamic and inclusive campus culture, underpinned by a deep respect for Aboriginal knowledge and culture. With a strong focus on accessibility, it will provide new scholarships and initiatives that improve participation for people experiencing barriers to participation, including First Nations Peoples, first-generation students, and those from rural and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Adelaide University is dedicated to transformative education, offering a flexible and diverse learning environment with expanded electives, modular and stackable curricula, and digital learning options. Students will have the ability to fast-track degrees, study part-time, or engage in fully online programs. Undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students will have the opportunity to access a work integrated learning experience, such as placements, projects, field expeditions, and virtual simulations, which draw on over 7,000 industry partnerships, ensuring career readiness and real-world application.

The University's research agenda will be future-focused, designed to deliver not just academic discovery but tangible societal impact. Strengthening collaborations with industry, government, and global institutions, Adelaide University will drive innovation and contribute to social and economic prosperity. Common core courses will foster interdisciplinary learning and critical thinking, reinforcing a sense of belonging among students while equipping them with the skills to thrive in an evolving world.

With the largest campus footprint in South Australia, students will benefit from state-of-the-art facilities, extensive digital learning tools, and a globally connected alumni network of more than 400,000, spanning 150 countries. Adelaide University is not just creating an institution; it is building a transformative force in higher education—one that empowers students, advances research, and strengthens communities for generations to come.

### Achievements to date

Since the decision to establish Adelaide University, enormous progress has been made towards delivering its vision. A collaborative and consultative approach has ensured a strong foundation for the transition, with key achievements including:

#### Formal establishment and governance framework

In March 2024, Adelaide University was formally established, marking the beginning of a new era in tertiary education. The formation of the Transition Council and the appointment by the foundation universities of the founding co-Vice Chancellors set the governance framework to lead this significant undertaking, ensuring strong strategic and operational oversight.

### Strategic vision and direction

In April, the University released its Strategic Ambition and Direction 2024-2034 document 'A new for purpose university – for a better Australia', outlining a long-term vision focused on world-class education, research excellence, and community engagement. This framework has guided the University's approach and reinforced its commitment to innovation and accessibility.

### Regulatory milestones

May saw a crucial regulatory milestone, when TEQSA registered Adelaide University as a higher education provider in Australia. This was followed by CRICOS approval in June, allowing international students to enrol and engage with the University.

### Public launch and market engagement

In July, Adelaide University was officially introduced to prospective students, industry partners, and the wider public. International applications for the first subset of programs opened that same month, reflecting strong global interest in the institution's offerings.

### Leadership appointments

Building a university of this scale requires strong leadership. In March the foundation universities appointed the founding co-Vice Chancellors Professor David Lloyd and Professor Peter Høj AC, establishing the leadership and operational framework for Adelaide University. In September, Deputy Vice-Chancellors (DVCs) were appointed as foundational leaders to shape strategic priorities and institutional culture. Their appointments were followed in December by the selection of College Pro Vice-Chancellors (PVCs), ensuring a dynamic and experienced leadership team is in place.

### Academic excellence and curriculum development

In November, the first new courses for Adelaide University were approved, setting the stage for an innovative curriculum aligned with contemporary workforce needs. Simultaneously, the Staff Transition Framework was released, providing a structured approach to integrating staff from the foundation universities.

### Workforce transition and stability

December marked another historic moment, as the Governor of South Australia issued a proclamation confirming the transfer of staff employment to Adelaide University. This transition reflects a commitment to stability and continuity for the University's academic and professional staff while fostering a cohesive and unified community.

This ambitious journey is not driven by necessity but by the opportunity to deliver more for our State through the amalgamation of two established, highly regarded and well-functioning institutions and deliver outcomes greater than the sum of its parts. With a strong leadership team, a clear strategic vision, and unwavering community support, Adelaide University is poised to become a leading global institution that empowers generations to come.





# PROGRAMS

## The first step towards a successful career

As the University for South Australians, and Australia's University of Enterprise, we developed a strategic plan that brings together the best of our education and research to shape business and community prosperity in South Australia and beyond.

Across our seven Academic Units – UniSA Allied Health & Human Performance; UniSA Business; UniSA Clinical & Health Sciences; UniSA Creative; UniSA Education Futures; UniSA Justice & Society; and UniSA STEM – our programs are informed by research and our industry partners to ensure that our graduates are prepared for careers of the future.



# UniSA Allied Health & Human Performance



## NEW INSIGHTS ON LOW BACK PAIN RECOVERY

A study led by researchers at UniSA revealed new insights for people suffering from low back pain. While most cases recover, especially within the first six weeks, it was found that recovery becomes slower and less likely if the pain lasts more than a few months.

Through a systematic review of 95 studies, the researchers examined acute, subacute, and persistent low back pain. They found that many individuals with persistent pain (lasting over 12 weeks) continue to experience moderate to high levels of discomfort and disability.

Professor Lorimer Moseley, who led the research, highlighted that back pain can persist even after an initial injury has healed. He explains, "In these situations, back pain is associated with pain system hypersensitivity, not ongoing back injury. This suggests that for those with chronic back pain new treatment approaches, such as training both the brain and body, may be needed."



**WORLD TOP 100 FOR EXERCISE AND SPORT SCIENCE**

*2023 QS Subject Rankings, Sport-Related Subjects.*



## Study shows potential in wearable activity trackers for disease detection

Wearable activity trackers, like Fitbit and Apple Watch, may be capable of detecting early signs of disease, including atrial fibrillation and COVID-19, according to research from UniSA.

Our researchers conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of 28 studies involving 1.2 million participants to assess the reliability of these consumer-grade devices. The findings indicated that these trackers could accurately identify COVID-19 status in 88% of cases, atrial fibrillation in 87%, and falls in 82%.

Lead researcher, Dr Ben Singh, notes the potential of these devices to revolutionise health monitoring: "As healthcare budgets continue to soar, the need for cost-effective interventions has never been more urgent."

He emphasises that wearable trackers empower individuals to manage their health proactively, enabling real-time detection of health issues.

Co-researcher Professor Carol Maher says that while these devices provide valuable health data, their full potential is yet to be realised: "Their application needs to encompass a greater number of health conditions and demonstrate greater results across diverse populations before they can be considered for clinical practice."



### Unique injury challenges revealed in female football players

A UniSA study revealed distinct injury patterns in female football players in the South Australian National Football League Women's (SANFLW) competition compared to their male counterparts, underscoring the need for tailored training and injury prevention strategies.

The findings, published in the *Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport*, show that ankle sprains, concussions, and anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries are the most prevalent, resulting in significant missed matches. Researchers tracked 424 players over a season, discovering that female athletes are at a higher risk for concussions and ACL injuries than male players.

Dr Hunter Bennett, a researcher in Exercise and Sport Science, emphasises the importance of implementing targeted prevention strategies. "There should be a focus on neck muscle training to reduce whiplash concussions, as well as tackling technique training to minimise contact injuries," he advises.

Co-author, Dr Samuel Chalmers, notes that the congested nature of female games leads to a higher rate of contact injuries. "Injury prevention strategies that focus on tackling, falling, and landing techniques could help reduce these injuries," he suggests. Understanding these unique challenges is vital for developing effective prevention methods for female players.

### Just eight minutes a week boosts flexibility

Flexibility doesn't require lengthy sessions; just eight minutes per week can lead to significant progress, as revealed by researchers at UniSA. The study found that holding a stretch for up to three minutes at a time—totalling eight minutes across the week—is optimal for enhancing flexibility.

Dr Lewis Ingram, the lead researcher, explains, "Stretching beyond three minutes per muscle in a single session adds no meaningful benefit, and stretching to the point of pain is unnecessary."

This comprehensive study, which reviewed data from 188 studies involving over 8000 adults globally, determined that static stretching is safe and effective for improving flexibility. "Our findings show that the improvements occur regardless of factors like muscle group, stretch intensity, or the individual's sex and health status," Dr Ingram adds.

Insights from the study aim to provide clear guidelines for incorporating effective stretching routines into rehabilitation and fitness programs.

### How four-legged friends can 'heel' military veterans

A study conducted by UniSA and the University of Adelaide showed that 'everyday' dogs, not just trained assistance dogs, can help to manage the everyday wellbeing and improve mental health in veterans.

It can cost about \$70,000 to train an assistance dog and there can be up to a three-year wait for a veteran to receive the trained animal.

"Transitioning from active service into the general population is considered one of the most stressful times in a serviceperson's life. For veterans, timing is crucial for mental health. That's why we've been investigating alternatives," Dr Janette Young says.

Surveying almost 1000 military veterans across Australia, researchers found that pets play a crucial yet complex role in wellbeing, and for many they are their reason to get up in the morning.

Dr Young explains: "This research shows scope to financially support veterans with their pets, as this may improve the mental wellbeing of their owners."





Crows CEO Tim Silvers (centre left) with Executive Dean UniSA Business Professor Andrew Beer (centre right), and high school students Ella Litchfield (left) and Thomas Mansfield (right).

## UniSA AND CROWS SPORT MANAGEMENT DIPLOMA LAUNCH

In partnership with the Adelaide Crows, UniSA developed a new Diploma in Sport Management, aimed at providing future students with hands-on experience and insights into working at an AFL club. The 12-month program has been designed to equip students with foundational knowledge and practical skills for a career in sports management.

The curriculum covers various topics, including commercial operations, marketing and managing the athletic pathway. A highlight is that students complete a minimum of 100 hours of placement at the Adelaide Crows, which includes match day experiences as well as involvement in community programs and the membership department.

The Adelaide Football Club has also committed to offering two full-time employment positions to the top graduates of the program each year.

Crows CEO Tim Silvers says the new offering is a unique and exciting opportunity for anyone passionate about pursuing a career in sport.

"The diploma is more than just a qualification, but a stepping stone towards a career in sports management. To be able to study in a full-time professional environment of an AFL club is a great opportunity for students to immerse themselves in the Club and learn directly from management and staff," Mr Silvers said.

The diploma consists of eight courses over two semesters, taught both online and in-person at the Adelaide Football Club and UniSA's City West Campus. The first intake will run from August 2025 to June 2026.



### UniSA BUSINESS IS IN THE TOP 1% WORLDWIDE AND AWARDED FIVE STARS

UniSA Business is one of just 12 institutions in Australia and approximately 200 globally (from over 25,000 universities) to be EQUIS accredited. EFMD, March 2022. 2023 QS Stars Business School Ratings.

## Over half of Aussies eye smaller towns for better housing and family life

Research by UniSA revealed that more than half of Australian residents living in large cities were open to relocating to smaller areas for more affordable housing and better conditions for raising children. Specifically, 53% of study participants indicated a willingness to move to mid-sized cities, with 21% expressing a strong desire to do so.

The research study surveyed more than 3000 people across Australia in 2021 on where they live and the factors that would shape their decision to relocate, including employment, housing and social connectedness.

Lead researcher Associate Professor Akshay Vij said the findings indicated most residents would prefer to live in smaller urban centres but are concerned about economic opportunities and the inadequacy of services in those areas.

"The primary barrier to regional migration is the absence of appropriate employment opportunities.

While job vacancy numbers have been persistently high in regional Australia, these are typically not the kinds of high-skill high-wage jobs that can help attract residents from large metropolitan centres," said Assoc Prof Vij.

It is hoped the study will help inform government policies to encourage regional migration and reduce population strain on larger capital cities.





### Cracking the case for non-glass wine bottles

Researchers from UniSA's Ehrenberg-Bass Institute and the University of Adelaide's Business School investigated consumer preferences for wine packaging, focusing on alternatives to traditional glass bottles. The study found that alternative packaging formats, such as bag-in-box (cask wine) and aluminium cans are up to 51% more carbon-efficient than glass. However, Australian consumers remain resistant to these options, often associating them with lower quality.

Lead researcher Jakob Mesidis notes that previous research has largely focused on wine label and closure preferences, with little attention paid to packaging format. "We knew consumers weren't buying alternatively packaged wine at the same rate as bottled, so we wanted to know what changes could motivate them to choose more sustainable options," Mr Mesidis says.

The research included a survey of 1200 Australians, revealing that packaging format had the greatest impact on consumer choice, followed by price, with brand and eco-messaging varying by age and eco-friendly behaviours.

Cask wine and flat plastic bottles were the most preferred formats after traditional glass bottles. Cans were the least preferred, as they were closely tied to specific occasions, such as drinking outdoors. Younger consumers were more open to alternative formats, especially if they were priced competitively and from well-known brands.

The research aims to guide wine marketers in developing low-carbon packaging strategies and acknowledges that further exploration is needed in this evolving area of the wine industry.

### Humble leaders are crucial to the workplace

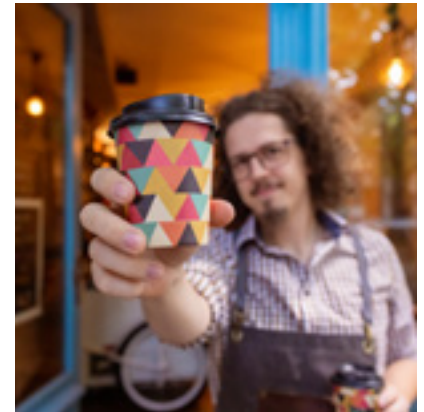
A study conducted by UniSA's Centre for Workplace Excellence, led by Dr Xiao Lin, has highlighted the significant benefits of humble leadership in the workplace.

Characterised by leaders who view themselves accurately, appreciate the strengths and contributions of others and are open to feedback, humble leadership motivates employees to enhance their own leadership potential.

Humble leaders practice "bottom-up leadership" that involves behaviours such as listening actively and valuing the input of employees, supporting professional development of others and encouraging initiative within their workers.

"Humble leadership has been shown to positively impact individual and team outcomes in the workplace including work engagement, proactive behaviour, wellbeing and resilience and increased innovation, learning and performance," explains Dr Lin.

"It is a powerful tool for lifting employees' status and unlocking their potential, leading to a more engaged, innovative and high-performing workplace."



### Lessons from South Australia's regional business recovery amidst bushfires and pandemic

Small businesses in two of the state's regions affected by a devastating bushfire and a COVID-19 cluster outbreak have been analysed by UniSA economics experts, determining the best pathways for future disaster recovery in regional areas.

In a study of a small pool of business owners across Kangaroo Island and Barossa Valley, UniSA's Dr Kathy Rao found that a 'dynamic capabilities approach' during a crisis is integral to long-term recovery in regional areas.

"Many of the small business operators also found that having a strong online presence including a well-established website was an essential factor in their survival during the pandemic. Connections with local community groups or committees such as Tourism SA, Regional Development Australia and well as local accountants, mentors, lawyers and web designers were also critical," she says.

Dr Rao says the study has identified a lack of mental health support for business owners and operators in regional areas during times of crises.

The findings also indicated that regional business responses to the COVID-19 crisis were reactionary and often involved implementing short-term remedies to address reduced cash flow and supply and demand, highlighting the need for businesses to undertake key processes that lead to building resilience over time, rather than only acting once a crisis has broken.





## AUSTRALIAN-FIRST STUDY DISCOVERS LOW MAGNESIUM LEVELS INCREASE DISEASE RISK

UniSA researchers conducted an Australian-first study highlighting the importance of a magnesium-rich diet in reducing the risk of DNA damage and chronic degenerative disorders. The study measured blood samples from 172 middle-aged adults, discovering a strong link between low magnesium levels and elevated homocysteine, a genotoxic amino acid.

This toxic combination increased susceptibility to Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, gastrointestinal disorders, various cancers and diabetes. Magnesium-rich foods, such as whole grains, dark green leafy vegetables, nuts, beans, and dark chocolate, support energy production and regulate blood sugar and pressure.

Dr Permal Deo, a molecular biologist at UniSA, explains that low magnesium intake (less than 300 mg per day) could heighten disease risk. "Our study showed a direct correlation between low magnesium levels (less than 18 mg/L) and increased DNA damage, even after adjusting for gender and age," Dr Deo says.

Co-author Professor Michael Fenech noted that chronic magnesium deficiency might disrupt energy production and accelerate tissue ageing. He emphasised the need to determine the optimal dietary intake of magnesium and its potential impact on cancer and chronic diseases.



### TOP 5 IN AUSTRALIA FOR GRADUATE CAREERS IN HEALTH

Ranked #3, ComparED (QILT) Graduate Outcomes Survey 2020-22, Rehabilitation – Overall Employment Indicator (Domestic Undergraduate). Public universities.



## Maternal high-fat, high-sugar diet found to have life-time health effect on babies

UniSA researchers have identified, for the first time, that maternal obesity alters a critical thyroid hormone in the fetal heart, disrupting its development. Despite being a normal weight at birth, babies born to women with obesity are at increased risk that they will become insulin resistant in adulthood, potentially triggering diabetes and causing cardiovascular disease.

Lead author and UniSA PhD candidate Melanie Bertossa, explains: "We found that a maternal high-fat, high-energy diet reduced concentrations of the active thyroid hormone T3, which acts like a switch around late gestation, telling the fetal heart to start preparing for life after birth. Without this signal, the fetal heart develops differently."

"These permanent changes could cause a further decline in heart health once children reach adolescence and adulthood when the heart starts to age."

Senior author and UniSA Professor of Physiology, Janna Morrison, says that if rising rates of high-fat sugary diets are not addressed, more people will develop health complications such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease, which could result in shorter life spans in the decades ahead.

## How nuts can help with weight loss

UniSA research revealed that including nuts in calorie-controlled weight loss diets does not hinder weight loss; in fact, it may enhance it.

By analysing findings from seven randomised controlled trials, researchers found no adverse effects on weight loss when nuts were part of energy-restrictive (ER) diets. Four of the studies indicated that participants consuming 42-84 grams of nuts achieved significantly greater weight loss—between 1.4 and 7.4 kg—compared to those on nut-free ER diets. This additional weight loss may be linked to nuts' ability to curb hunger.

Studies showing no difference in weight loss typically involved fewer nuts. This is encouraging, especially as 67% of Australian adults are classified as overweight or obese.

UniSA researcher Professor Alison Coates emphasised that nuts are a nutrient-rich addition to weight-loss diets, countering the misconception that their fat content contributes to weight gain. "Nuts are associated with improved cardiovascular health and better gut health," she noted.

Co-author Dr Sharayah Carter highlighted the positive implications for nut lovers, stating that incorporating nuts can help meet weight-loss goals while enhancing overall health.

## Antipsychotic drug breakthrough kicks weight gain to the curb

A groundbreaking discovery was announced by UniSA that reformulating antipsychotic medications can reduce unwanted weight gain while boosting serotonin levels by over 250%.

UniSA researchers, funded by the Hospital Research Foundation (THRF) Group, focused on Lurasidone, a drug for treating schizophrenia and bipolar depression. The new formulation features a strategically engineered coating that enhances drug absorption by eightfold and targets the gut microbiome, which plays a crucial role in regulating health, mood, and cognition.

Lead researcher Dr Paul Joyce highlighted that weight gain is a major side effect, with patients often seeing increases of 10-15% in body weight within three months.

"Because the gut microbiome plays a major role in regulating overall health, especially mood and cognition, the detrimental impact of these medications on the microbiome often makes them counterproductive. Instead of improving mood and cognition, they lead to a cycle of poor mental and metabolic health," says Dr Joyce.

The study also noted that many antipsychotics must be taken with food to maximise their effects, a challenge for the vulnerable patient group. "The new coating mitigates this need and enhances the gut microbiome, overcoming common side effects like weight gain. Importantly, as reformulations rather than new drugs, they can be fast-tracked for clinical use, improving outcomes for millions," Dr Joyce explained.

## Boosting exercise can beat bedtime blues

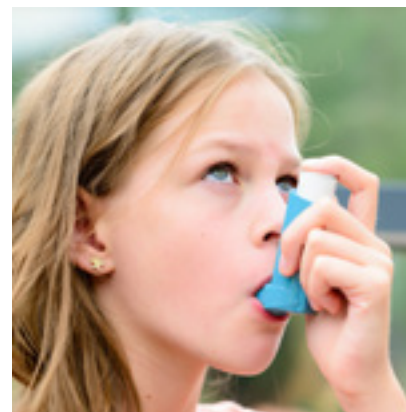
A world-first study from UniSA revealed that quality sleep is closely linked to daily activities, with exercise playing a pivotal role.

The research examined time use and sleep among 1168 children (average age 12) and 1360 adults (mainly mothers, average age 44). Findings indicated that both children and adults engaging in higher levels of moderate to vigorous physical activity experienced less troubled sleep, reduced tiredness, and improved sleep quality.

Australian guidelines recommend that most adults need about eight hours of sleep per night, while children and teenagers require eight to 11 hours.

Lead researcher, Dr Lisa Matricciani, emphasised the importance of understanding factors influencing sleep quality for overall health.

"Many people focus on adjustments made before bedtime, such as avoiding screens and heavy meals. However, our research highlights the significance of daytime activities," Dr Matricciani explained.



## Targeting inflammatory protein could help treat severe asthma

A group of proteins, called beta common cytokines, have been found by researchers to play a key role in inflammation and scarring in the airways of people with severe asthma.

The study led by scientists from UniSA and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, in collaboration with CSL and SA Pathology, suggests that a human therapeutic antibody called trabikibart could effectively block this inflammation and scarring.

Joint study leader Dr Damon Tumes, who also leads the Allergy and Cancer Immunology laboratory in the Centre for Cancer Biology (a joint venture between UniSA and SA Pathology), emphasised the significance of these findings.

"In severe asthma, inflammation and tissue damage result from various immune cells responding to allergens and infections," Dr Tumes noted. "For some patients, this inflammation resists steroids, the first-line treatment option."

"Currently, limited treatment options are available for severe asthma. New and existing drugs often only target single molecules when multiple overlapping cells and inflammatory pathways are responsible. Targeting multiple inflammatory cytokines with a single drug may be key to controlling severe chronic airway disease," Dr Tumes explained.





Associate Professor Damian Madigan.

## INNOVATIVE URBAN LIVING CONCEPT OFFERS HOUSING SOLUTIONS

A new land definition and co-located infill model, defined by UniSA's Dr Damian Madigan as 'bluefield housing', could help address the nation's housing crisis through providing new housing options for older people, first home buyers, and those wanting to downsize.

This alternative suburban infill model involves altering and extending established homes on single blocks, leveraging these suburban allotments to support more than a single house. It would also preserve the original character of the neighbourhood, enhance landscape and suburban tree canopies and provide an opportunity to embrace smaller and more affordable housing.

Bluefield housing is described as somewhere between a single-family home and a unit development. The houses are not fenced off from each other, and the existing house is retained, reconfigured, and extended to become more than one dwelling. A single yard space with room for trees is shared by all residents, while facilities such as laundries or additional living spaces can also be shared, if the residents desire.

Dr Madigan says it could lead to a doubling or tripling of the number of homes on lots without disrupting the neighbourhood character of the area. A policy framework to facilitate co-located housing is being developed, in consultation with communities and councils, under South Australia's Planning and Design Code for consideration by the Minister for Planning with an outcome expected in 2025.



**WORLD TOP 20  
VISUAL EFFECTS SCHOOL**

Ranked #17 in The Rookies Awards 2023.

## Nutbush fever: The history behind the dance sensation

Researchers at UniSA and Edith Cowan University have explored the origins of the 1973 Tina Turner funk track *Nutbush City Limits* and how it became an Australian cultural phenomenon, spanning generations.

"We believe the Nutbush was developed and distributed to teacher training institutions to be used as a teaching aid in creative arts classes and physical education," says UniSA's Professor Jon Stratton.

"Line dances work very well in classrooms because the teacher can stand at the front and give instructions to the lines. The idea must have been to provide students with an enjoyable way of exercising and learning coordination."

Despite its popularity, Turner never performed the dance and there is no recorded comment from her about it.

The song, released in July 1973, peaked in the music charts at number 87 in early December of that year. It didn't appear at all on the Australian charts throughout 1974 but then climbed to number 27 in March 1975 and stayed in the top 100 for 15 weeks.

Prof Stratton suspects its re-emergence in the Australian music charts was not just because the song was a 'dance floor filler' but because of the Nutbush's popularity and spread across Australian classrooms during that time.





### Strengthening senior wellbeing through generational bonds

Researchers from UniSA and the University of Canberra have explored the benefits of intergenerational play through specifically designed playgrounds for children and adults, bringing them together to engage in enjoyable and creative activities such as storytelling, using playground equipment, and games.

“The facilitation of a playground designed for children and their parents and grandparents will foster intergenerational play and lead to positive mental health outcomes,” explains Associate Professor and Deputy Director of the Australian Research Centre for Interactive and Virtual Environments (IVE) at UniSA, Fanke Peng.

In play space co-design workshops hosted by the researchers, participants aged 65 and over discussed the benefits of spending time with children, what a shared space could look like in their community and what elements they would want or need in an intergenerational playground.

“Designing a space where children and older adults can engage with each other is crucial to dismantling the social stigma that stops people from playing once they’re older,” says Assoc Prof Peng.

### Play, learn, empathise

Dr Susannah Emery, Lecturer of Game Design and Digital Media at UniSA, is leading the development of a short video game designed to explore living as someone who is neurodivergent in a world that’s designed for neurotypical people.

The game – Life Resounding – takes players into the mind of someone who is neurodivergent, challenging them to carry out everyday tasks such as concentrate in the classroom or work in an open plan office.

The game then ‘hijacks’ the player’s ability to stay focused by forcing them to gaze out the window or grow agitated when rubbish that should be in the bin keeps appearing on the floor.

Dr Emery says the game provides an understanding of neurodivergence from the perspective of people who experience different ways of interacting with the world.

“Obviously, every neurodivergent person has different experiences and life situations but I’m hoping that neurotypical people who play this game will consider what it’s like to grow up in these spaces that aren’t designed for people with different ways of looking at the world. I’d also like neurodivergent people to play the game and maybe relate to some of the situations. This will help open dialogue around neurodivergence.”

### Gaming the news

What if there’s a richer, more compelling and interactive way to share and address real world issues and the most pressing news stories?

UniSA’s Dr Ben Stubbs is considering how video games are being developed in journalism as a more interactive way to engage younger audiences and tell impactful stories. To explore one of South Australia’s most urgent health issues, ambulance ramping, he has created a news game: *Ramping Rush: Ambulance Rescue*.

The game was led by UniSA’s Australian Research Centre for Interactive and Virtual Environments (IVE) and developed by computer science and media and literature students from around the world as part of a virtual internship.

“Interactive news games are another way for people to think about real world issues in a fun and engaging way,” says Dr Stubbs

“Creating new and timely additions to the video news portfolio is an important step in remaining connected to the next generation.”

### Shining a light on Australia’s disabled authors

*Finding Australia’s Disabled Authors*, a website launched by UniSA Creative academics, aims to bring greater visibility to the achievements and experiences of disabled authors. Over the next two years it will focus on crafting a searchable index of disabled historical writers before expanding to include contemporary authors.

UniSA Creative Senior Lecturer, Dr Jessica White, and Creative Research Fellow, Dr Amanda Tink, who are both disabled people, aim to ensure that disabled writers are counted in discussions about Australian literature.

“Little is known of Australian literature about disability, and our project is designed to educate readers and listeners on the contributions of disabled writers to the literary landscape of Australia,” Dr Tink says.

“We want to share how disabled authors became writers, how their impairments influenced the genre and form of their writing, and how cultural attitudes shaped responses to their work.”

Dr White says it is crucial to educate people on the lived experiences of disabled authors and how their disabilities have shaped their lives and works.

“Our project will allow people to find and learn more about disabled authors who tend to be missing from conversations of Australian literature.”



# UniSA Education Futures



## BIRTH-TO-FIVE TEACHING DEGREE SETS THE PACE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Developed in response to the Royal Commission into Early Childhood Education and Care, UniSA launched a new three-year Bachelor of Education Early Childhood (Birth to Five) degree to deliver teachers with the skills and knowledge to support learning and development of young children in their formative years across diverse cultures and backgrounds.

UniSA Dean of Programs: Education Futures, Professor Anne-Marie Morgan, says the new degree will ensure graduates are ready to meet current and future workforce needs.

"With the state government's investment of almost \$340 million into a universal three-year-old preschool and daylong childcare, there's an even greater need for teachers, and especially those with skills in the birth to five age range."

"Our new Bachelor of Education Early Childhood (Birth to Five) will ensure students have access to the latest research to support the development of young children – whether that be about the brain development and neurodiversity, or the importance of learning through play."

Accredited by ACECQA and recognised by the Teachers Registration Board of South Australia (TRB), the new undergraduate degree can be completed within three years full-time (or part-time equivalent) at UniSA's Magill, Mawson Lakes, Whyalla, and Mount Gambier campuses, with online study options also available. The new degree also supports those already in the workforce, providing one year of credit for diploma qualified early childhood educators to complete their studies in as little as two years full-time study.



### TOP 10 IN AUSTRALIA FOR EDUCATION

Ranked equal #8, 2023 QS Subject Rankings – Education and Training.



Reception teacher Luke Springer with Dr Martyn Mills-Bayne.

## Where are all the male teachers?

The lack of male carers and educators is a longstanding issue, both locally and around the world. In Australia it's early childhood education that's most affected, with fewer than 3% of men in this workforce.

"Young children benefit enormously from male teachers and carers in early childhood settings, and when young children are cared for by both men and women, we're showing children that all genders matter, and that 'caring' and 'being kind' are valued across genders," says UniSA education expert Dr Martyn Mills-Bayne.

In early 2024 a group of prominent early childhood experts, including Dr Mills-Bayne, launched a national strategy – the Thrive by Five Dad's Alliance Action Plan – to help fathers play a more active role in their children's lives. The initiative aims for men to be more present and active in their children's lives in their first five years, as well as for more male carers and educators to be in early learning and childcare professions.

Dr Mills-Bayne says that by increasing the gender diversity of the early childhood education and care workforce, "we can create inclusive learning environments that cater to the diverse needs of all children and provide clear examples of positive male involvement in children's lives".

"But attracting and retaining men to the sector requires proactive intervention and targeted investment, both nationally and around the world."



### Boost creativity to build STEM careers

While creativity is recognised as a critical skill for Australia's economic future, it is typically confined to the arts. However, new research through UniSA shows it plays a key role in engaging students in science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM) and positively influencing STEM career choices beyond school.

Working with a large longitudinal dataset, researchers were able to track how students' attitudes changed towards different subjects throughout high school, finding that their sense of being able to be creative was a significant factor influencing subject choice.

"As AI takes over the mundane, we need education to become good at working with complex capabilities like creativity," Professor Simon Leonard says.

"Humans like to be and to feel creative. It motivates us to succeed. We need policy makers, school leaders and researchers to really open up to the idea that creativity is at the heart of motivating students, and it can make the difference in graduates choosing to study in a STEM field."

### Migrant and refugee children need early education supports

UniSA research, funded by Salisbury Community for Children and the Salvation Army has found that childcare workers and educators in informal creche settings also need training to better support non-English speaking children from migrant and refugee backgrounds.

In this study, staff and volunteers at community creches received 16 weeks of on-site professional learning from skilled mentors who modelled social and emotional learning development strategies for non-English speaking children. It was found to be beneficial not only for the workers who said they were more prepared to support multilingual children, but also from children's families who said that their children were happier attending childcare and were more prepared to start at school.

"All children should feel secure and supported as they transition from their parents' care to childcare, but the need is stronger among those who are more vulnerable," says lead researcher, Professor Elspeth McInnes.

### Kids deserve a say on use of digital media

UniSA's Professor Sue Nichols says the benefits of children's access to, and use of, digital media is often overlooked, with research finding that children aged 10-11 years, rely on technology to stay connected with immediate and extended families, and to generate a sense of belonging among their friends.

"Current discussions about children's use of digital media tends to be preoccupied with issues of risk, but what is typically omitted from these conversations is that digital technologies offer more than just risk," Prof Nichols explains.

Funded by the Australian Research Council and the British Academy Foundation, the study engaged 62 grade five children in Australia and the UK to assess their use of digital media, which found more than 40 different apps were being used by children with the list rapidly expanding and encompassing more than just social apps.

Co-researcher, Dr Hannah Soong says any programs or policies put forward for children's safe use of digital technologies must also be informed by children's perspectives.

"When children's knowledge of digital technologies and apps intensified, they became more equipped and empowered to navigate risky encounters."

### Suspensions put vulnerable children at risk

Despite best intentions to build a more inclusive and punitive-free education system, school suspensions and expulsions remain. However, new research conducted by UniSA shows that exclusionary practices not only fail to identify the deep-rooted causes of challenging student behaviours but exacerbate negative issues rather than resolve them.

"There is a clear relationship between school suspensions and a range of detrimental health outcomes. What makes things worse is that vulnerable students have a higher risk of being suspended or expelled, which in many cases exacerbates their circumstances and life chances," explains lead researcher Professor Anna Sullivan.

"Boys, Aboriginal students, students from low SES backgrounds, and students with a disability are disproportionately excluded from schools."

"When a student is suspended or expelled from school, we're ultimately removing them from their education and limiting their life outcomes. It's time to look afresh at the complex and challenging circumstances in which many young people find themselves. Only then can we hope to create a more inclusive and fair education system."

# UniSA Justice & Society



## INVESTING IN CHILD PROTECTION COULD REDUCE FUTURE WELFARE COSTS BY 39%

UniSA researchers have investigated the long-term financial impact of child abuse and neglect, revealing that affected individuals are three times more likely to rely on government income support as young adults. The study linked child protection records with national welfare payment data, finding that the costs associated with these individuals added 39% to the national income support budget.

Key findings show that those involved with child protection are five times more likely to receive unemployment and long-term disability payments, and three times more likely to access parenting payments. For instance, individuals placed in out-of-home care received nearly \$182,000 in support payments from ages 16 to 33, compared to just \$38,570 for those without child protection contact.

Senior researcher, Professor Leonie Segal, emphasises the need for preventive measures, stating that "investing in support for maltreated children can change life trajectories."

With about 2.1 million Australians experiencing childhood abuse, the research called for increased investment in prevention to alleviate future economic burden.



### TOP 5 IN AUSTRALIA FOR QUALITY EDUCATION IN SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

Ranked equal #4, ComparED (QILT) Student Experience Survey 2021-22 – Humanities, Culture and Social Sciences – Overall Quality of Educational Experience Indicator (Undergraduate). Public universities.

## Growing support to change Australia Day date

A UniSA survey of 559 Australian citizens reveals that 67% do not mind when Australia Day falls, provided there is a dedicated day for national celebration.

The study, published in *Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy*, also drew out some of the factors influencing people's views, suggesting that racism, patriotism, traditionalism and age all play a part.

"The most popular option was moving the current date to 27 May, which is Reconciliation Day," says lead researcher, UniSA Psychology (Honours) graduate Eliza Mortimer-Royle. "Another possibility was 1 January, marking the date in 1901 when Australia became a nation."

Younger respondents, who have learnt how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experienced colonisation as an invasion, were more likely to support a date change compared to older survey participants, who learned a European perspective of history.

The study is the first to investigate predictors of Australians' attitudes towards 26 January, while simultaneously exploring whether interventions could result in a date change.





## Understanding how love changes the brain

In a world-first Australian study, researchers from UniSA, the Australian National University and University of Canberra have measured how a part of the brain is responsible for putting our loved one on a pedestal, particularly in the initial stages of romance.

The study investigates the link between the human brain's behavioural activation system and romantic love. Researchers surveyed 1556 young adults who identified as being "in love", with questions focused on the emotional reaction to their partner, their behaviour around them, and the focus they placed on their loved one above all else.

UniSA Adjunct Associate Professor, Dr Phil Kavanagh, says the study shows that romantic love is linked to changes in behaviour as well as emotion.

"The way that loved ones take on special importance is due to oxytocin combining with dopamine, a chemical that our brain releases during romantic love. Essentially, love activates pathways in the brain associated with positive feelings," Dr Kavanagh explains.

The next stage of the research involves investigating the differences between men and women in their approach to love, and a worldwide survey identifying four different types of romantic lovers.

## Teenagers addicted to smartphones now a common phenomenon

Researchers from UniSA's Behaviour-Brain-Body Research Centre have surveyed more than 50,000 primary and secondary school students aged 7-19 years about the link between their sleep and nighttime phone habits, experience of cyberbullying and stress levels.

Approximately 66% of teenage girls and 58% of teenage boys (aged 12-19 years) reported being cyberbullied at least once in the preceding school term. Stress levels in the moderate-to-severe range were reported by 38% of teenage girls and 23% of teenage boys, with 17% of girls and 13% of boys saying they slept less than eight hours a night.



While cyberbullying and lack of sleep were not as common in primary aged children (7-11 years), one in five reported moderate-to-severe stress.

UniSA researcher Dr Stephanie Centofanti says that girls are particularly vulnerable because their smartphone use at night is higher than other age groups and they start using social media at a younger age.

More than one third of primary school children and over 60% of teenagers in the study reported using their phone at night when they were supposed to be sleeping, with the figure rising to 75% for those who experienced cyberbullying.

## Major changes to workplaces needed for pregnant and working parents

In the first national review undertaken of pregnant and working parents in a decade, UniSA researchers are calling for major changes in Australian workplaces to counter the "vast discrimination and disadvantage" experienced by these groups.

The National Review into Pregnant and Parent Workers Work Conditions and Discrimination conducted by UniSA's Centre for Workplace Excellence, led by Dr Rachael Potter, resulted in a number of recommendations for workplaces, including:

- Closer consultation between employers and employees to ensure the former understand pregnancy-related needs and communicate role changes for new parents returning to work

- Appropriate space for breastfeeding or expressing milk (locked door, comfortable chair, storage facilities)
- Management and HR should foster an inclusive workplace culture that does not tolerate disrespectful or negative behaviour
- Create greater gender equality through providing partner parental leave and/or flexible work arrangements
- Training and career progression should be available to all, regardless of the work arrangements
- Ergonomic adjustments need to be made in the workplace to minimise risk of harm
- There must be greater mandatory regulation of employers to ensure they are meeting their legal requirements.

## Increased risk of homelessness for youth leaving out-of-home care

Research conducted by UniSA and Curtin University found that up to 36% of young people leaving out-of-home care (OHC) in Australia become homeless, compared to less than 10% of the general youth population.

Deputy Director of Research at UniSA's Australian Centre for Child Protection Professor Melissa O'Donnell says more needs to be done to support young people who haven't had the typical growing-up experience to help them with the transition to adulthood and independent living.

"These young people often have minimal social and/or financial support to transition smoothly from OHC to adulthood, which leads to homelessness, substance misuse, and poor mental health," Prof O'Donnell explains.

"Providing transition programs which offer a range of supports and resources is vital so that they are tailored to individual needs and goals."



SA Deputy Premier Dr Susan Close officially opened the Advanced Manufacturing Metal 3D printing facility.

## ADVANCING SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S SPACE SECTOR

UniSA announced significant industry investment in four space research projects under the iLAUNCH Trailblazer program, coinciding with the opening of a new advanced manufacturing facility in July. These groundbreaking initiatives attracted over \$18 million in funding, highlighting UniSA's pivotal role in advancing the South Australian space industry through robust commercial partnerships.

The cutting-edge manufacturing facility enables rapid 3D printing of metals for space structures, equipped with machines capable of printing titanium and nickel alloys crucial for space technologies.

UniSA iLAUNCH lead Industry Professor Colin Hall explains that the research projects, unveiled alongside the new facility, present a real opportunity for Australia to expand its space engineering ecosystem.

"Through collaboration and innovation, we will demonstrate how space-capable technologies can inspire the next generation of space engineers and achieve commercial outcomes in this sector," Prof Hall said.

The first UniSA projects announced under the program include the additive manufacturing of space components using Electron Beam Melting, the development of novel materials for optical components and satellite sub-assemblies, an AI/ML-enabled space surveillance system for hypersonic missile defence, and the development and flight qualification of an Australian Radioisotope Heating Unit to support thermal management for lunar night survival.

Industry partners include VPG Innovation, SMR Automotive Australia, Northrop Grumman, Spiral Blue and entX.



### TOP 5 IN AUSTRALIA FOR STUDENT SATISFACTION IN MATHS AND SCIENCE

Ranked equal #3, ComparED (QILT) Course Experience Questionnaire 2021-22 – Overall Satisfaction Indicator (Domestic Undergraduate). Public universities.



## Invasive weed transformed into potential economic asset

Researchers at UniSA identified the prickly paddy melon weed as a viable economic crop, benefiting the construction, mining and forestry industries. Traditionally viewed as an invasive weed costing the agricultural sector around \$100 million annually, the paddy melon can be processed to extract urease enzymes for bio cement and soil stabilisation.

In a world-first study, researchers screened 50 plants to find an eco-friendly source for urease enzymes. The paddy melon proved nearly as effective as more expensive soybean enzymes. By crushing and freeze-drying the seeds, they reduced cementation time from a week to six hours, estimating a 75% cost saving compared to lab-grade enzyme production.

This plant-based solution offers a sustainable alternative to traditional cement, which significantly contributes to CO2 emissions. Paddy melon enzymes could also stabilise tailing dams and control invasive weeds in forestry without harmful herbicides.

UniSA geotechnical engineer Professor Mizanur Rahman, who led the research, said: "We could solve a very expensive problem for the agricultural industry by harvesting these weeds and growing paddy melon as a commercial crop."

Positive feedback from industry sectors indicates strong potential for integrating this discovery into existing practices, benefiting farmers and supporting environmental rehabilitation.



### Octopus survival guide to limit fishing impact

A team of UniSA marine scientists developed the world's first practical guide for ageing octopus, aimed at ensuring sustainable fisheries. Published in the *Marine and Freshwater Research Journal*, the guide uses growth rings on octopus beaks and internal shells to determine age, providing a reliable tool for fisheries management.

The guide was developed by UniSA PhD student Erica Durante and research assistant Louise Hosking, under the supervision of UniSA marine ecologist Dr Zoe Doubleday.

Durante explains that most octopuses live only a few years, dying shortly after mating, making understanding their age and growth crucial for conservation.

"Age data tells us how long it takes for an animal to mature, and avoids fishing out immature octopus before they breed," she says.

With around 400,000 octopuses harvested globally each year, accessible knowledge can help protect these species, ensuring they continue to thrive in the face of rising demand.

### A focus on climate change-refugia to protect biodiversity

UniSA led a global research effort that proposed a new approach to managing biodiversity loss due to climate change. The researchers identified "climate change-refugia" – sites with the most favourable conditions for species survival, indicating they could be key to reducing extinction rates.

In a paper published in *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*, the researchers from Australia, Canada, the United States, and Hungary outlined a framework to identify, protect, and restore these refugia, advocating for a shift away from traditional static protected areas.

UniSA's Associate Professor Gunnar Keppel led the research and says that the speed and scale at which climate change is progressing demands a new approach.

"Events like the large-scale dieback of trees, mass bleaching of corals on the Great Barrier Reef, unprecedented heatwaves, rapid thawing of glaciers and more frequent fires highlight the potential for major changes in biodiversity and ecosystems."

"Vulnerable ecosystems should be assessed along more practical lines to identify the places least impacted by drought stress, for example. It is here that species will have the best chance of resisting climate change," Assoc Prof Keppel explains.



### AI preventing bushfires from space

AI technology with ability to detect bushfires 500 times faster than traditional methods has been developed by a team of computer science researchers led by UniSA.

The breakthrough technology uses cube satellites with onboard AI. This overcomes the limitations of processing and compressing large amounts of hyperspectral imagery on board the satellites before sending it to the ground for analysis, saving precious time and energy.

Lead researcher Dr Stefan Peters says that traditional Earth observation satellites lacked the processing power for real-time analysis. His team developed a lightweight AI model capable of detecting smoke before fires intensify, with successful simulations demonstrating detection in under 14 minutes.

"This research shows there are significant benefits of onboard AI compared to traditional on-ground processing. This will not only prove invaluable in the event of bushfires but also serve as an early warning system for other natural disasters," Dr Peters says.

The project is funded by SmartSat CRC and will be applied to South Australia's first cube satellite 'Kanyini', launching to orbit in 2025.



# UniSA Online



## 100% online, fee-free pathway program, UniStart, launches

In 2024 UniSA Online launched UniStart, a 100% online, fee-free pathway program designed for students who may not meet the entry requirements for their chosen degree program or want to refresh their academic skills.

Designed by academics with online teaching and learning experience and underpinned by leading research in digital learning, the six-month program will prepare students to gain entry into one of more than 95 undergraduate degrees at UniSA.

Students will learn how to navigate university assignments, use critical thinking, and apply foundation literacy and numeracy concepts, developing the confidence and skills to get the most out of their university study.

UniStart demonstrates UniSA's commitment to enabling accessible and inclusive education for all.

## UniSA Online awarded gold

UniSA Online is proudly the only Australian university to be awarded gold in the inaugural Times Higher Education (THE) Online Learning Rankings in 2024, and one of only 11 universities globally to achieve the ranking.

THE used 17 metrics grouped into four pillars: resources, engagement, outcomes and environment.

With more than 35 degrees and qualifications available and almost 10,000 students, UniSA Online is one of Australia's largest online education providers (Ranked 4th, 2020 *Department of Education, Skills and Employment – Commencing Domestic Bachelor Degree Students (External)*).

UniSA Online teaches students across every Australian state with a large portion of students residing outside of South Australia, and within regional and remote areas. Additionally, many UniSA Online students live with a disability or other form of disadvantage, with 100% online study allowing students to study when and where it suits them.

# UniSA College

## Supporting emerging leaders in Aboriginal communities

Ngarrindjeri artist Tiarnie Edwards, artistic works are a voice for their beliefs, world and people. Through the Aboriginal Pathway Program (APP) Tiarnie has been able to further nurture and develop their voice via their artwork.

Studying the APP at UniSA's Port Lincoln Campus, Tiarnie says the program has laid the foundations for their success in their subsequent contemporary art degree, having boosted their confidence and introduced them to a community of like-minded ambitious people.

"The APP gave me a place to feel as though I belonged in academia again. Each tutor, lecturer and fellow student held each other up and pushed one another forward," says Tiarnie, who was recognised at the 2024 Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition awards for their installation, *Outlaws*, inspired by the diverse and complex identities of Aboriginal Peoples in the contemporary Australian landscape.

A testament to the APP impact on emerging leadership in communities, Tiarnie is one of many past and present APP students showing their leadership qualities.

In 2024 three former and current APP students – Rebecca Miller, Dharma Ducasse-Singer, Danielle Smith – were among the inaugural representatives for the SA First Nations Voice to Parliament. While a further five – Danielle Smith, Fiona Dargin, Trae Richardson, Amie Brant, Andrea Richards – received 2024 NAIDOC Awards recognising the outstanding contributions and excellence of Aboriginal Peoples.

The APP program is an alternative entry pathway program and has been designed specifically to support Aboriginal students to succeed at university through building the necessary academic, literacy and numeracy skills required in a culturally safe and supportive environment.



Tiarnie Edwards.

*Some of the pieces in Tiarnie Edwards' Outlaws installation.*



# PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS





## Reconciliation in action

UniSA has continued to excel in meeting targets set out in our *Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025* in relation to promoting reconciliation (Action 3), demonstrating respect for cultural protocols (Action 6), and building transparency through reporting (Action 16).

Notable achievements of 2024 include:

- **Advancement of Capital Works:**  
Significant progress has been made in infrastructure projects aimed at fostering cultural safety and engagement, with the planning of an Aboriginal Knowledge Centre, and yarning circles at Mawson Lakes and Whyalla nearing completion.
- **NAIDOC and National Reconciliation Week Participation:**  
Proactive efforts have been undertaken to involve staff, students and the wider community in cultural events during NAIDOC Week and National Reconciliation Week.
- **People, Talent, and Culture (PTC):**  
Measurable progress is being made in advancing PTC deliverables, particularly in increasing the visibility of cultural training and policies through communication strategies.
- **Accountability and Transparency through Reporting:** Deliverables relating to the University's commitment to transparency, particularly through Elder-endorsed reporting structures, are progressing well and remain on track.
- **Senior Leadership Engagement:**  
Reconciliation remains a standing agenda item at Senior Leadership Group Forums and Executive Leadership Team meetings (Deliverable 15.5).



Artist impression of the Aboriginal Knowledge Centre.



Welcome smoking ceremony.



Mount Gambier Yarning Circle.





UniSA Business Director MBA and Dean of Programs (Post Graduate) Professor Lan Snell (far left) with the GEMBA cohort at the Australian Embassy.

## GEMBA elevating leadership networks

To meet the growing demand for leadership, skills and workforce capability in defence and space, UniSA launched the Global Executive MBA (Defence and Space) (GEMBA).

In partnership with Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Exeter, alongside industry partners, the unique 18-month program reflects the trilateral nature of the AUKUS agreement between Australia, the UK and US.

GEMBA is delivering cutting-edge leadership training, and equipping leaders with advanced skills across cyber security, space systems and defence procurement, through online learning combined with immersive, in-person residentials.

The intensive two-week residential experiences, held in Adelaide, Washington DC and London, expose GEMBA students to a new level of network with both government and industry leaders, through contact with the likes of High Commissioner to the UK Stephen Smith and keynote speeches by leaders such as former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd.





## All systems go for first software degree apprentices

Thirteen UniSA students started work in 2024 with three Adelaide defence employers, BAE Systems, ASC and Consunet, combining work and study in their first year of a Bachelor of Software Engineering (Honours) to support South Australia's growing defence sector.

SA Minister for Education, Training and Skills, Blair Boyer MP, officially launched the degree apprenticeship program at UniSA's Enterprise Hub on 23 April 2024, alongside industry partners and UniSA staff.

Funded by the State Government with a \$450,000 commitment over three years, the Australia-first initiative of blending university study with paid work could set a precedent for other industries.

18-year-old Alicia Bawden is one of 13 UniSA students enrolled in the first cohort, apprenticed to BAE Systems at Osborne.

"I really enjoy the blended learning experience because it's an opportunity to get first-hand experience working in the engineering environment and it enables you to implement what you learn at university into a real-world situation," Alicia says.

Mature aged student Daniel Tweedale, 33, also apprenticed to BAE Systems, says he was drawn to the program after previous interactions with the defence industry while working as a contractor.

"I enjoy problem solving, working with technology and I'm a hands-on learner so this model really suits me," he explains.

The program is a partnership between UniSA, the State Government, the defence industry and the Australian Industry Group (Ai Group).



## UniSA offers Australia's first online course in human-animal relationships

In response to the growing body of global scientific evidence of the therapeutic value of animals, UniSA launched Australia's first, 100% online course in human-animal relationships.

The 10-week course, offered through UniSA Online, is targeted mainly at health professionals interested in learning how relationships with animals affect people's lives, but is open to anyone who wants to learn more about the topic.

The course, *Human and Animal Relationships in Society*, will cover topics exploring the positive and negative aspects of pets and human interactions, assistance and therapy animals, risks and ethical issues involving human and animal engagements, First Nations people and their traditional relationship with animals and government policy implications.

UniSA facilitator Dr Janette Young, says the course is filling a gap in the university sector that neither human or animal focused degrees cover: the burgeoning area of human-animal relationships in health and social care settings.

The online course sits within UniSA's Public Health program and can be undertaken by first year undergraduate students, or as a single standalone course.



Alicia Bawden and Daniel Tweedale.

## New allied health programs and facilities launched at Whyalla

UniSA's Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) and Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours) are the first fully-accredited degrees of their kind to be offered in regional South Australia, being delivered alongside degrees in nursing and midwifery at Whyalla Campus.

"South Australia faces significant allied health workforce shortages which are acutely felt in regional areas," says Executive Dean, Allied Health and Human Performance, Professor Jon Buckley.

"Providing the Whyalla community with the opportunity to study these degrees at the local level aligns with the South Australian Government's *Rural Allied and Scientific Health Workforce Plan 2021-2026*, and improves access to education for rural, regional and remote students who may not have otherwise chosen to study an allied health degree."

UniSA's Whyalla campus has undergone refurbishments to provide a modern teaching space for the programs, which include the installation of new equipment and technology, while UniSA's Department of Rural Health is supporting students' connections with industry and clinical placements, almost all of which will be completed in-region.

Interest in the new Whyalla offerings is expected to grow year-on-year, in line with awareness of the programs and of the high regional demand for these professions.



Professor Lester-Irabinna Rigney, PYEC Director Rueben Burton, Professor Anne-Marie Morgan and Dr Sam Osborne.

## First language song book a hit in the APY Lands

A new app and song book are reinforcing cultural identity and first language literacy for children in Anangu schools across South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia while promoting all the social and learning benefits that come with singing.

UniSA researchers have partnered with the Anangu Iwiri Aboriginal Corporation, the South Australia Department for Education, the Anangu Communities Foundation, and Arts SA to create the *Inkamala! (Let's Sing)* early years song book and corresponding Iwiri app.

The early years song book includes more than 60 songs, and a second book for older students with a further 60 songs is also in production.

"The songs chosen represent extensive research and collaboration between Yarnangu/Anangu, and Piranpa (non-Aboriginal) educators," says Dr Sam Osborne, Associate Director of Regional Engagement (Education Futures) at UniSA.

"Some were generated from old publications, recordings, and handwritten notes, however, much has been retrieved from memory work of Anangu community members. Many songs feature educational concepts, many are simply fun, with lyrics in Ngaanyatjarra, Pitjantjatjara, and Yankunytjatjara language."

The launch of the book and app coincided with UniSA's celebration of 40 years in the APY Lands through its APY hub, re-named in 2024 as *Ananguku Kulintja: Anangu Languages and Knowledges in Higher Education*. The centre collaborates with Anangu communities and organisations to conduct research, develop high quality first language resources, and deliver language and culture courses, including online and in-person programs across South Australia and the Northern Territory.



## Five First Nations trailblazers set to soar in business growth program

In June 2024 UniSA launched a business growth program specifically designed to support Aboriginal-owned companies to grow and scale.

Five Aboriginal companies, KML Business Solutions, Ochre Dawn, Pundi Produce, The Cryogenics Group and Yanun Project Services have enrolled in the six-month Growth Ramp program delivered by UniSA's Australian Centre for Business Growth (AUCBG) in partnership with, and funded by, The Circle First Nations Entrepreneur Hub, South Australia's Office for Small and Family Business and the Government of Western Australia's New Industries Fund.

Small Aboriginal companies often face substantial challenges growing from focussed small firms to become fully developed and sustainable growth companies, says AUCBG Director, Growth Expert and Playford Chair of Business Growth, Professor Ryan Williams.

"Led by our Aboriginal Growth Expert Paul Brock, First Nations firms will be able to learn the skills and knowledge they need to grow and scale their companies in our face-to-face Growth Ramp," Prof Williams says.

The Growth Ramp program is a demonstration of the University's commitment to the recognition of First Nations' innovation and is in alignment with the ambitions articulated in UniSA's *Stretch Reconciliation Plan* and *Aboriginal Research Strategy*.



First cohort of the Growth Ramp program.

## Renewable aviation fuels prepare for take-off in Australia

UniSA aviation experts will collaborate with Chinese colleagues over the next two years to develop a sustainable aviation biofuel industry in both countries thanks to a \$1.7 billion Federal Budget allocation to prioritise renewable fuels for the aviation industry over the coming decade.

UniSA Aviation Professor Shane Zhang has been awarded a \$230,000 National Foundation for Australia-China Relations grant to lead the project, exploring the commercial opportunities of using bio feedstock to replace conventional kerosene jet fuels with 'green' fuel.

Prof Zhang says the Federal Government budget announcement follows the establishment of the Australia Jet Zero Council in 2023 to deliver net-zero aviation in Australia, supported by a \$30 million funding injection.

"Sustainable aviation fuels (SAFs) can potentially cut carbon emissions by up to 80% and are essential if we are to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions in Australia by 2050," Prof Zhang says.

While these renewable fuels are not yet produced in Australia, Jet Zero Australia is working with US biotechnology company LanzaJet to build a new SAF facility in north Queensland, and Wagner Sustainable Fuels and Boeing Australia are also collaborating on a site in Toowoomba. The NSW Government has pledged up to \$100 million to start local production.

"There is a lot of potential to produce sustainable aviation fuels in Australia and China, as both countries have large quantities of bio feedstock and the market is untapped," Prof Zhang says.

Prof Zhang and his Chinese colleagues will organise and develop eight events in Australia and China over the next two years, bringing industry, farmers and stakeholders together to look at how sustainable aviation fuels can be commercialised.



UniSA Aviation Professor Shane Zhang.





Australian Centre for Child Protection: Professor Melissa O'Donnell, Deputy Director Research; Professor Leah Bromfield, Director and Chair of Child Protection; Amanda Paton, Deputy Director Practice; Lisa McDonald, Centre Manager.

## Australian Centre for Child Protection celebrates 20 years

Founded in 2004 by the Australian Government and the University of South Australia, the Australian Centre for Child Protection (ACCP) celebrated 20 years in 2024 of helping to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect.

The ACCP's public health approach to child protection saw it quickly gain influence across the sector and make major contributions to the first National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children and the National Research Agenda for Protecting Children.

Centre Director Professor Leah Bromfield says that the ACCP's third decade marks a shift in focus to a transformation agenda.

"We know through our work across the past two decades that our child protection systems are not fit for purpose, and we must reimagine our approach to protecting children. ACCP is driving research and innovation to shape this transformation now and into the future," she says.

To celebrate its 20-year milestone ACCP presented a free one-day virtual symposium during Children's Week in October sharing the latest in ACCP's research, solutions and insights.

## Lift off for SA space company scaleup mission with first cohort

A new program delivered by UniSA's Australian Centre for Business Growth (AUCBG) in collaboration with the University's Innovation & Collaboration Centre (ICC), supported by the South Australian Space Industry Centre (SASIC), launched in May with six early-stage South Australian space companies.

AICRAFT, ESpy Ocean, HEX20, Orbital Blue, ResearchSat and Robinson Aerospace Systems make up the first cohort of the six-month Growth Ramp space pathway.

The targeted program is designed for business owners, CEOs and managing directors of space companies who are looking to scale and sustainably grow their organisation.

"We've designed the Growth Ramp space pathway as an innovative program where space firms can learn the skills and knowledge they need to grow and scale their companies," explains Professor Ryan Williams, AUCBG Director and Playford Chair of Business Growth.

Minister for Defence and Space Industries Stephen Mullighan says the high-quality of local space companies joining the inaugural program is another encouraging sign for the state's space sector.

"There is huge opportunity for SA startup companies in the space industry and this program gives them a boost towards growing their business substantially in the future," Minister Mullighan says.



Raviteja Duggineni of ResearchSat; Jill Dewey of ESpy Ocean; Ann Angel of AUCBG; Adrian Smith of AUCBG; Tony Scoleri AICRAFT.



LGA SA CEO Clinton Jury and UniSA Dr Alyson Crozier.

### Local government funding for community fitness research

UniSA shared in almost \$500,000 in grant funding through the Local Government Research and Development Scheme to help address health and wellbeing within the community.

The project involves tracking usage data of fitness equipment in several metropolitan and regional council areas, including user patterns and preferences, to inform future planning decisions and to improve outcomes for all councils across South Australia.

Project lead Dr Alyson Crozier says using an evidence-based approach when purchasing outdoor fitness equipment would ensure councils are making the best choices informed by user feedback.

"More than 200 free-to-use outdoor fitness equipment stations have been installed by councils across South Australia to promote physical activity and healthy lifestyles," Dr Crozier says.

"However, there is limited information about which machines are being used most by community members, and how they're being used. Through this project, we hope to track and share data that councils can use to make informed decisions about the type of outdoor fitness equipment they install in future, leading to even better planned spaces being created for communities to use and enjoy."

### Archie Moore unveils a new moving image commission at Samstag Museum of Art

In his first exhibition since winning the prestigious Golden Lion at the 2024 Venice Biennale, Kamilaroi/Bigambul artist, Archie Moore, presented an ambitious new moving image work at UniSA's Samstag Museum of Art as part of the Adelaide Film Festival.

Sponsored by Dr David Bunton and Helen Stacey-Bunton, Archie Moore was UniSA's Pirku Murititya Visiting Research Fellow during October 2024, transforming the Samstag gallery with a scaled and meticulously recreated replica of his childhood home — the fifth iteration of his series *Dwelling*.

An ongoing investigation of memory and effects of colonisation, the exhibition draws on visual, auditory, haptic and olfactory elements in its staging, working closely with filmmaker Molly Reynolds (*Charlie's Country*, *David Gulpillil*).

Erica Green, Director, Samstag Museum of Art says it's been an honour to work closely with Archie over the past two years on his forthcoming work.

"Our Wirltuti Season of exhibitions is a testament to our proud, long-standing and fruitful relationship with the Adelaide Film Festival that supports exceptional artists to create bold and visionary work."

Samstag also premiered the inaugural AFF/Samstag 2024 Expand Moving Image Commission which featured a series of experimental docu-fiction moving image works by artists Susan Norrie, Matthew Thorne and Emmaline Zanelli which followed the narrative threads of mining in Australia, focusing on fly-in-fly-out workers, their families, environmental impacts and the complex relationship experienced by First Nations custodians of the land on which the resource extraction takes place.



Archie Moore.



Artists' impression of the new Forestry Centre of Excellence (FCoE) in Mount Gambier.

## Forestry Centre of Excellence launched in Mount Gambier

Designs for the new Forestry Centre of Excellence (FCoE) in Mount Gambier, a collaborative project between UniSA, the South Australian Government and the forestry industry, were unveiled in October 2024.

The Centre will be built on the same site as the UniSA Mount Gambier campus, the new Mount Gambier Technical College and the Mount Gambier TAFE, providing a unique opportunity to create an education, training and research precinct.

The FCoE links to the forest industry and its key attribute of collaboration, connection and partnerships through its research, training education, development, and extension activities, has been reflected in the new FCoE brand of interlocking abstract trees, which was revealed alongside the design plans.

In launching the FCoE, SA Premier Peter Malinauskas described the Green Triangle plantation forest region as "one of the powerhouses of the Australian forest industry".

UniSA Chancellor John Hill said the University was honoured to host the new Forestry Centre of Excellence, which has evolved from Forest Research Mount Gambier, established in 2018 by the State and Federal Government, UniSA and the forestry industry.

"The model of recruiting UniSA researchers into the forestry industry has resulted in a more efficient, safer, progressive, and profitable industry, establishing standards for best practice," Chancellor Hill said.

"Together with the State Government, we are proud to continue this partnership and help advance research and development projects to ensure the industry's economic prosperity committing more than \$6 million towards the Centre's operations and building along with significant in-kind support."

Construction of the Centre is expected to be complete by January 2026.

## Next gen teachers take insider tips from practicing professionals

Partnering with the SA Department for Education and teachers in South Australian schools, UniSA has developed authentic and interactive videos that show exactly how a working teacher engages their students with reading.

From deciphering the meaning of new words, to understanding inferences within a text, the videos reveal how experienced teachers progress through a class book or novel with a group of students, highlighting the strategies for reinforcing learning, checking understanding, and assessing progress.

The videos – which cater to children in years two, six and eight, as well as kindergarten-aged children – are now embedded in the University's initial teacher education programs.

English and literacy expert UniSA's Dr Jill Colton says the new initiative presents an excellent resource for pre-service teachers to sharpen their expertise.

"When you're a pre-service teacher it can be daunting to apply what you've learnt in class to the classroom, so having access to real recordings of practicing teachers working with their students, is extremely valuable," Dr Colton says.

"Ensuring graduate teachers have contemporary knowledge of classroom practice is paramount to their success as educators, ensuring our graduate teachers are up to speed with classroom skills as they enter the workforce."

Education partners for the video include Unley Primary School, Roma Mitchell Secondary College, Annesley Junior School, and Bertram Hawker Kindergarten.



## Powerful performances by artists with disabilities celebrate diversity

Two films celebrating the dedication and tenacity of Korean and South Australian performers with and without disability hit the big screen as part of the Asia-focused arts festival OzAsia.

*Counterpoise*, which features nine artists from Adelaide-based Restless Dance Theatre and the Korean 29Dong Dance Theatre, is a contemporary black and white dance film created at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Directed by Larissa McGowan and Matt Byrne, the 20-minute dance film highlights the noise of life, as well as quiet loneliness within ourselves. *Counterpoise*'s detailed choreography is melded with electrifying music by KOREAN MUSIC PROJECT using a combination of traditional and western instruments embedded with digital technology.

*Dancing Against the Odds*, a documentary directed by Adelaide filmmaker Matt Byrne, follows the innovative and inclusive journey of making *Counterpoise* over three years. Produced by UniSA arts management experts Dr Boram Lee and Professor Ruth Rentschler OAM, the 60-minute film embraces diversity, inclusion and self-expression.

Dr Lee says the project connected people across Australian and Korean borders to help foster a network of inclusivity and diversity through the arts.

"After a three-year saga of overcoming international borders, language barriers, and perceptions of disability, we've transformed the impossible into a breathtaking reality," she says.

Professor Rentschler says the project embraced diversity, inclusion and self-expression to help shift stereotypes around the capabilities of artists with disability.

"These films present disability in a new light. They showcase what the dancers can do rather than focusing on what they can't do," she says.

*Counterpoise* and *Dancing Against the Odds* are supported by the Korean Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, and KOFICE as part of Kore-A-Round Culture 2023, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through the Australian Cultural Diplomacy Grants Program, Australia-Korea Foundation, and Arts South Australia.

## UniSA students shine in exclusive program fostering Australia-China relations

Two exceptional UniSA international students participated in the prestigious 2024 Stephen FitzGerald Scholars Program, gaining unprecedented access to Australia's most influential institutions during an immersive three-day study tour in the nation's capital.

Master of Education student Tiffany Lau and Master of Engineering (Water Resources Management) student Constance Ko, both from Hong Kong, were among just 33 high-performing international students selected from universities across Australia. Named in honour of Dr Stephen FitzGerald, Australia's first ambassador to the People's Republic of China, the initiative aims to deepen engagement between Australia and China while fostering lasting people-to-people relations.

The students were granted exclusive access to iconic landmarks including Parliament House, the High Court of Australia and the National Press Club. Through these visits, they developed unique insights into Australia's political, legal and cultural foundations.



UniSA's 2024 Stephen FitzGerald Scholars Constance Ko and Tiffany Lau with Australian National University (ANU) Australian Studies Institute (ASI) Director, Professor Mark Kenny (centre).



Rhiannon Pearce, Assistant Minister for Junior Sport Participation (far left); Professor Jon Buckley, Executive Dean of UniSA's Allied Health and Human Performance (centre left); and Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing Katrine Hildyard with SASI athletes (centre right).

## Win for SA sport with new SASI up and running

South Australian Sports Institute (SASI) athletes were given a preview tour of the new, state-of-the-art Mile End facility, ahead of operations commencing in October 2024.

The facility will be home to the UniSA Sport Science Hub on the second floor, with high performance sport science laboratories and teaching spaces for students undertaking a range of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.

The nearly \$90 million SASI facility has been designed to give South Australian and SA-based athletes a competitive edge by providing a world-class sport, research and education hub to develop and support high performance athletes, coaches and university students. SASI's nation-leading spaces include:

- Strength and conditioning gym, fit with five lane synthetic turf testing space (three lanes are 60 metres and two lanes are 40 metres) and anti-gravity treadmill.
- Environmental chamber for athlete testing under a range of temperature, hypoxic and humidity conditions.
- Full sized indoor sprung timber court and half court movement studio, designed for instant performance analysis under individual and team modes.
- Ergometer training space, home to the SASI rowing and canoe/kayak programs.
- Physiology laboratory and athlete health rooms, fit out for our allied health partners.
- Athlete recovery centre, complete with athlete nutrition zone.
- Biomechanics and exercise physiology laboratories fit for our allied health partners and for students to learn about the role that forces play in movement and physiological responses to exercise and training.

The South Australian Government invested \$68 million towards the development and UniSA contributed a further \$20 million for capital costs.

The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, were instrumental in the design and building process, alongside COX Architecture and Hansen Yuncken.

# OUR PEOPLE







## Clarivate Highly Cited Researchers

Four UniSA researchers featured on the Clarivate Highly Cited Researchers list in 2024, ranking them among the world's top scientists and social scientists, based on citations and rigorous qualitative analyses.

2024 is the first time that four UniSA researchers have been included, with Professor Timothy Olds, Professor Haywantee Ramkissoon, Professor Haolan Xu and Associate Professor Gary Owens selected for the reach and impact of their multidisciplinary research.

Their achievements coincide with a year where UniSA rose to 43 in the Times Higher Education (THE) Young University Rankings 2024, ranking as one of the world's top 50 and Australia's top 10 young universities.

UniSA Provost and Standing Acting Vice Chancellor Distinguished Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington AO says UniSA ranked first in Australia and 11th in the world in THE's industry performance indicator, which measures how much research income an institution earns from industry and the number of patents that cite UniSA research.

"This success reflects UniSA's focus on industry engagement and our ability to collaborate with and support industry," Prof Hughes-Warrington says. "We also ranked 40th in the world for research quality, which is another incredible achievement." The research quality indicator measures citation impact, research strength, research excellence and research influence.



Dr Michelle Perugini

## New Head of Commercialisation to propel UniSA's research innovations

UniSA appointed renowned health and technology entrepreneur Dr Michelle Perugini as its new Head of Commercialisation in 2024. Dr Perugini, a prominent figure in the AI sector, is known for founding two successful ventures, including a predictive analytics company later acquired by global consultancy EY and Presagen, which developed the AI IVF tool, Life Whisperer, recently acquired by medical equipment manufacturer Astec.

Dr Perugini's early career in medical research included work at UniSA's Centre for Cancer Biology, following her studies in biotechnology and medicine at UniSA and the University of Adelaide. She has received numerous accolades, including the 2023 AmCham Alliance Award Highly Commended (AI) and the 2021 Women in AI Healthcare Award.

In her role at UniSA, Dr Perugini leads the University's intellectual property and research translation activities, also serving as CEO of UniSA Ventures, the University's commercialisation subsidiary.

Peter Stevens, Director of Enterprise Partnerships at UniSA, expressed excitement about Dr Perugini's return, highlighting the University's strong legacy in research translation and startup creation.

"While Australia excels in discovery research, we need to enhance our translation efforts compared to regions like the USA and Europe," Stevens noted. This new position underscores the vital role universities play in transforming research into economic growth and societal benefits.



Ryan McClenaghan

## New UniSA director to propel defence and space initiatives

UniSA appointed Ryan McClenaghan as its new Director of Defence and Space in 2024, a pivotal role focused on advancing research and education in this critical sector.

McClenaghan comes to UniSA from Fleet Space Technologies, where he served as Director of Defence and National Security. During his three years at Fleet, he played a key role in securing millions of dollars in defence contracts, establishing the company as a leader in the satellite industry.

At UniSA, McClenaghan is leveraging his extensive international experience with defence firms, particularly in the United States and United Kingdom, and his work across the AUKUS partnership involving government and industry collaborations.

Announcing the appointment, UniSA Director: Enterprise Partnerships, Peter Stevens, stated that McClenaghan will enhance the University's influence in the defence and space sectors, both nationally and globally. "South Australia is at the forefront of Australia's space and defence initiatives, responsible for the \$368 billion nuclear submarine construction project for the AUKUS alliance and hosting the Australian Space Agency," Stevens says.

"Collaboration between academia, industry, and government is essential for the sector's success, highlighting the importance of this appointment. McClenaghan and his team will work diligently to bridge the gap between innovation and operational efficiency, while developing the necessary skills to fulfill our commitments."



Professor Tina Brodie.

### New UniSA PVC for Aboriginal Leadership and Strategy

UniSA appointed experienced Aboriginal health and wellbeing researcher and advocate, Professor Tina Brodie, as its new Pro Vice Chancellor for Aboriginal Leadership and Strategy in 2024.

Prof Brodie joined UniSA in July as Dean of Aboriginal Research, Education and Engagement, and was later appointed to the role of Pro Vice Chancellor: Aboriginal Leadership and Strategy in October.

UniSA Provost and Standing Acting Vice Chancellor Distinguished Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington AO says Prof Brodie has published several groundbreaking pieces on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing.

"Tina's track record is impressive, and unsurprisingly, in less than six months, under her leadership [as Dean], we've seen positive advancements in Aboriginal affairs and reconciliation at UniSA," Prof Hughes-Warrington says.

Prof Brodie is an Aboriginal woman with connections to Yawarrawarrka and Yandruwandha (South Australia) and has an affiliation with Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity Research Unit at the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) and the University of Adelaide in the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences. She has expertise in social work, counselling and psychotherapy, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community engagement and Indigenous methodologies.



Professor Irene Watson.

With more than 17 years of experience in Aboriginal health and wellbeing in research, education, clinical, project and leadership roles, Prof Brodie's research explores Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social and emotional wellbeing, mental health and the social determinants of health.

### Professor Irene Watson named Bradley Distinguished Professor

Professor Irene Watson was awarded the Bradley Distinguished Professor title with UniSA in 2024, named in honour of former Vice Chancellor Emeritus Professor Denise Bradley.

Prof Watson is a Tanganeakald, Meintangk, Potaruwutj, and Bunganditj Elder and an internationally recognised legal theorist and philosopher, with extensive expertise in Indigenous knowledge and legal systems.

Prof Watson's distinguished career includes serving as Pro Vice Chancellor: Aboriginal Leadership and Strategy at UniSA, where she pioneered a two-way approach to university governance, enhancing Aboriginal presence in research and teaching. Her contributions include the UniSA Reconciliation Action Plan and the first-ever Aboriginal Research Strategy.

In announcing the title, Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd praised Prof Watson, stating, "Her commitment to two-way approaches and the inclusion of Aboriginal knowledge across all aspects of university life has transformed our culture and strengthened our engagement with First Nations communities."

Prof Watson was the first South Australian Aboriginal law graduate and has been a vital advocate for the self-determination of First Nations Peoples. She played a key role in drafting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and has served as a judge on the First Nations International Court in Canada.





The Hon. John Hill.

### UniSA welcomes new Chancellor amid Council changes

UniSA welcomed the Hon John Hill as its new Chancellor in 2024, with Hill stepping up from Deputy Chancellor after former Chancellor Pauline Carr departed to focus on her role as Adelaide University Transition Council Chancellor.

The appointment was made at an April Council meeting, which also saw the addition of four new members as part of changes related to the new Adelaide University.

Hill has served on the UniSA Council since 2015 and was Deputy Chancellor from December 2018. His background includes several South Australian ministerial roles, including Environment and Conservation Minister, Health Minister and Arts Minister.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd said he has been a great asset to the Council: "John's deep governance experience will continue to serve the University well in his new role as Chancellor."

Prof Lloyd expressed gratitude to Chancellor Carr for her enormous contributions on the UniSA Council over 14 years, including as Pro Chancellor from January 2018 then Chancellor from September 2018.

"Pauline expertly stewarded the University through the COVID-19 pandemic and the transformation of our organisational structure in 2020. She has overseen UniSA as we've risen in key rankings, grown our Aboriginal engagement and awareness activities, strengthened our partnerships with industry and much more. It's fitting that she will continue to shape the University's future, albeit in a very different way, through her leadership of the Transition Council of Adelaide University," he said.

Council members Nicolle Rantanen Reynolds, Carolyn Mitchell and Jim Hazel also stepped down from the UniSA Council to concentrate on their roles on the Adelaide University Transition Council, and in their place Elaine Bensted, Ruth Blenkiron, John Evans and Terry Evans AM were appointed. UniSA Council members Michael Abbott AO KC and Mary Patetsos AM were appointed as UniSA's new Deputy Chancellor and Pro Chancellor respectively.



Emily Wilson.

### UniSA's 200,000th graduate

2024 saw UniSA's 200,000th graduate, Emily Wilson, walk across the Pridham Hall stage at the April graduation ceremony.

Emily graduated with a Bachelor of Psychology (Cognitive Neuroscience) and has now gone on to study a Master in Occupational Therapy, also at UniSA.

Emily credits her great teachers for cementing her chosen career and study pathway.

"The staff we had teaching us were amazing and really engaging," she says.

"Dr Alex Chatburn taught the initial intro to neuroscience courses which were very interesting, he has worked in the field for a long time and did a good job making very complex stuff understandable."

## Visiting Research Fellows

In 2024, UniSA's Visiting Research Fellows program welcomed 24 fellows from countries including the USA, England, Scotland, Canada and Germany.

The full list of Visiting Research Fellows for 2024 is:

- Professor Andrew Jones, South Australian Sports Institute Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor Jeff Mogil, The Hospital Research Foundation Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor David Audretsch, Seeley International Visiting Research Fellowship
- Archie Moore, Pirku murititya UniSA Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor Vikki Entwistle, The Hospital Research Foundation Visiting Research Fellowship
- Dr Chris Macgowan, The Hospital Research Foundation Visiting Research Fellowship
- Dr Adelle Sefton-Rowston, Pirku murititya UniSA Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor James Batchelor, CMAX Visiting Research Fellowship
- Jake Dunagan, SA Water Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor Teresa Cremin, Mem Fox Visiting Fellowship in Children's Literature, supported by ALEA
- Dr Marcello Giovanelli, Mem Fox Visiting Fellowship in Children's Literature, supported by ALEA
- Jacinta Koolmatrie, The Pirku murititya UniSA Visiting Research Fellowship
- Associate Professor Michelle Evans, St Vincent de Paul Society Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor Nicola Fear, The Hospital Research Foundation Visiting Research
- Dr Jilda Andrews, Pembroke School Visiting Research Fellowship
- Barbara Fitzgerald, Irwin Ermidis Visiting Research Fellowship
- Mr Michael Radke, SA Water Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor Jürgen Hubbuch, CSL Innovation Pty Ltd Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor Ingrid Sketris, CMAX Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor Sebastien Chastin, The Hospital Research Foundation Visiting Research Fellowship
- Associate Professor Ayesha Ahmed, Irwin Ermidis Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor Mary Naylor, Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation SA & SA Health – Nursing & Midwifery Office Visiting Research Fellowship
- Professor David James, CSL Innovation Pty Ltd Visiting Research Fellowship
- Associate Professor Kristian Filion, The Hospital Research Foundation Visiting Research Fellowship

## UniSA Professor named Australian of the Year for SA

UniSA child protection expert Professor Leah Bromfield, who has devoted her life to establishing practical, evidence-based solutions to child abuse and neglect, was named the 2025 Australian of the Year for South Australia.

Prof Bromfield, Director and Chair of Child Protection at UniSA's Australian Centre for Child Protection (ACCP), received the award from the SA Premier Peter Malinauskas at a ceremony in November.

Judges described the 46-year-old as "one of the most trusted researchers in her field", noting her advocacy for Australia's first National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children in 2007.

Prof Bromfield's calls for transformation and radical redesign have led to world-first insights and contributed to significant changes in the understanding of, and responses to, child abuse and neglect.

She is leading the development of a new child protection vision for SA, exploring unconventional approaches to break the cycle of abuse.

Accepting the award, Prof Bromfield paid tribute to the thousands of people working in Australia's child protection sector. "The work is hard and not very glamorous, but it is critical for our young people. I go to work every day knowing that I'm part of making a difference, that we're doing the research and developing policy and resources to actually change practice on the ground," she said.

Prof Bromfield's award coincided with ACCP's 20th birthday, marking two decades of helping to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect.



The Hon. Peter Malinauskas MP and Professor Leah Bromfield.



The five Ehrenberg-Bass directors.

## Ehrenberg Bass recognised with numerous awards

UniSA's Ehrenberg Bass is the world's largest centre for marketing research. During 2024 several of its researchers were recognised for their expertise.

Dr Nick Danenberg and Phouthun Nay's paper, 'New approaches to estimating NBD-Dirichlet model parameters, from measuring goodness-of-fit using Euclidean Distance' was listed on SSRN's Top Ten download list for ERN: Model Construction & Estimation Topic.

Professor Rachel Kennedy was recognised as one of B&T's Top 10 Best of the Best Data Scientists.

Skye Akbar and Professor Anne Souvettjis' paper 'Embedding Aboriginal Content in the Teaching Curriculum' was awarded best paper in the education track for the Australian and New Zealand Marketing Academy (ANZMAC) 2024.

Professor John Dawes' paper, 'Examining the Longitudinal Association Between Positive and Negative Likelihood-to-Recommend Scores and Brand Growth' was awarded an ANZMAC – Australian Marketing Institute (AMI) Industry Relevance Award.



Professor Matt Fitzpatrick with Dr Julie Collins at the 2024 South Australian Historian of the Year Awards. Photo by Dylan Sanders – Frankie the Creative.

## Dr Julie Collins named SA's Historian of the Year for 2024

UniSA architecture historian Dr Julie Collins was named the South Australian Historian of the Year for 2024 for her commitment to exploring the state's rich built heritage and influencing its preservation.

Dr Collins' recognition was part of the 2024 History Council of South Australia awards, announced at the finale for South Australia's History Festival in May.

Dr Collins is an internationally respected historian and the curator at UniSA's Architecture Museum, responsible for its collection of 500,000 items. Through recent projects exploring South Australia's sleepouts, department store buildings, Adelaide Oval and clock towers, she has raised awareness of history and brought it to new audiences.





Professor Marion Eckert.

### Global honour for outstanding nursing researcher

UniSA's Professor Marion Eckert became the University's first inductee into the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma) International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame.

The esteemed Hall of Fame honour recognises nursing researchers who have achieved significant recognition through outstanding research that has improved the nursing profession and community health outcomes. It is globally regarded as the highest accolade in nursing science.

Prof Eckert is UniSA's Industry Professor of Health Innovation and Enterprise within UniSA Clinical and Health Sciences, and the inaugural director of the Rosemary Bryant AO Research Centre – a partnership between UniSA and the Rosemary Bryant Foundation. She is also South Australia's inaugural Professor of Cancer Nursing in South Australia, located at UniSA.

UniSA Provost and Standing Acting Vice Chancellor, Distinguished Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington AO, says: "This prestigious new accolade for Marion acknowledges her contributions translating health research into community outcomes for more than three decades, improving healthcare delivery, policy and health services."



UniSA student Alana Pahor (left) was awarded the 2024 Julie Duncan Memorial Award for Student Journalism.

### Journalism students impress judges at 2024 SA Media Awards

UniSA journalism and creative writing student Alana Pahor showed the beginnings of a promising future in the media industry after winning the 2024 Julie Duncan Memorial Award for Student Journalism.

Pahor, a Bachelor of Journalism and Professional Writing and Bachelor of Arts (Creative Writing and Literature) student, was presented the accolade at the SA Media Awards, which recognises journalists from various outlets across the state for their important and courageous stories, features or reports.

Pahor is editor of the UniSA student publication *On The Record*, having previously been its arts editor. She also has a passion for reporting on issues affecting young people.

Fellow UniSA student Chelsea McLean was highly commended by the judges for her excellent reporting on the effects of the rental crisis on young people. Rachel Forbes, president of the UniSA student-run radio station, was also commended.

Other UniSA-connected award winners included four alumni:

- Radio/Audio – News Reporting: Angus Randall, ABC, 'National eyes on SA as it passes Voice legislation'.
- Multimedia News or Feature: Nicholas Maher, ABC, 'International crises: explained'.
- Investigative Journalism: Riley Walter, *The Advertiser*, 'Child protection failures'.
- The Max Fatchen Award for Best Young Journalist: Isabel McMillan, *The Advertiser*, body of work.



L-R: Dr Nicola Massy-Westropp, Dr Harsha Wechalekar, Dr Arjun Burlakoti and UniSA Vice Chancellor David Lloyd.

### National accolades for teaching and research dynamos

Two UniSA teams triumphed at the inaugural Shaping Australia Awards in 2024, recognising an innovative approach to teaching anatomy, and a celebrated self-help program for farmers.

The awards were launched by Universities Australia to highlight the positive contribution universities make to the community, with the inaugural ceremony presented in February by Federal Education Minister Jason Clare.

UniSA's Associate Professor Kate Gunn and community collaborator John Gladigau jointly received the Community Champion Award for their ifarmwell initiative, a free online resource launched in 2018 that helps farmers manage stress and challenges. Developed with extensive input from the farming community, ifarmwell is praised for its research-based approach and has won multiple accolades.

In the Future Builder category, UniSA's Dr Arjun Burlakoti, Dr Nicola Massy-Westropp, and Dr Harsha Wechalekar were awarded the people's choice for their innovative three-pillared anatomy teaching method, designed to enhance the learning experience for first-year allied health students. Their engaging classes and unique peer tutoring system aim to make anatomy learning more accessible and enjoyable.

## The Unstoppable Awards

Launching in 2023, the University-wide Unstoppable Awards scheme continued in 2024 to recognise and celebrate the remarkable accomplishments of our staff.

### Unstoppable Teaching and Learning Awards

Unstoppable Early-Career Teaching Award: Dr Kuan Liung Tan

Unstoppable Mid-Career Teaching Award : Dr Aaron Davis

Unstoppable Senior-Career Teaching Award: Associate Professor Rhodora (Rhoda) Abadia

Unstoppable Teaching Support Award: Professor Tom Raimondo, Dr Grant Wigley, Dr Jo Zucco, Dr Douglas Kelly, Associate Professor Stewart Von Itzstein, Dr Anisha Fernando, Karla Gotting, Cristina Garcia, Rhiannon Silverlock, Andy Te, Amy Abela, and Ben Kernich

Unstoppable Enhanced Learning Award: Neelu Sharma, John Gartland, Andrei Gostin, Caroline Man, Dr Kim Munro, Rebecca Somerfield, Anita Glocke, and Channel 44

Unstoppable Innovation Award: Dr Nazz Oldham, Alison Nelligan, Michelle Anderson, Barry Tarr, Anne Brady-Clark, Barbie Clutterbuck, Dr Michelle Jager, and Teresa Cain

Unstoppable Partnership Award: Professor Rachael Vernon, Associate Professir Lemuel Pelentsov, Dr Angela Brown, Jenny Fereday, Michelle Kennedy, and Michael Folly

### Research and Enterprise Awards

Higher Degree Researcher: Dr Lainie Anderson

Early-Career Researcher: Dr Jacynta Krakouer

Mid-Career Researcher: Associate Professor Janet Sluggett

Senior-Career Researcher: Professor Elina Hypponen

Research Degree Supervisor of the Year: Professor Eva Bezak

Professional Excellence (up to HE07): Susie Duggin



*The Unstoppable Teaching Support award team with Distinguished Professor Marnie-Hughes Warrington AO.*



*Enterprising Staff People First award team.*

Professional Excellence (HE08 and above): Sophie Murray

Team Award Category (One Team): MOD.

Human Research Ethics Award: Dr Sarven McLinton, Professor Elspeth McInnes AM, Professor Bernard Guerin

Chemical and Radiation Safety Award: Professor Eva Bezak and Elio Arruzza

Animal Ethics Award: Shawn Scott

Biosafety Award (Certificate of Commendation): Dr Ashleigh Hull and Cristina Blefari

RLC Paper of the Year: *Generative AI Guidelines* - Professor Sandy Orgeig and Sandra Elias

UniSA Top Media Performer: Professor Adrian Esterman

### Enterprising Staff Awards

Enterprising Culture: Yenise Galindo Najera

Enterprise Engagement and Partnering: Dr Jacinta Johnson

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: Neelu Sharma

One Team Achievement: CAS 2.0 System Build Project (People, Talent and Culture / Information Strategy and Technology Services)

People First: Putting Safety and Wellbeing first at UniSA (People, Talent & Culture / UniSA STEM)

Service Excellence: Steven Evanson



Dr Guy Keulemans. Photo by Carine Thevenau.

### Dr Guy Keulemans awarded for innovation in creative arts

UniSA Enterprise Fellow Dr Guy Keulemans was named the Distinguished Innovation in Creative Arts Award Winner in the Australian Council of Deans and Directors of Creative Arts' (DDCA) inaugural awards in 2024.

The DDCA is a representative body for the creative arts in Australian Universities and launched the awards program in aim of recognising contributions to the sector.

Dr Keulemans is a member of the University's Creative People, Products and Places Research Centre and specialises in sustainable craft and design, specifically new forms of repair and reuse as part of the broader field of circular economy.

His research project, Transformative Repair, involved more than a dozen designers, artists and craftspeople repairing a collection of beloved items, each cherished by owners who witnessed the possessions undergo remarkable transformations.

The DDCA Award judge, Dr Simon Spain, commended Dr Keulemans' work: "This is a highly commendable research initiative that places creative practice at its core, fostering the creation of joyful, thoughtful, and sustainable objects. It not only advances knowledge but also proposes models for new, adaptive ways of living in a rapidly changing world," said Dr Spain.

Dr Keulemans won the Australian Council of University Art and Design Schools (ACUADS) Excellence in Research Award as well as UniSA's Creative's Innovation in Research Award in 2024.



Dr Sarah Boyle and Associate Professor Ashleigh Smith.

### UniSA represented in 40 under 40

UniSA staff and alumni were recognised in Solstice Media's 2024 '40 Under 40' list.

The list includes exceptional young individuals in South Australia who stand out in their field. Recognition in the program also provides access to Solstice Media's exclusive 40 Under 40 alumni network.

Within the '40 under 40' program, alum Bonnie McBride was presented with the Creative Thinking Award, alum Zachary Munn received the Discovery Award and staff alum and STEM Research Fellow Giles Kirby received the Entrepreneurial Award.

Research Fellow at the Centre for Cancer Biology Dr Sarah Boyle and Associate Professor in Healthy Ageing Ashleigh Smith were also named on the list.

Other UniSA alumni in the '40 Under 40' included:

- Zachary Bailey
- Ross Gray
- Jack Kempson
- Stephanie McConachy
- Madelene Ragno



Design graduates (from top) Zenith Zaccara, Jake Lane and Natasha Hutton.

### UniSA design graduates shine at GOTYAs

A UniSA product design graduate took out the top South Australian award at the Design Institute of Australia Graduate of the Year Awards (GOTYAs) in 2024.

Zenith Zaccara, who studied a Bachelor of Design (Product Design) at UniSA, was named the SA/NT Graduate of the Year at the GOTYAs.

UniSA Bachelor of Interior Architecture graduates Jake Lane and Natasha Hutton were also recognised at the awards, with Jake being commended in the *Place* category in higher education and Natasha winning the category.

The awards support and celebrate exceptional Australian designers as they start out their careers. They also provide design graduates with pivotal, real-life feedback from experienced designers and industry figures to prepare them for employment within the Australian design industry.





Professor Mark Billinghamurst.



Emeritus Professor Bruce Thomas.



Dr Brianna Le Busque.

## UniSA researchers inducted into Augmented Reality Hall of Fame

Two UniSA researchers, Professor Mark Billinghamurst and Emeritus Professor Bruce Thomas, were inducted into the Augmented World Expo (AWE) XR Hall of Fame in 2024, recognising their significant contributions to augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR). They are among 101 global pioneers honoured for their roles in advancing the AR and VR industry.

Based at UniSA's Australian Research Centre for Interactive and Virtual Environments (IVE), Prof Billinghamurst and Prof Thomas are the only AWE XR Hall of Fame recipients from Australia.

Prof Billinghamurst is celebrated for his innovative approaches to enhancing collaboration through AR and VR technologies. He co-developed the open-source tracking library ARToolKit and has pioneered projects like the award-winning AR MagicBook, which integrates physical books with virtual elements. His research has also explored multimodal input methods, allowing intuitive interactions in AR/VR environments.

Prof Thomas is known for co-developing the first outdoor AR game, ARQuake, and for his early work on the Tinmith AR headset. His expertise in wearable AR technology has driven advancements across education, healthcare, and entertainment. Although he retired in 2023, Professor Thomas remains active in research and supervision at IVE, continuing to influence the AR landscape.

Their induction into the AWE XR Hall of Fame highlights UniSA's status as a premier institution for AR/VR research.

## UniSA scientist named Superstar of STEM

UniSA environmental psychology scientist Dr Brianna Le Busque was named a Superstar of STEM by Science & Technology Australia in 2024 for her work to change society's negative perceptions of sharks and promote their conservation.

Dr Le Busque, who has published 17 peer-reviewed publications and presented at nine conferences, aims to use her Superstar of STEM profile to highlight the appeal of non-traditional science careers, including conservation and environmental science.

"I want to show people, particularly women and gender diverse people, that science is not restricted to working in a lab or using microscopes. I talk to people, I do surveys, read newspaper articles, and watch shark films. That is my science."

The STEM Superstars program aims to challenge gender assumptions about who can work in science, technology, engineering, and maths. The program trains recipients in public speaking, media and communication skills, equipping them with the confidence to share the benefits of a science career.

## Major grants for 2024

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Investigator and Ideas research grants were awarded to six UniSA projects in 2024, collectively valued at around \$5.7 million. The supported researchers are:

Associate Professor Philip Gregory (\$1,166,928): Uncovering the functions of splice variants driving breast cancer progression.

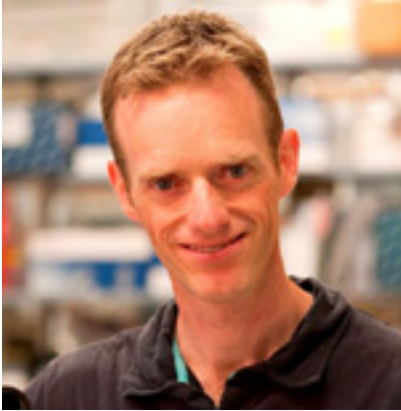
Dr Dot Dumuid (\$1,378,364): Addressing time inequality through AI-based personalised time-use interventions.

Associate Professor Quenten Schwarz (\$1,125,492): Exploring new anti-apoptotic roles of intracrine VEGF in cartilage development and disease.

Professor Michael Samuel (\$851,789): Defining the causal relationships between the tumour ECM and cancer outcomes.

Professor Peter Hoffmann (\$481,016): Diagnosis of lymph node metastasis in endometrial cancer.

Dr Hanif Haidari (\$674,400): Development of a dissolvable antibacterial microneedle patch for deep wound biofilms.



Associate Professor Phillip Gregory.



Associate Professor Quenten Schwarz.



Dr Hanif Haidari.



Professor Michael Samuel.



Professor Peter Hoffmann.



Dr Dot Dumuid.

## Medical Research Future Fund grants

Six UniSA researchers were awarded grants worth around \$4.3 million under the Federal Government's Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) in 2024. The recipients were:

Prof Lorimer Moseley (\$2.9 million): To implement a combined intervention in two rural communities to improve primary healthcare professionals' knowledge and skills in providing best-evidence care, and co-design and deliver a 'whole of community' educational lifestyle program for people living with chronic pain.

Dr Sarah Wallwork (\$59,937): To co-design the VITAL Project (validation, understanding, and graded, valued activity prescription) for Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis.

Dr Amanda Lumsden (\$45,087): To develop a predictive tool for ovarian cancer through patient-centred symptom data collection.

Dr Carolyn Berryman (\$2,604,234): To incorporate co-design and systems thinking to generate, implement and evaluate an improved model of care for youth with chronic pain.

Dr Allison Cowin (\$588,922): To conduct controlled release of secretome from tailored hydrogels for wound healing therapy.

Assoc Prof Quenten Schwarz (\$976,292): To develop genetic predisposition models of paediatric neuronal tumours.

## ARC Discovery and Linkage grants

Eight UniSA research teams received Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Projects, Linkage Projects and Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities grants worth over \$4.8 million in 2024. The supported projects are:

Bradley Distinguished Professor Sharad Kumar (\$733,179): To discover a new mechanism for regulating cell death.

Prof Md Mizanur Rahman (\$401,500): To stabilise tailings dam capping with plant-enzymes.

Prof Anthony Elliott AM (\$724,942): To investigate generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) practices in organisational and workplace contexts, and propose solutions to counter human-machine interaction concerns.

Associate Prof Erik Champion (\$520,686): To develop and evaluate a gamified 3D cultural heritage platform for archaeology and architecture.

Associate Prof Philip Gregory (\$750,292): To capitalise on advances in gene editing technology to determine the functional consequences of alternative splicing.

Prof Yan Zhuge (\$402,221): To develop a novel co-extrusion technique for 3D concrete printing, seeking to leverage sustainable solutions to Portland cement.

Prof Yan Zhuge (\$420,000): To establish an innovative biaxial electromagnetic Hopkinson apparatus to study the dynamic property of materials.

Dr Jacinta Krakouer (\$865,660): To generate new knowledge to prevent infant removal in Aboriginal families by showcasing how Aboriginal people experience child protection intervention during pregnancy and after birth.

## ARC Discovery Early Career Researcher Award, Industry Fellowships and Future Fellowships

Two UniSA researchers were collectively awarded more than \$900,000 in 2024 through Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards (DECRA). One other UniSA researcher was awarded a Future Fellowship, while another researcher was awarded a Mid-Career Industry Fellowship. The recipients were:

Dr Skye Akbar (DECRA - \$456,561): Working with Aboriginal tourism stakeholders to develop marketing knowledge to improve consumer participation in Aboriginal Tourism Marketing.

Dr Wei Cai (DECRA - \$488,261): To create innovative fire-resistant polymer composite coatings, mitigating fire risks in steel structures.

Prof Ferry Melchels (ARC Future Fellowship - \$1,189,902): To engineer biomaterials pre-programmed to expand gradually and organically and investigate how gradual expansion can aid stem cells to regenerate damaged tissue.

Dr Bethany Cooper (Mid-Career Industry Fellowship - \$827,250): To build public trust in new water-related technologies (wastewater monitoring and purification) to secure Australia's water future.

## Cancer Australia's PdCCRS grants

Three Centre for Cancer Biology (CCB) researchers from UniSA were collectively awarded more than \$1.3 million in 2024 to further vital cancer research under Cancer Australia's 2023 Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme (PdCCRS).

Professor Michael Samuel and his team were awarded \$573,833, via Bowel Cancer Australia through the PdCCRS, to investigate why people diagnosed with early-onset bowel cancer have a 50% chance of experiencing a relapse after surgery to remove the primary tumour.

Professor Richard D'Andrea was granted \$599,392 to analyse genetic changes and improve precision medicine for children with acute myeloid leukaemia (AML).

Dr Sarah Boyle was awarded \$199,883, via the Can Too Foundation, to investigate a new way of tackling the spread of breast cancer and improving outcomes for patients.

## Channel 7 Children's Research Foundation grants

Eight UniSA research projects were awarded almost \$740,000 in research funding from the Channel 7 Children's Research Foundation (CRF) in 2024 to help improve children's health and wellbeing.

The successful recipients were:

Dr Jacinta Brinsley and her team for the co-creation of MindScape, an evidence-based board game to address adolescent mental health. .

Dr Michelle Swift to develop a Phase 1 trial of group improvisational theatre games that include Acceptance and Commitment Therapy treatment for children and teens who stutter.

Prof Greg Goodall who is leading research to minimise treatment-induced disease in children with the nerve cell cancer neuroblastoma.

Dr Jack Darby for his research on reducing ventilator-induced lung injury in preterm babies..

Dr Chelsea Cutting for the Launching Early Childhood Numeracy project, fostering mathematical self-efficacy of preschool children and their parents for lifelong learning.

Prof Benjamin Thierry for developing lab-grown paediatric brain tumours that mimic the response to treatment of real tumours to learn how they adapt and resist radiotherapy.

Dr Marnie Winter for her research on improving the understanding of fetal DNA found in maternal blood during pregnancy towards designing more comprehensive non-invasive prenatal genetic tests.

Prof Leah Bromfield for her research on re-examining the scope of statutory child protection to improve responses to children.





Dr Sam Fowler.



Dr Hayley Leake.

### Accolades for research into teacher professional development and pain science education

Dr Sam Fowler and Dr Hayley Leake jointly received the 2024 Ian Davey Research Thesis Prize for their outstanding research theses in teacher professional development and pain science education, respectively.

The Ian Davey Research Thesis Prize acknowledges the most outstanding research thesis by a UniSA research degree student leading to a Doctor of Philosophy degree. Both Dr Fowler and Dr Leake were awarded \$5000 and recognised for innovative contributions to their fields.

Dr Fowler's thesis involved a design-based research project focused on enhancing teachers' epistemic cognition to improve teaching practices. His iterative model development engaged various industry partners, yielding practical improvements for both industry and students.

Dr Leake, a physiotherapist and scientist, aimed to enhance chronic pain management in adolescents through a mixed-methods study. By analysing a decade of consumer feedback, her research has directly influenced educational content for public pain education programs. She has also spearheaded interventions tested in an NHMRC-funded trial for adults with Complex Regional Pain Syndrome, ensuring her findings reach both clinical and community stakeholders through various platforms, including public talks and social media.

### Brain tumour scholarships and grants awarded to UniSA students

UniSA students received scholarships and grants awarded by the NeuroSurgical Research Foundation (NRF) in 2024, with funds supporting brain tumour research.

The NRF Research Vacation Scholarship was awarded to Stella Russo to support her research examining the effect of deletion of SphK1 and/or SphK2 on glioblastoma proliferation, migration and response to chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

The Richard Buttery NRF Glioblastoma Research Vacation Scholarship was presented to Samuel Wallis to explore potential careers in glioblastoma research through an eight-week UniSA placement. The funds for the scholarship were raised in honour of the late Richard Buttery who died from a glioblastoma brain tumour.

The Chris Adams Uni SA Research Grant was awarded to UniSA PhD candidate Eunwoo (Chris) Nam, enabling him to present his research overseas, gaining feedback and information to bring to UniSA's Centre for Cancer Biology (CCB) research community. The grant was established in memory of Chris Adams, who died at the age of 26 as a result of brain cancer.

Alongside this, the Adams family funded two Strong Enough To Live PhDs, named after their mantra for life. These were awarded to Bryan Gardam who will investigate Dendritic Cell and T-Cell combination immunotherapy, and Dione Gardner-Stephen who will be assessing treatment options for the childhood cancer medulloblastoma.



L-R: Cherrie Adams, Eunwoo (Chris) Nam and Martin Adams.



Kerry Buttery and scholarship recipient Samuel Wallis.

## Helpmann Academy awards

The 2024 Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition Awards showcased the work of graduates from UniSA and Flinders University, and of the 17 awards presented, 13 were won by UniSA graduates. The UniSA award recipients were:

- Helpmann Major Exhibition Award and Helpmann Academy/ACE Studio Program Award: Katey Smoker (Bachelor of Contemporary Art)
- Fetzer Award for Excellence and City Rural Insurance Development Award: Lauren Downton (Bachelor of Contemporary Art)
- Hill Smith Art Advisory Award: Jess Harrison (Bachelor of Contemporary Art)
- Lang Family Foundation/McKee Award: Katherine Shierlaw (Bachelor of Contemporary Art)
- City of Adelaide Award: Thao Le (Bachelor of Contemporary Art; her work was acquired by the City of Adelaide's art collection)

- Square Holes Award: Bryan May (Bachelor of Contemporary Art)
- JamFactory Ceramics Award in collaboration with The Australian Ceramics Association: Tiarnie Edwards (Bachelor of Contemporary Art)
- Jaquillard Exhibition Award: Cameron Longshaw (Bachelor of Contemporary Art)
- SALA Award: Tam Timko (Bachelor of Contemporary Art)
- People's Choice Award: Eddie Normington (Bachelor of Contemporary Art)

UniSA Creative Executive Dean Professor Craig Batty emphasised the significance of the Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition, stating, "This event acts as a vital launchpad, showcasing the exceptional talents of our recent graduates. It not only provides a platform for public exhibition but also instills confidence in students to pursue their artistic careers."



Contemporary Art graduate Katey Smoker took out top honours at the Helpmann Academy's Graduate Exhibition.



Hannah Cockram.

## Maurice de Rohan Scholarship winners take their research to the world

Three PhD students, Hannah Cockram, David Randall, and Raman Voranau, were awarded the Maurice de Rohan Scholarship, enabling them to pursue their research globally through travel to the UK or USA.

The scholarship, named after Maurice John de Rohan AO OBE, an Australian engineer and former Agent General for South Australia, is awarded to research degree students to provide them with the opportunity to gain an international perspective on their research topics.



David Randall.

The students will receive funds to cover international travel to improve their thesis through research or data collection and build research relationships with academics at international institutions.

Hannah Cockram will spend three months at King's College London, working with Professor Nicola Fear, a leading expert in the field of veteran and first responder health and wellbeing. Cockram's PhD focuses on the psychological and physical wellbeing of veterans, first responders, and their families as they transition through the Wellbeing for Australian Veterans and Emergency Services (WAVES) program.



Raman Voranau.

David Randall, whose PhD is investigating how ePortfolios can help university students build lifelong learning skills, will travel to the UK and visit the University of Manchester.

Raman Voranau will travel to the UK to advance his PhD research into inclusion and career insecurity in the video game production industry.



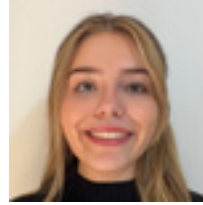
Alex Nash.



Angus McKinnon.



Anna Revesz.



Annalise Pseudos.



Hae-Yun Kim.



Jess Tresidder.



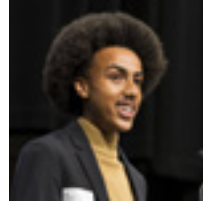
Jordan De Visser.



Jordan Lewis.



Phong Dang.



Solli Raphael.



Thomas Neville.

## New Colombo Plan Scholarships

Eleven high achieving students were awarded prestigious New Colombo Plan (NCP) Scholarships in 2024, the most from UniSA since the NCP initiative began in 2014.

Alex Nash, a Bachelor of Business (Tourism and Event Management) student, will undergo intensive language training and event management studies at Mahidol University International College in Thailand.

Angus McKinnon, a Bachelor of Health Science (UniSA Online) student, will join the global exchange program at International University - VNU-HCM in Vietnam. With a background in disability and learning support, he aims to understand how disability services operate in Vietnam and how various factors influence health systems.

Anna Revesz, a Bachelor of Digital Media student, will explore digital media trends at the International College of Liberal Arts at Yamanashi Gakuin University in Japan. Her journey includes a three-month internship at a Japanese GLAM institution, where she'll deepen her understanding of Japanese art and design practices.

Annalise Pseudos, a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) / Bachelor of Psychology student will immerse herself in Indonesian culture through language training and studies at Universitas Gadjah Mada. Her focus will be on the Indonesian judicial system, followed by a two-month legal internship, aiming to foster connections between young Australian and Indonesian lawyers.

Hae-Yun Kim, a Bachelor of Secondary Education (Honours) student, will participate in a 14-month program at Seoul National University, South Korea, focusing on AI, mathematics education, and organic chemistry. She plans to apply the teaching principles she learns in Cambodia as a teacher's assistant.

Jess Tresidder, a Bachelor of Business (Marketing) student, will study at City University of Hong Kong, enhancing her skills through extensive Cantonese language training. She's eager to engage with entrepreneurial leaders in Hong Kong's vibrant business ecosystem.

Jordan De Visser, a Bachelor of Information Technology student, will combine intensive Hindi training with studies in AI and data analytics at Ashoka University in India. He plans to complete a software internship at Tata Consultancy Services in Mumbai.

Jordan Lewis, a Bachelor of Business student, will study at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji. Jordan is committed to advancing disability rights, and will explore disability support management in diverse cultural contexts aiming for an internship with the Pacific Disability Forum.

Phong Dang, a Bachelor of Business (Marketing & International) student, who is bilingual, will enhance his Korean language skills at Korea University. His goal is to secure an internship with a major South Korean corporation, gaining experience in global marketing.

Solli Raphael, a Bachelor of Health Science (Nutrition and Exercise) student, will study at Rikkyo University in Japan, focusing on exercise science and community health. His internship at a facility for the elderly will allow him to apply his knowledge practically.

Thomas Neville, a Bachelor of Business (Economics, Finance and Trade)/ Bachelor of Finance student, will study at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, as his third NCP experience. He's looking forward to intensive Cantonese training and courses on housing policy and urban transportation.





Playford Trust Scholarship recipients Caleb Ferraresso and Daniel Chalmers with then UniSA Provost and Chief Academic Officer Professor Joanne Cys.

## Playford Trust Scholarships

Five UniSA students were awarded Playford Trust Scholarships in 2024. The scholarships support students working in areas of strategic importance to the state. The UniSA recipients for 2024 were:

Engineering honours student Aaron Hayward, who will use his scholarship to complete an internship in Europe with Krone, focusing on the BigPack Square Baler, which compacts dried hay for animal feed. His research aims to improve traceability in the fodder industry.

Information Technology honours student Adrian Brown, who plans to establish a studio in Adelaide to create innovative games, researching the use of ChatGPT and similar models in game development to enhance player experiences.

Engineering honours student Daniel Chalmers, who aims to explore new approaches to metal additive manufacturing following his internship at the Australian Submarine Corporation, with a vision for its role in engineering and rapid prototyping.

Engineering honours student Caleb Ferraresso, who will collaborate with Cornell University on designing an advanced golf ball return system for the PGA Tour, bringing his strong background in maths and science to the project.

PhD student Andrew Edwards, who's research aims to discover ways in which quantum light mechanics can secure satellite-based communication networks and ensure confidentiality.

## New scholarships

Each year more than 2500 students are supported by UniSA scholarships and grants. In 2024, UniSA introduced nine new donor-funded scholarships and six new donor-funded student grant schemes. Scholarships offered for the first time in 2024 were:

### Alkira Burrows Aboriginal Scholarship

Available to second year undergraduate students enrolled in the Nursing, Teaching or Allied Health programs providing funds towards living and/or education expenses.

### Betty Can:Do 4Kids Occupational Therapy Scholarship

Available to talented students who wish to pursue occupational therapy as a career and work in a field that broadly aligns with the Can:Do Group operations.

### Betty Can:Do 4Kids Speech Pathology Scholarship

Available to talented students who wish to pursue speech pathology as a career and work in a field that broadly aligns with the Can:Do Group operations.

### Ian Berriman Memorial Architecture Scholarship

Available to architecture students (both undergraduate and postgraduate programs) and designed to support them throughout their studies leading to future registration as an architect.

### Korvest Mechanical Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing Scholarship

Available to Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) students with opportunity for industry experience and a project internship.

### Margaret J Duncan Scholarship

Available to students enrolled in a UniSA Business undergraduate program who demonstrate academic achievement and financial need.

### Suzanne Caragianis PhD Top-Up Scholarship

Available to an international Doctor of Philosophy student undertaking a research project in the field of Occupational Therapy or Physiotherapy.

### Gavin Wanganeen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarship (Supported by Neville Morcombe KC)

Available to Aboriginal students in the first year of a three-year undergraduate program or second year of a four/five-year undergraduate program within UniSA Justice & Society.

### RAMIRA International Student Nursing Scholarship

Available to full-time commencing international students of Indian origin enrolled in the Bachelor of Nursing.

## UniSA's Joelle Chong recognised at the 2024 Merdeka Awards

Joelle Chong Ci Ann, a final year Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) international student from Selangor, Malaysia, received a prestigious 2024 Merdeka Award.

The Merdeka Awards acknowledge outstanding academic excellence and significant contributions to bilateral relationships between South Australia and Malaysia. Joelle impressed judges with her strong academic record including a Chancellor's Letter of Commendation, placing her in the top 5% of her studies, along with an International Merit Scholarship.

She expressed that the award reflects the hard work she has dedicated over the past year and a half while adjusting to life in a new country. "It shows that all my efforts are not in vain and that it's producing good outcomes not only for myself, but for my family," Joelle stated.

The award, which includes a monetary component, will assist her goal of becoming a registered pharmacist in Australia. Inspired by the challenges faced by her family in medicine usage, Joelle aims to improve pharmaceutical care for diverse populations.

Beyond her academic excellence, Joelle has championed multiculturalism and actively contributed to the South Australian community. She has provided culturally safe patient care at an Adelaide chemist, volunteered at WOMAdelaide, and engaged in fundraising for the SAHMRI Bright Walk, supporting vital medical research.

Joelle also initiated a research project aimed at bridging communication gaps between hospital and community pharmacies to enhance patient care.



Merdeka Award winner Joelle Chong Ci Ann.



3MT® Winners L-R: Aayushi Notra, Sarah McMullen-Roach and Edmund Hypolite.

## UniSA's 2024 3MT® Winners

Sarah McMullen-Roach, an experienced occupational therapist and PhD candidate, was the 2024 winner of the UniSA Three Minute Thesis (3MT®). Sarah won a \$3000 research grant for her compelling presentation, which focused on the lived experiences of LGBTI+ older adults navigating aged care. Her research highlights that many LGBTI+ older Australians still face significant barriers to receiving care with the dignity and respect they deserve.

"We have found that many LGBTI+ older adults experience a pervasive fear when considering aged care," she explains. "This fear is so consuming that, for many, the preferable alternative is often seen as suicide or voluntary assisted dying."

Her PhD compiled the perspectives of over 3,500 LGBTI+ individuals, aiming to create a more inclusive environment that allows them to age without fear. "It is not acceptable that they are relegated to invisibility in their old age. My ambition is that LGBTI+ people are not forced to age fearfully but supported to age fabulously," Sarah states.

Aayushi Notra was runner up, receiving a \$1000 research grant for her presentation titled: From Data to Discovery: New Steps in the Fight Against Neuroblastoma. A self-described data detective, Aayushi's research is working on understanding how transcription factors inhibit differentiation, ultimately seeking to improve outcomes for children battling neuroblastoma.

The People's Choice award, also a \$1000 research grant, was awarded to Edmund Hypolite for his presentation titled: The Role of Teachers in Creating Racially Inclusive Secondary Schools. His research examines teacher reluctance to address systemic racism and the impact of white discomfort on educational environments.

The 3MT® is an international competition celebrating research undertaken by PhD candidates. Competitors must present their research using non-technical language, with just one slide, in just three minutes.

# Precincts and communities







# Enterprise Hub



Dr Michelle Perugini.

## Innovative new leadership talent

In October UniSA welcomed Ryan McClenaghan as the new Director of Defence and Space, to steer research and education across the two sectors, with particular focus on AUKUS.

UniSA Director: Enterprise Partnerships, Peter Stevens, says McClenaghan's appointment will continue to strengthen the University's defence and space industry collaborations in Australia and internationally.

"Academia, industry and government need to work hand-in-hand to ensure the sector thrives, highlighting the importance of this appointment," Stevens says.

"Ryan has made a substantial impact during his previous role as Director, Defence and National Security at Fleet Space Technologies, securing millions of dollars in defence contracts, and we are thrilled to have his expertise at UniSA.

"Ryan and his experienced team are now working closely to bridge the gap between innovation and operational efficiency as well as collaborating to develop the skills required to deliver on our commitments."

Just a month later UniSA welcomed another innovative leader, Dr Michelle Perugini, as the new Head of Commercialisation.



Ryan McClenaghan.

Dr Perugini is a leading health and technology entrepreneur, having founded two successful AI tech ventures and commercialised multiple award-winning AI health tools, positioning her well to lead UniSA's intellectual property (IP) and research translation activities, including as CEO of UniSA Ventures.

Stevens says he is delighted to welcome Dr Perugini to this key strategic role at UniSA.

"UniSA has a strong legacy in research translation through the creation of startups, and growth of entrepreneurs and IP licensing, now centralised through our Enterprise Hub," Peter Stevens explains.

"While Australia has a strong reputation for discovery research, it has a relatively poor record for translation compared to other geographies such as the USA, Europe, and UK.

"Dr Perugini's appointment recognises the critical importance of research translation and innovation, including the crucial role universities play in commercialising research to grow the Australian economy and improve lives around the world."

## Golden year for Enterprise Hub

During 2024 various members of the Enterprise Hub team attended a range of industry events, including the Australia Japan Business Co-operation Committee (AJBCC) conference in Japan and the BIO International Convention in the US. The team also attended and presented at the University Industry Innovation Network (UIIN) conference, with their efforts recognised by being awarded the conference's Most Creative Presentation.

In October the Enterprise Hub supported The Circle's First Nations Business Showcase (South Australia) through a gold sponsorship. Over 100 First Nation's businesses were represented at the event which provided attendees with the opportunity to learn more about the capacity and capability of this sector.

In December Partner Engagement Manager: Aboriginal Research, Ms Sophie Murray, was announced as the winner in the Research and Enterprise Excellence – Professional Excellence award category of the annual UniSA Unstoppable awards.

## New scaleup pathway for space startups

The University of South Australia's Innovation & Collaboration Centre (ICC) and Australian Centre for Business Growth (AuCBG) joined forces to offer space startups a fully funded scaleup pathway, in addition to a \$10,000 equity-free acceleration stipend.

Supported through South Australian Government funding, companies that graduate from the ICC's six-month Venture Catalyst Space accelerator program and other space companies ready to scale, are eligible to apply for the AuCBG's six-month Growth Ramp scaleup program to take their business to the next level.

## A catalyst for growth

A digital notebook for new business ideas and professional services employment opportunities for people experiencing disadvantage are among the six new innovations breaking into South Australia's entrepreneurial ecosystem with the Venture Catalyst acceleration program.

Delivered by the University of South Australia's ICC, the six-month program bolsters startups with funding, resources and industry expertise to help them accelerate.

UniSA Deputy Director: Business Incubation Craig Jones says despite the program being in its ninth year, he continues to marvel at the creative scope of innovations the program attracts.

"I am constantly impressed by the multidisciplinary talent that comes through the Venture Catalyst program," says Jones.

"This year's cohort of six are no exception, solving complex challenges in diverse contexts like allied health, social health and sustainable employment, and management of complex data through three-dimensional navigation."

The 2024 cohort included Critiqal Path, Lumina Vista, Think It Do It (TIDI), Ardant Advantage, SiteSeer and InnovateAI.



2024 Venture Catalyst acceleration program cohort.

## Bringing international talent to SA's innovation ecosystem

The UniSA's ICC has been a growing hub for innovative entrepreneurs to develop their startups for the past eight years.

Attracting new international startups to the South Australian entrepreneurial landscape has been a focus of the ICC since 2021 through the Global Pathways Program (GPP), this year taking in two new companies, Pacific Legacy and Future Mouths Training and Technology.

UniSA Deputy Director: Business Incubation Craig Jones says the organisations joining the program this year will benefit the wider South Australian community.

"By bringing these innovative companies to South Australia we are able to assist the local economy not only through their business offerings but also the generation of future jobs," he says.



2024 Global Pathways Program cohort.

"It is also about creating a culture for Adelaide to be seen as a desirable place for entrepreneurs to establish their organisations."

Five companies received incubation support in 2024 from the ICC as part of their nomination for GPP including Edulyte, Quickly Technologies PTY LTD, SOCIO Markets, Pacific Legacy and Future Mouths Training and Technology.





# MOD.

## MOD. launches *BROKEN*

Housing, education, universal services, politics, collaboration. It can sometimes feel like the world is so *BROKEN* that nothing will ever change.

The world has changed before, and it will change again.

MOD's 2024 exhibition *BROKEN* explored how the world could be different if we imagined new ways of being.

Director of MOD, Dr Kristin Alford says, "We live in a volatile, uncertain world and it's no surprise that with climate change and AI people feel like the world isn't fit for purpose. It feels a bit broken. This exhibition acknowledges that but equips visitors with skills in future-thinking, so that they can imagine alternatives and leave with a sense of active hope."

Visitors were loaned a unique token which they used to record answers that were posed in the exhibits throughout *BROKEN*. What does putting nature first look like? Could teenagers have more say in their futures? Is it possible to have somewhere to live when no one owns a house?

A personalised story about how the individual sees the world was revealed at the end of their experience.

Exhibition Co-ordinator, Dr Dylan DeLosAngeles, says *BROKEN* is unlike anything MOD. has done before.

"It steps beyond despair or frustration and into a world of alternative systems," he says.

## Accolades for MOD.

2024 was a particularly outstanding year for MOD. in terms of recognition on a local, national and global stage as an award finalist or winner. Accolades included:

Museum and Galleries National Awards: Highly Commended – Exhibiting Excellence and Art of Expression for *BROKEN*, Finalist – Community Connection Award for *EUCALARA COMMONS*.

*BROKEN* – various images.

ICOM Cimuset: Winner – Cimuset Award

Asia Pacific Network of Science and Technology Centres Awards: Winner – Creative Exhibit for *BROKEN*

South Australian Screen Awards: Best Web Series for *Be Curious*

SA Science Excellence and Innovation Awards: Finalist – SA Innovator of the Year

South Australian Tourism Awards: Bronze Medal – Tourist Attraction category and Finalist – Excellence in Accessible Tourism category

Blooloo Top 50 Museum Influencer List 2024: Dr Kristen Alford

UniSA Unstoppable Awards: Winner – Team Award category and Finalist – Human Research Ethics category

## Themes of the future

Since 2019 MOD. has been running the *Future Themes Forum* to encourage input from target audiences in developing exhibition themes that are relevant. In 2024 postgraduate students Maeve McNeilage undertook an analysis of MOD's forums across 2019, 2022 and 2024.

Themes of trust, change and connection were common across the three forums, as were issues of climate change, technological advancements, human connection and failing systems. Where there were variations between the forums, it was reflective of the socio-political and cultural climate of the time. For example, the theme of age care presented more prominently in 2019 which aligned with the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety interim report, while in 2022 adapting to a 'new normal' post-pandemic was dominant, and in 2024 attention turned to artificial intelligence (AI), aligning with increased public discourse on the matter.

Both the differences and consistencies in themes across the forums emphasises the intersection of humans and technology, a desire for inclusivity and the need for systemic change to drive a more fair, connected and sustainable future.

## Futurists in residence

During 2024 MOD. welcomed three Futurist-in-Residence, supported through the University's Visiting Research Fellowship (VRF) program.

In February-March Mr Michael Radke, co-founder and executive director of the Ubuntu Lab in Oakland, California, engaged in two-way knowledge exchange with MOD. staff, developing a research project with Dr Kristin Alford. Mr Radke's time at MOD. overlapped with fellow Futurist-in-Residence, Dr Jilda Andrews, a cultural practitioner and researcher based at the Australian National University.

During her residency Dr Andrews, a Yuwaalaraay woman, investigated the concept of 'two-way minded futures' with the intent of imagining strong cultural futures in a respectful, deferential, and privileged Australia.

Dr Jake Dunagan, director of the Governance Futures Lab at the Institute for the Future and teacher in the School of Design and Creative Technologies at the University of Texas in Austin, took up residency during June-July. Dr Dunagan's residency focussed the exploration of governance, social norms and civic knowledge.

## Nature, culture and connection

In October MOD. hosted a Nature Festival event in collaboration with John Fargher and Mark Koolmatrie at Yundi Nature Conservancy. Supported by SA Water's Reconciliation Partnerships Program, the fieldtrip saw a wide range of community members, from children and students to experts and academics, spend the day in the Yundi swamplands to learn, play, connect and care for nature and culture.

## MOD. collaborates with WHO

MOD's Museum of Health Futures exhibition was showcased at the World Health Organization's (WHO's) Regional Committee Meeting in Manila, Philippines during October. The exhibition was informed by a six-month futures-thinking process that began with staff and partners of WHO's Western Pacific Regional Office on World Health Day.

## MOD. publications

During 2024 the MOD. team contributed to four book chapters and a publication with Dr Kristen Alford also launching her book, *Cultivating Futures Thinking in Museums*.

## Ethos in 2024

MOD. continued *Ethos* in 2024, an event series centred on conversations about ethical issues relating to research, technology and society.

The first conversation of the year, *Indigenous IP: Ripe for the picking*, explored how First Nations cultural knowledges, practices and intellectual property have been exploited for mass-profit. The multisensory and multidisciplinary event was facilitated by Dr Debbie Devis with knowledge sharing and discussion by Rebecca Sullivan and Damien Coulthard of Warndu, Michael Watkins and Dr Susan Semple.

In the second half of the year *Surviving or thriving: The ethics of health and safety in the workplace* saw event participants complete a Psychosocial Safety Climate (PSC) questionnaire. Led by Australian Research Council Laureate Professor Maureen Dollard, the PSC tool provided basis for discussion between participants and an expert panel, including Dr Rachael Potter, Professor Kurt Lushington and Dr Debbie Devis.



# Samstag Museum of Art



Ceramics by Bruce Nuske and exhibition design and furniture by Khai Liew.

Following flooding in 2023 that closed the gallery for most of the year, the much-anticipated public re-opening of the Samstag Museum of Art coincided with Parnati season. Parnati, meaning autumn in Kaurna culture, saw two exhibitions exploring decoration, tradition and symbolism as part of the 2024 Adelaide Festival - ceramics by Bruce Nuske with exhibition design and furniture by Khai Liew, and Dana Awartani's exhibition of moving image and installation works, including a large, coloured sand carpet created in Samstag's Gallery.

In June, *Mulka Yata/The Knowledge of Place*, presented new work alongside historic material as a group exhibition by Kristian Coulthard, Sasha Grbich, Antony Hamilton, Guy Keulemans, Kyoko Hashimoto and John R Walker, with music and sculpture by Dylan and Christopher Crismani, exploring the landscape and ecology encompassing the Ikara-Flinders Ranges region.

The Kudlila (winter) season also included an exhibition by one of Indonesia's most revered contemporary artists, FX Harsono. Video installation, *NAMA* ('names' in Indonesian), reflected on group and personal identities in our rapidly changing world.

Commencing in October the Wirltuti (spring) season featured two exhibitions in partnership with the Adelaide Film Festival. Archie Moore's fifth iteration of his installation series, *Dwelling*, drew on memories of his childhood bedroom through a large-scale immersive installation. Simultaneously, work from the inaugural EXPAND Lab commission, featuring new work by Susan Norrie, Matthew Thorne and Emmaline Zanelli, was exhibited upstairs.

To coincide with each exhibition season Samstag produced four episodes of the podcast *On Art*. Conversations with artists included Archie Moore and Molly Reynolds, Ash Tower, Vernon Ah Kee and Irene Watson, and Dana Awartani, offering insight into their art and practice.

Six catalogues and educational resources were produced to accompany exhibitions in 2024, working with writers Dr Debra Dank, Dr Helen Hughes, Anna Zagala, Darren Jorgensen, Siuli Tan, Robert Reason, and Abdelkader Damani, to expand thinking, interpretation and impact of the exhibitions throughout the year.

In December Samstag announced the recipients of the UniSA Jeffrey Smart Commission. Established in 2022, the Jeffrey Smart Commission is awarded every three years, and supports the development of a major new work or body of works to culminate in an exhibition at the gallery.

Sean Cordeiro and Claire Healy will premiere their vibrant moving image work *Psychopomp and selected works* in Samstag's Wirltuti season in 2025 (Wirltuti meaning 'spring' in Kaurna culture) while contemporary artist Robert Fielding will develop his exhibition *Melting Point* for Samstag's 2026 program.



## New scholarship recipients

A once in a lifetime opportunity, the Anne and Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarship program enables selected artists each year to expand and develop their artistic capabilities through a dedicated period of practice-based learning.

Each artist receives a scholarship that provides institutional fees for one academic year of study, a \$70,000 tax-free allowance, and travel expenses to a leading international art school of their choice.

In 2024 three artists were awarded a scholarship for study commencing in 2025:

### Hannah Gartside

Hannah Gartside is a sculpture and installation artist, creating immersive kinetic installations and sculptures using found fabrics, worn clothing (c.1970s nighties, c.1930s ball gowns, antique piano-shawl tassels), and the material culture of everyday life (found leather gloves, cat hair, used paper bags).

Her practice is physically and conceptually informed by her work as a costume-maker and side-stage dresser (Queensland Ballet 2009-2013), and training in Fashion Design at Queensland University of Technology before undertaking study at the Victorian College of Art. Since 2022 Gartside has been represented by Tolarno Galleries. For her Samstag Scholarship she plans to undertake a Master of Fine Arts at the Sandberg Instituut, Amsterdam.

### Henry Jock Walker

Henry Jock Walker is an interdisciplinary artist who lives and works on Kaurna Country.

Working across disciplines, his practice transmutes the energy of surfing and folds textiles, painting, printmaking, and performance to explore the possibilities of artmaking as a social connector through inclusive and collective endeavours.

The provocations at the core of his current artistic practice are to investigate the material of neoprene as an artistic material and a platform for artistic experience, and to generate performance works in dialogue with different bodies and communities.

Studying at the California College of the Arts, San Francisco as part of his Samstag Scholarship will place Walker at the heart of the richest surfing and skateboarding culture and history globally.

### Helen Grogan

For two decades, Helen Grogan has explored poetic documentation systems that emphasise the everyday embodied experiences of museums, collections, and archives, often emphasising systems and sensibilities that go unnoticed.

Since 2022, Grogan has worked to form substantial relationships with significant performance archives and contemporary art documentation initiatives internationally, including De Appel (Amsterdam), ArtPool (Budapest), LIMA (Amsterdam), The Kitchen (NYC), and Franklin Furnace (NYC).

Through her Samstag Scholarship Grogan will take up opportunities of focused study and site-specific artistic research, enabling her to engage with and create works for seminal spaces for critical documentary art and archiving in New York City.



Hannah Gartside.



Henry Jock Walker.



Helen Grogan.

# The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre

Dynamic and eclectic, The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre, also known as the Hawke Centre, generates ideas and solutions to foster cohesive, sustainable societies. Delivering a year-long program of free events and exhibitions, it plays a critical role in the intellectual life of South Australia and, through its online presence, reaches out to a global community.



Senator the Honourable Penny Wong.

## 25th Annual Hawke Lecture

A significant highlight in the University's calendar of events, the Annual Hawke Lecture is an opportunity to hear from a public figure with notable experience of human affairs and whose concerns about our world are worthy of consideration.

In December 2024, Senator the Honourable Penny Wong delivered the 25th Annual Hawke Lecture, delving into how Australia is responding to the challenges, the conflicts and uncertainties happening around the world.

## Humpback Highway with Dr Vanessa Pirotta

In conversation with UniSA's Professor Chris Daniels, acclaimed wildlife science Dr Vanessa Pirotta shared her deep knowledge of and breathtaking encounters with whales. Presented in arrangement with WOMAdelaide Planet Talks Program.



The Wharf Revue.

## In Conversation with the Creators of *The Wharf Revue*

For more than 20 years *The Wharf Revue* has delivered razor-sharp political satire to audiences around the country. Cast members, including Jonathan Biggins, Drew Forsythe and Phil Scott with literary curator and producer, Jo Dyer, provided an insight into the creative process behind the show, offering a rare opportunity to ponder the significance of humour as a tool for societal introspection and its role in an active and healthy democracy.

## Democracy in Peril

In partnership with *The Conversation*, the Hawke Centre presented a pertinent panel discussion around democracy in an era of misinformation, disinformation and growing illiberalism. Monica Attard (University of Technology Sydney), Emma Shortis (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology) and Priya Chacko (The University of Adelaide) spoke with *The Conversation*'s Misha Ketchell about what's expected from coming global elections, and how the results will impact Australia.

### The Way We Are with Hugh Mackay

Hugh Mackay AO, a revered Australian social psychology, discussed his latest book, *The Way We Are* with journalist Julia Lester. The discussion explored major trends shaking the foundations of Australian life and provided the opportunity to consider the idea of what kind of society we want for the future of the country.

### Hope with Rosie Batty

Rosie Batty AO, a household name as a result of the shocking murder of her 11 year-old son, Luke, in 2014 at the hands of his father, explored what it takes to get through the very worst of times. In conversation with Kelly-ann Tansley, CEO of the Zahra Foundation, Ms Batty discussed her latest book, *Hope*.



Rosie Batty AO.

### In Conversation with the Honourable Peter Malinauskas MP

The Premier of South Australia the Honourable Peter Malinauskas MP sat down with journalist George Megalogenis to discuss modern democracy, the lessons we can take from other countries, how we can rekindle faith in democratic institutions and Labour's pledge to improve confidence in the democratic process.

### Discovering John Bússt

Emeritus Professor Iain McCalman and Distinguished Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington AO discussed the remarkable life of John Bússt, a Melbourne bohemian artist who became one of Australia's most influential conservationists. Drawing on Emeritus Professor Iain McCalman's biography, *John Bússt – Bohemian artist and saviour of reef and rainforest*, the discussion presented a timely reminder that the passionate commitment of ordinary citizens is crucial to achieving truly transformative environmental change.

### So You Want to Know What's Good for Your Kids with Dr Norman Swan

Bestselling author Dr Norman Swan returned to the Hawke Centre to present insights from his latest book, *So You Want To Know What's Good For Your Kids?*, a parenting guide which explores what matters most in raising healthy and resilient children from birth to 10. Drawing on the questions Dr Swan frequently encounters, UniSA's Professor Susan Hillier lead a Q&A that explored topics such as sleep, diet, school refusal, social media and more.

### Breaking the Boss Bias with Catherine Fox

In conversation with Julia Lester, Catherine Fox AM discussed her book *Breaking The Boss Bias: How To Get More Women Into Leadership*. The thought-provoking discussion explored new ways to lead and unlock the talent currently being wasted due to the 'boss bias'.

### Minority Report with George Megalogenis

Discussing his richly insightful essay, *Minority Report: The New Shape of Australian Politics*, journalist and author George Megalogenis sat down with Tory Shepherd to explore the strategies and secret understandings of a political culture under pressure.



George Megalogenis.



# The Kerry Packer Civic Gallery

The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre's Kerry Packer Civic Gallery presents exhibitions reflective of the Gallery's themes of 'strengthening our democracy', 'valuing our diversity' and 'building our future', providing an opportunity for social messaging and outreach through art.

## Now showing... Cinema Architecture in South Australia

From suburban cinemas to grand picture palaces in the heart of the city, the buildings designed for showing motion pictures in the twentieth century became centres of entertainment for South Australians. This exhibition explored both the architectural and social aspects of cinema in Australia, providing an opportunity to learn not only about the bricks and mortar of cinema buildings but also about the relationships and networks of people who brought them about, how film culture impacted our lives, and the wider communities cinemas served.

## Journey of Resilience

A photographic exhibition by acclaimed documentary photographer Barat Ali Batoor, *Journey of Resilience* explored the daunting and often dangerous journey people seeking asylum in Australia embark upon. Batoor's photographs mark the first visual representation in Australia's history of the precarious journey undertaken aboard fishing boats.

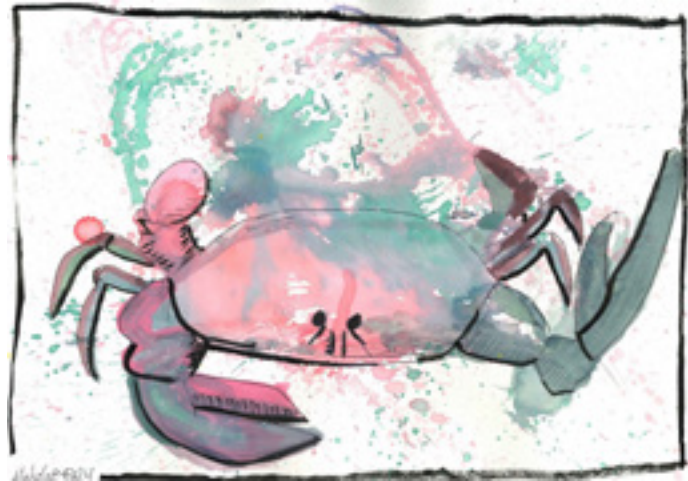


## The Future is Now

Reflecting on the interconnected nature of the past, present and future, the exhibition highlighted the role art can play in fostering positive change, and featured artworks by local emerging artists attending visual art programs run by Neami National, a community mental health service.

## Artists on the Inside

Part of the ongoing *Artists on the Inside* program, the 2024 exhibition expanded its reach to include artists within the community with lived experience in the criminal justice system, alongside those in custody across South Australian prisons. The exhibition serves to challenge preconceived ideas about people in prison, as well as celebrating creative talents and skills through the positive social inclusion of people who are 'inside'.



## Behind the Lines

Providing an insight into the year that was in Australian politics and current affairs, *Behind the Lines* featured a broad selection of political cartoons from around Australia. *Behind the Lines* is a travelling exhibition developed by Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House and supported by the National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Program.

## What Women Hold

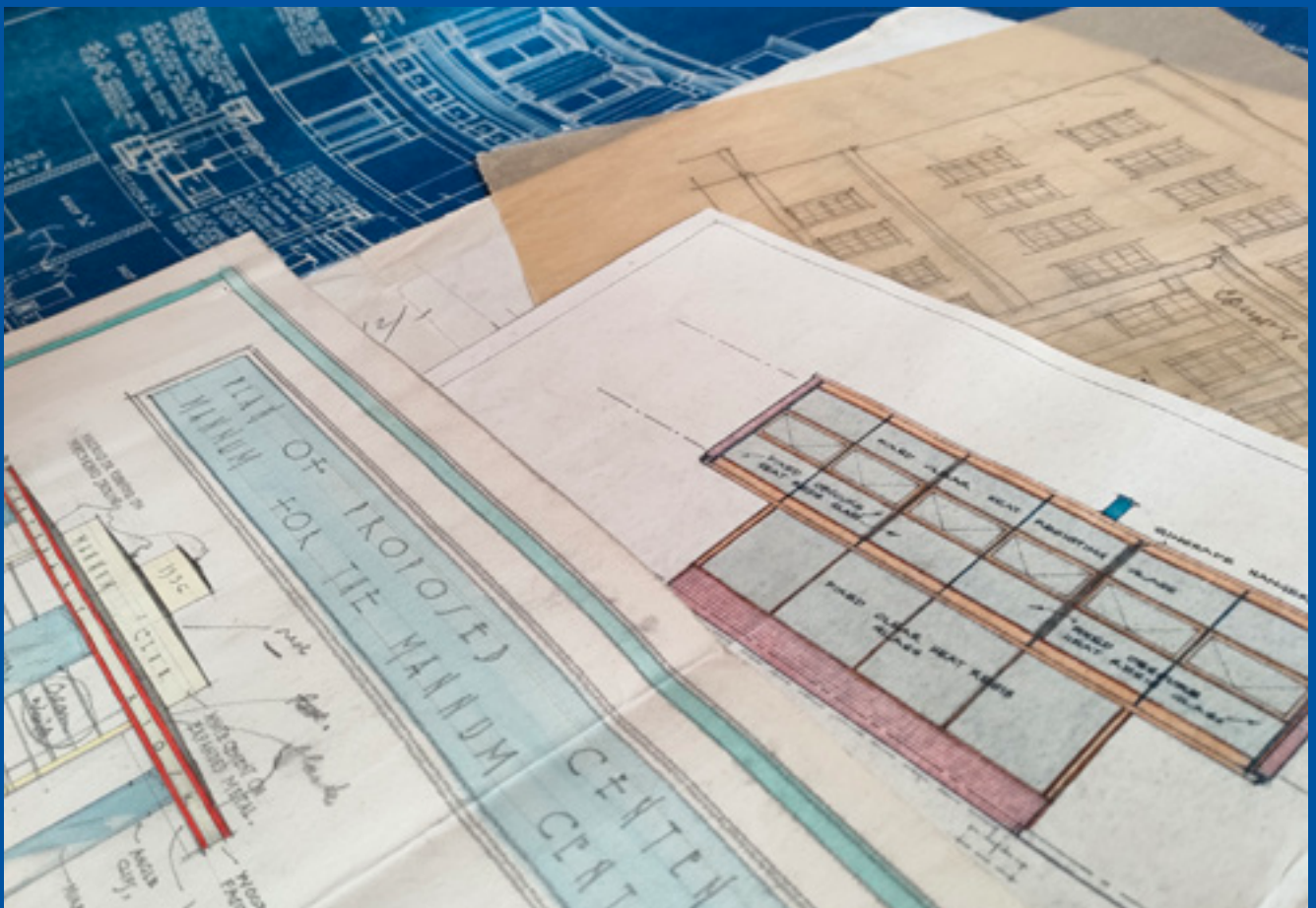
A collaborative exhibition of work by artists of The Art Bus and Catherine House, *What Women Hold* showcased work that is personal and insightful, playful and raw, celebrating what women hold to feel safe, to thrive and to be celebrated.

## UniSA Architecture Museum

UniSA's Architecture Museum is a unique national entity with an established academic, professional and community profile. It functions both as a repository for architectural drawings and records, as well as a hub of research into South Australia's architectural history, heritage and adaptive reuse.

The museum hosted several events throughout 2024, including the hugely popular exhibition *Now Showing... Cinema Architecture in South Australia*, co-presented with the Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre. Part of South Australia's History Festival, this exhibition featured South Australian cinemas, including original blueprints and photographs of the Piccadilly, the Capri, and those from regional areas, like the Victa Cinema.

In February the Architecture Museum co-presented *This is Modernism*, the Association of Architecture Schools of Australasia symposium. Speakers included academics and practitioners from across Australia and New Zealand who explored modernist architecture with a focus on less well-known examples of modernism in our region, their histories as well as future preservation and use.





# Regional engagement

## APY Hub 2024

UniSA's APY Hub in Ernabella is deeply connected with Anangu (Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara) communities through specialised language and culture courses. The APY Hub has developed a strong partnership with Iwiri Aboriginal Corporation, a member-based organisation for Anangu living in Adelaide.

### 40 years in APY

Alongside the ongoing work of the APY Hub, 2024 was a year of milestones and celebration. The Anangu Tertiary Education Program (AnTEP) commenced at Ernabella in 1984 and celebration event was held in March 2024 at the UniSA facility to mark the 40-year anniversary with many community members and former students in attendance. A new project logo and sign was also unveiled with the new project name Ananguku Kulintja: Anangu Languages and Knowledges in Higher Education. Ernabella artist Michelle Lewis was on hand alongside Professors Lester-Irabinna Rigney and Anne-Marie Morgan, and Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Education Committee (PYEC) Director Rueben Burton to unveil the sign.



Ernabella Artist Michelle Lewis is joined by PYEC Director Rueben Burton, Dr Sam Osborne, Professor Lester-Irabinna Rigney, Anangu Educators Katrina and Umatji Tjitayi, and Professor Anne-Marie Morgan at the unveiling of the new sign at UniSA's redeveloped Ernabella facility.

### Ernabella campus redevelopment

Redevelopment of the Ernabella campus was completed in 2024 with upgrades to both main buildings and the addition of an accommodation facility on-site. The redevelopment funding was secured through the National Indigenous Affairs Agency (NIAA), the Department for Education (EDU) South Australia and UniSA, following a Canberra meeting Associate Director Regional Engagement (UniSA Education Futures) Dr Sam Osborne attended in 2023 with Linda Burney (Minister for NIAA), Rueben Burton (PYEC Director) and Paul Malcom (PYEC General Manager). PYEC and EDU each now have administrative areas and programs operating from the Ernabella campus.

## Kulilaya Land Rights Festival

In 1981, the APY Lands were handed back to Anangu as freehold land from the South Australian Government. A celebration to commemorate the event was held in 2024, following multiple delays due to the pandemic. UniSA staff were on hand to share some of the history of UniSA's work on the APY Lands and to provide information about current programs. Dr Osborne worked with UniSA partner organisation Iwiri to put together a choir from across the APY Lands as a feature performance at the event, including students from Ernabella and Fregon Anangu School.

### Inkamala! App and songbook

The APY Hub undertook a significant project with partner organisation Iwiri to produce a first language songbook and app, which included locating archived materials, translation, editorial work and 18 months of studio work to record songs. The Early Years (Ngaanyatjarra) and Early Years (Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara) collections were launched at the Kulilaya Festival, held at Umuwa in the APY Lands. All Anangu schools in South Australia, Western Australia and Northern Territory now have access to the app and the Early Years flip books, with work now underway on resources for older years which will complete the collection of more than 130 first language songs.

### Continuing language work

The ongoing work of Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara language and culture courses continued in 2024 with increasing numbers of students, achieving a record 75 summer school students. Additionally a large volume of work was undertaken during 2024 to produce high quality bilingual resources for schools that will be published in the future.



UniSA team attending the Kulilaya Festival celebrating 40 years of Land Rights in the APY Lands. The team are here at Itjinpiri, the sit of the original hand back. L-R Professor Anne-Marie Morgan, Dr Sam Osborne, Mikayla King, Margaret Lovell, Jo Rigney, Professor Lester-Irabinna Rigney, Dr Abigail Diplock, Dr Katie Maher.





## Department of Rural Health

Supported by the Commonwealth Government's Rural Health Multidisciplinary Training (RHMT) program UniSA's Department of Rural Health (DRH) is at the forefront of transforming healthcare in rural and remote South Australia.

### RHMT program grant success

During 2024 UniSA's DRH received confirmation of a two-year extension to the RHMT Program Grant, the extension securing continued support for students pursuing rural training opportunities from clinical and health sciences, allied health, human performance and justice and society programs.

The grant also includes funding to expand aged care training services. In collaboration with Matthew Flinders Home in Port Lincoln, the initiative will sustain a co-located health demonstration training site, supported by staff and additional student accommodation to further advance rural aged care training.

### New director for DRH

In September Associate Professor Sara Jones was appointed as DRH's new director, marking a significant milestone for the department in pursuing the transformation of healthcare in rural and regional South Australia. Building upon her expertise as the education lead within DRH, within the role of director Sara will serve as the representative of UniSA DRH on the Australian Rural Health Education Network (ARHEN) and will engage with various state and national organisation to advance DRH's mission.

### Regional physio experiences in motion

UniSA physiotherapy students participated in health science workshops at Whyalla Secondary College, providing the school's year eleven students with a unique insight into the discipline of physiotherapy and the university student experience.

The Whyalla Secondary College students were introduced to the diverse pathways of the physiotherapy profession and had the opportunity to speak directly to current students and participate in physiotherapy assessment exercises. This two-way learning experience provided UniSA students with the opportunity to practice communication and teaching skills vital to their practice as emerging professionals.

### Immersive simulated learning in Whyalla

A cohort of twenty-four physiotherapy students in their second year of study had the opportunity to undertake a two-week simulated clinical placement in Whyalla as part of their learning centered on supporting older adults. The experience included interaction with simulated patients in a clinic and hospital setting, and an immersive activity within the community which saw students wear an empathy suit while grocery shopping to gain an insight into the challenges people with mobility and sensory challenge encounter.

### Cultural learning experience

In November DRH facilitated a one-day cultural immersion experience for second-year physiotherapy students on Adnyamathanha Country with a tour led by Kristian Coulthard, an Adnyamathanha man and cultural guide from Wadna Yura.

The experience provided students with an insight into Adnyamathanha sites, history, and traditions and encouraged reflection on their role as a future health professional, emphasising advocacy in Aboriginal health and fostering cross-cultural understanding.

# Regional engagement

## Mount Gambier

### Public lecture series continues to grow

Attendance continued to grow in 2024 for the Mount Gambier Campus' public lecture series, which invites the community to hear from a world-class UniSA researcher on-campus each month.

A wide variety of topics were presented throughout the year spanning citizen science, mental health, diet, creative industries, ageing, animation, mathematics through children's literature, healthy choices, artificial intelligence and education, and wound healing.

Presenting UniSA researchers across the series included Professor Craig Williams, Dr Evangeline Mantzioris, Professor Susan Luckman, Dr Helen Barrie, Mr David Blaiklock, Dr Chelsea Cutting, Professor Sam Sellar, Dr Susan Stone and Professor Allison Coates, plus a special guest lecture was presented by Mr Nic Newling of the Suicide Prevention Network.

### Science Experience

In August 2024 Mount Gambier Campus again held a science experience program in collaboration with the Education Futures outreach team. For the first time in the program's history, participation was at capacity with a waitlist implemented.

Mount Gambier Campus welcomed 90 year nine and ten students interested in STEM from 12 secondary schools throughout the Limestone Coast and South-West Victoria regions, with students travelling from as far as Bordertown, Hamilton and Portland. Across the program students had the opportunity to learn about biology, electronics, technology and civil engineering.

### Third annual research symposium

Mount Gambier Campus hosted its third annual research symposium in November 2024 which was attended by research deans and leaders from both UniSA and the University of Adelaide.

The two-day symposium included workshops which focussed on the pending Adelaide University's signature research themes relevant to the Limestone Coast, including food, agricultural and wine, sustainable green transition, personal and societal health, led by the theme leads and co-leads in collaboration with select industry representatives.

The annual Leaders in Industry luncheon was also a part of the symposium program, which brought together more than 80 leaders in business, visiting UniSA research leaders and the community to network and hear an inspiring address by Distinguished Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington AO.



## Whyalla

### New allied health programs launched

New allied health programs, Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) and Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours), were launched at Whyalla Campus in May.

Executive Dean of Allied Health and Human Performance, Professor Jon Buckley emphasised the urgency of addressing allied health workforce shortages in South Australia, particularly in regional areas.

"Providing the Whyalla community with the opportunity to study these degrees locally aligns with the South Australian Government's Rural Allied and Scientific Health workforce Plan 2021-2026, and improves access to education for rural, regional, and remote students who may not have otherwise chosen to study an allied health degree."

### Refurbished nursing and midwifery teaching spaces unveiled

As demand rises for regional nursing and midwifery education the upgraded teaching hospital facilities at UniSA's Whyalla Campus, which were unveiled in May, are now equipped to meet the needs of students in and around Whyalla. SA Health Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer, Jenny Hurley, says that offering training programs regionally is of critical importance, and is part of SA Health's strategy to attract and retain undergraduate and postgraduate students within Whyalla, the Flinders and Upper North local health networks.



UniSA physiotherapy and occupational therapy students at the Whyalla allied health programs launch.

### Celebrating student achievements and industry partnerships

The annual student acknowledgement evening at Whyalla Campus aims to celebrate regional student achievements and acknowledge industry and community partnerships. The event, held in June included 23 presentation categories resulting in 42 students receiving grants, scholarships, or prizes. Dr Colin Taylor, Chief Advancement Officer at UniSA, provided a keynote address and encouraged students to reflect on their award and consider ways to 'pay it forward' as they move through the stages of their studies and careers.

### Whyalla alumni connect

A successful Alumni Connect event was held at Whyalla Campus in October, hosted by Dr Colin Taylor. Local Elder, Zena Wingfield, provided the Welcome to Country followed by the Honourable John Hill's first address as Chancellor to Whyalla alumni.

Professor Marion Eckert, Director of the Rosemary Bryant Research Institute, shared her journey into nursing and how this led to the establishment and growth of the research centre located at City East Campus, and also spoke about Project Check Mate, aimed at improving skin cancer detection in regional South Australia, highlighting the opportunity to bring her project team to Whyalla in the future.



# Governance and management





## Council Members



Top, from left to right: Mr William (Bill) Muirhead AO, Ms Dasuni Imansa Jaburuthugoda Gamarachchige, Mr John Evans, Ms Ruth Blenkiron, Ms Elaine Bensted, Mr Oliver Shephard-Bayly, Professor Craig Williams, Mr Terry Evans AM, Ms Vanessa Matthews, Mr Michael Abbott AO KC, Ms Mary Patetsos AM, Hon John Hill. Inset top: Professor David Lloyd, Mr Ian Smith AM.

### **The Honourable John Hill FAICD, LLB, DipED, BA; Chancellor, Member appointed by Council**

John Hill's Parliamentary career began in 1997. John Hill has served in a number of ministerial roles including Minister for Environment and Conservation (2002–2006), Minister for Health (2005–2013) and Assistant Minister and Minister for the Arts (2002–2013). John retired from the Cabinet in 2013 and Parliament in 2014. He is a member of various boards including Bellberry Ltd and Private Healthcare Australia.

John was appointed as Deputy Chancellor in December 2018 and Chancellor in May 2024.

### **Professor David Lloyd CChem, FRSC, FTSE, PhD, MA, BSc (Hons); Vice Chancellor and President**

David Lloyd is Vice Chancellor and President of the University of South Australia. A Dublin-born and educated chemist who specialises in computer-aided drug design, Professor Lloyd has re-focused institutional culture to position UniSA as Australia's university of enterprise and to shape its activities to better meet the challenges of the 21st century.

David was a member of the South Australia Economic Development Board (EDB) from 2014 to 2018. A past Chair of the Australian Technology Network group of technology-focused universities, he is now Chair of Universities Australia (UA), the peak body representing the university sector, having previously served as UA's lead Vice-Chancellor: Indigenous and lead Vice-Chancellor: Research and Innovation. He was previously appointed to the Australian Research Council's (ARC) Advisory Council to provide advice to the ARC on key research policy issues, and to lend independent strategic guidance and experience that will strengthen the ARC's ability to support research and innovation in Australia.



Before joining the University of South Australia, David was Vice-president for Research and later Bursar and Director of Strategic Innovation at Trinity College Dublin. Professor Lloyd was Chair of the Irish Research Council and prior to academia, worked in the pharmaceutical industry in the UK. He holds an honorary Professorship from Tianjin University, is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering.

David qualified with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Chemistry and a PhD in Medicinal Organic Chemistry from Dublin City University. He additionally holds an MA (j.o.) from Trinity College and an Honorary Doctorate from the late Sir Terry Pratchett's Unseen University.

**Mr Michael Abbott AO KC, LLB;  
Deputy Chancellor, Member  
appointed by Council**

Michael Abbott graduated with a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Adelaide in 1964 and in 1966 was admitted to practice as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of South Australia. He has appeared in the High Court and in the Supreme Courts of all States and Territories of Australia and was initially appointed as Queens Counsel in South Australia in 1984. He has held the position of Chairman of the Legal Services Commission of South Australia, the Bar Association of South Australia, the Criminal Law Committee of the Law Society of South Australia and acted as Human Rights Observer for the Law Council of Australia.

Michael was subsequently awarded an AO (Officer of the Order of Australia) for his services to the law, the arts and international relations, particularly international cultural relations.

Michael is an enthusiastic promoter of increased cultural contacts between Australia, particularly South Australia and India, Asia and Southeast Asia. Michael believes that increased cultural contact will not only lead to increased trade but will benefit South Australian Society in every way.

**Ms Mary Patetsos AM; Pro Chancellor,  
Member appointed by Council**

A passionate South Australian with strong national and global networks Mary Patetsos is a professional non-Executive Board Director. Her extensive experience across the private, government and not for profit sectors has resulted in expertise in governance, strategy, stakeholder engagement and leadership. Mary's leadership and skills in public policy and governance are linked with knowledge and experience in corporate and commercial enterprise.

Mary holds a range of Chairman and board positions including Chair, St John Ambulance South Australia Inc, Chair South Australian Housing Trust, Board Director Northern Area Local Health Network - NALHN, SA Health, CANDo for Kids, Board Director Glenelg Community Hospital and Board Director Australian Refugee Association. She is also the Chair of Audit, Risk and Finance Committees and Chair of Clinical Governance at NALHN.

In 2023 Mary became a Member of the General Division of the Order of Australia, for her contribution in the field of aged care and commitment to advancing multicultural Australia.

**Ms Elaine Bensted MBA, MMPM,  
GCertMgt; Member appointed  
by Council**

Elaine Bensted is a University of South Australia alum and Chief Executive, Zoos South Australia (retiring mid April 2025). Elaine has experience in the private and public sector in management, marketing and community engagement, with senior roles in the finance sector together with state and local government, including Chief Executive of TAFE SA.

She has an MBA and a Masters in Public Policy and Management as well as qualifications in finance. Her recognitions include an Australian Institute of Management Not for Profit Manager Award, a Telstra South Australian Business Woman of the Year Award for Purpose and Social Enterprise, and a UniSA Alumni Award.

Elaine is President of Zoos and Aquarium Association (ZAA) and member of its Finance and Audit Committee, a Board member of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) and member of their Conservation and Environmental Sustainability Committee, and also a member of the UniSA Business School Program Advisory Board, The Australian Rhino Project Board, and a Board member and Treasurer of the Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland Board.

**Ms Ruth Blenkiron DipEd;  
Member appointed by Council**

Ruth Blenkiron is an experienced management consultant who delivers executive coaching and organisational design and transformation services through her own business, with a focus on people management as central to change processes. Her clients are within the aged care, not-for-profit, health and defence industries.

Ruth chairs the SACE Board of South Australia, is the independent Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee for the SA Department of Education, community member of the UniSA Student Appeals Committee and volunteers for Meals on Wheels.

Initially studying to be a teacher, Ruth's appointment as Director of the Office of the Chief Executive for State Education in SA heralded a lengthy executive career. She has held executive roles within the Department for Education and Children's Services, led the South Australian Centre for Leaders in Education, and was previously Executive Director: Human Resources at the University of South Australia, where she was awarded a fellowship. She has been Registrar of the Supreme Court of South Australia, Deputy Commissioner for Equal Opportunity in SA, and Deputy and Acting Principal of Seymour College.

**Mr John Evans BAcc;  
Member appointed by Council**

John Evans has extensive expertise in accounting, audit, assurance and risk management.

John worked with KPMG for over 40 years, including in Australia for the majority of this time, together with periods spent in Papua New Guinea, South Africa and Zimbabwe. He was appointed a partner in 1996 and retired from the firm in September 2020. He has also worked for Elders Limited as Group Manager Risk Compliance and Audit, and Secretary to the Board.

He is currently on the board of Beyond Bank Australia Limited, Health Partners Limited, The Australian String Quartet and is Chair of the Audit and Risk Committees of the South Australian Department of Health and Wellbeing and the South Australian Public Trustee.

**Mr Terry Evans AM, LL.M., FUniSA,  
FAICD; Member appointed by Council**

Terry Evans is a highly experienced lawyer and company director in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

This appointment is Terry's second tenure on the University of South Australia Council, following an earlier term of 12 years from 2005, which included serving as Pro Chancellor from 2010 to 2017.

Terry began his career in a small legal practice before joining professional services firm Minter Ellison, where he specialised in commercial transactions and tax and led the Adelaide office for a term as Managing Partner.

Terry subsequently joined the South Australian Government as its Chief Commercial Counsel. In this role he was the senior government lawyer on the privatisation of the state's electricity, ports, TAB and other smaller businesses, and on the outsourcing of water and bus services. He later became the Deputy Chief Executive and then Chief Executive of the Attorney-General's Department.

**Ms Vanessa Matthews BA, MHRM;  
Professional Staff Member**

Vanessa Matthews is the University's Students and Research Registrar and has extensive experience in student and academic services, human resource management, and customer service. Vanessa has a passion for supporting the academic and research success of UniSA's students, and currently leads a large student services portfolio, including scholarships, student services and support, coursework and research student administration, student reporting and systems, and graduations and records.

Vanessa has worked for the University for 22 years and holds a Master of Human Resource Management and a Bachelor of Arts.

**Professor Craig Williams PhD,  
GradDipEd, BSc; Academic  
Staff Member**

Craig Williams graduated with a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Zoology and a major in Microbiology from the University of Adelaide. After a few years working in research he took a Graduate Diploma in Education (University of Adelaide) and a PhD (University of South Australia), before working as a school teacher. After post-doctoral research work at James Cook University he returned to an academic position at the University of South Australia.

Throughout his academic career of more than 20 years Craig has combined skills in education and communication with his research studying the interface between environmental and public health. His particular focus is on mosquito-borne diseases. This academic work has been recognised through awards such as the South Australian Young Scientist of the Year (2007), an IgNobel Prize in Biology (2005, for science that makes you laugh, then think), and a Commonwealth Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT) Citation for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning (2013).

Craig continues to teach undergraduate courses and manages postgraduate research programs. He has held a number of leadership roles at UniSA: as Dean of Research Education in Health Sciences, Associate Director of the Teaching Innovation Unit, and Associate Head of School for Pharmacy and Medical Sciences, in both the Research and Academic portfolios. Craig then spent a period as Dean of Programs in UniSA: Clinical and Health Sciences, with responsibility for degrees in Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Science, Biomedical Science, Nutrition and Food, and Health Sciences. He is now Dean of Programs in UniSA: STEM (Science, Construction and Project Management).

**Ms Dasuni Imansa Jaburuthugoda  
Gamarachchige; Postgraduate  
Student Representative**

Dasuni Imansa is a dedicated IT student and the Postgraduate Student Representative for the University of South Australia Student Association (USASA). With a strong passion for governance and advocacy, she actively contributes to the UniSA community through various leadership and volunteer roles. She is currently working at the UniSA IT Help Desk as an Information Technologist. In 2024, she served as the Treasurer of the Women in STEM Club and was recognised as the runner-up for UniSA's Student Volunteer of the Year award. Additionally, she received the Chancellor's Letter of Commendation for 2024 for being in the top 5% in her academic unit.

Currently, Dasuni is a UniMentor Leader for the LMIG Program, where she provides guidance and support to her peers. Her accomplishments include receiving the UniSA PLUS and UniSA Aspire Platinum awards, reflecting her commitment to personal and professional growth. As a member of the Australian Computer Society's Emerging Professional Committee, Dasuni engages in student-focused initiatives and community volunteering, consistently working to create a positive impact within and beyond the university. Dasuni's extensive leadership experience and dedication to student representation underscore her commitment to fostering a supportive and empowering environment for the UniSA community.

**Mr Oliver Shephard-Bayly; USASA President, Student Representative**

Oliver Shephard-Bayly is a Social Work Student and the University of South Australia Student Association (USASA) Student President for 2024. He brings a wide range of experience previously being Magill student representative and has a strong interest in governance and advocacy.

Oliver is also currently the State Branch President of the National Union of Students and is actively involved in the trade union movement having worked as a Union Representative for the Shop Distributive and Allied Employees Association. He is also an active member of many student clubs, currently being the Treasurer of BET (Beer Enthusiast Team).

**Professor Deirdre Tedmanson; Chair of Academic Board**

Deirdre Tedmanson is a Professor of Social Policy and Dean of Programs for UniSA Justice & Society at the University of South Australia. She holds a PhD from the ANU, in addition to Masters (Policy and Administration) and Arts (Social Sciences) degrees. Deirdre is an active researcher with a strong focus on social policy, community development, homelessness, Aboriginal governance and wellbeing, and enterprise development. Her research has included ARC Discovery and Linkage projects; extensive CRC work and AHURI research projects, as well as a range of community and industry partnered applied research.

Deirdre has had an extensive career at UniSA, with deep and ongoing connections across the sector both internally and externally, prior to which she worked in community development, research, policy and management positions in both the non-government sector and State Government, as well as working in Australia's Commonwealth Parliament as a senior political advisor.

The Council farewelled and thanked Council Members who joined the Adelaide University Transition Council:

Ms Pauline Carr

Mr James (Jim) Hazel

Ms Nicolle Rantanen Reynolds

Mr Benjamin Opiyo

Ms Carolyn Mitchell



## Enterprise Leadership Team



Professor David Lloyd.

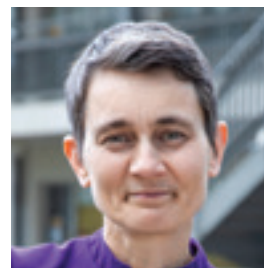
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Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington.

### **Distinguished Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington AO PhD, BEd (Hons); Provost and Chief Academic Officer/Standing Acting Vice Chancellor**

Marnie Hughes-Warrington is the lead for research excellence, translation, and impact, and research training at the University of South Australia. As Standing Acting Vice Chancellor she is the lead for the Aboriginal Leadership and Strategy, Advancement, and Communications, Marketing and Domestic Student portfolios at the University of South Australia.

A graduate of the Universities of Tasmania and Oxford, Marnie has a global profile as a philosopher and as an historian. Her current work looks at how machines write histories, and the nature of AI as an historical discipline. Her writing has been translated into five languages, over 26,000 copies of her books have been sold, and her theories are taught across the world. She has led or been an investigator on a total of \$18 million in grants. Her most recent books are *History from Loss* (edited with Daniel Woolf, 2023) and *The Routledge Companion to History and the Moving Image* (edited with Kim Nelson and Mia Treacey, 2023) and she is co-secretary general of the International Commission for the History and Theory of History.



*Professor Peter Murphy.*

Prior to taking up the role, Marnie was Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and Professor of History at the Australian National University (2012–19), where her duties ranged from admissions, academic standards and chairing the revenue committee for edX, through to academic school reviews and promotions. Her achievements included the development of a more diverse researcher workforce through systemic changes to promotion and recruitment; the \$260 million Kambri campus redevelopment; and the \$106 million Tuckwell gift. In addition to these contributions, she was the first woman to be National Secretary for the Rhodes Scholarships Australia and she currently serves on the Rhodes Trust UK-based Scholarships Committee, which looks after over 100 scholarships worldwide.

In 2022 Marnie was made an Officer in the Order of Australia for her contribution to higher education governance, leadership, and mentoring, and in 2023 she was the recipient of a George Parkin Award by the Rhodes Trust for distinguished contribution to the Rhodes community worldwide.

### **Professor Peter Murphy PhD, BSc (Hons); Interim Deputy Vice Chancellor: Research and Enterprise**

Peter Murphy is the Deputy Vice Chancellor Research & Enterprise at UniSA. Peter is also the David Klingberg Chair in Energy and Advanced Manufacturing. Peter was appointed as one of UniSA's inaugural Industry Professors in January 2015. This was in recognition of his extensive research engagement with private industry at a local, national and international level. He joined UniSA in October 2003, initially as a member of the Ian Wark Research Institute.

He was one of the first staff to join the former Mawson Institute in 2007 and has subsequently built a research group of around 25 staff and students, all funded entirely through external research grants. Peter's research encompasses the engineering of surfaces via the application of thin film coatings, and extends to applications in the optical, automotive, defence, mining and renewable energy industry sectors. He has been a co-inventor on several patents and has published over 50 research publications over the past 8 years (including Nature Materials - Jan 2014).

Since joining UniSA, he has been a chief investigator on several successful grant applications (ARC, CRC and various state government grants) totalling more than \$20 million dollars. Prior to joining UniSA, Peter spent 10 years working for SOLA International Holdings Ltd, at the time, one of the world's largest manufacturers of plastic ophthalmic and sun lenses. Working in the global R and D centre based in Adelaide, he worked on several international projects involving European / North American collaborators.



Mr Alan Brideson.

**Mr Alan Brideson MA, BA;  
Interim Chief Academic  
Services Officer**

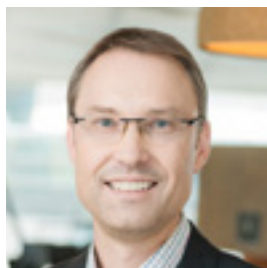
Alan Brideson is Chief of Staff in the Vice Chancellor's office and Interim Chief Academic Services Officer.

He was previously Chief Marketing and Communications Officer with responsibility for University corporate communications, brand, marketing communications, domestic student recruitment, and media and public relations.

Alan is a previous member of the SA Chapter of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, the Board of Governors of Pulteney Grammar School, the Leaders Institute of South Australia, the Adelaide Convention Centre, deputy president of the Adelaide West End Association, and member of the SA Marketing Institute committee. He has been convenor of the Australian Technology University's marketing communications group, and a member of the Australian Universities Marketing, Communications and Development Conference committee. Alan is also a recipient of the Universities Australia Lifetime Achievement Award.

Alan holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) and Master of Arts (American History) from the University of Adelaide. He is a Fellow, and Certified Practising Marketer of the Australian Marketing Institute, and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Prior to joining the University Alan worked in Canberra as Director Information for the Australian Electoral Commission.



Mr Phil Clatworthy.

**Mr Phil Clatworthy MBus(Prop),  
GradDip(Prop), BEng(Civil);  
Interim Chief Operating Officer**

Phil Clatworthy is the Director of Facilities Management and has overall responsibility for the University's \$1.4billion infrastructure portfolio across all campuses.

The Facilities Management Unit provides a diverse range of services to students, staff and the broader community in areas including capital development, maintenance & technical services, commercial services and campus operations (including security, grounds, fleet etc).

Phil has over 20 years experience in higher education and prior to that held diverse roles in civil engineering, property valuation and asset management in Adelaide and interstate.



Ms Jane Booth.

**Jane Booth BA (Hons);  
Chief People and Culture Officer**

Jane Booth is an experienced leader with proven expertise in people and talent development, culture transformation and change. Jane joined UniSA in a new role as Executive Director People, Talent and Culture in December 2016. Her key responsibilities include: Leading the Human Resource functions of the University including Workplace Strategy, Organisational Development, Wellbeing and Employee Benefits, Employee Relations, Recruitment Central, Payroll and Superannuation; Supporting the team who deliver people services to our academic and professional staff; and enabling them to support UniSA's aspirations with and through our people.

Jane has previously worked as Executive Director: People, Talent and Culture at SA Health, was a General Manager at Adelaide City Council leading economic development, strategy and innovation, people and culture and information and communication technology and prior to that was an associate director at PwC in management consulting.

Before emigrating to South Australia Jane had an extensive career in the national media in the UK. She is a member of the executive committee of AHEIA, the Australian Higher Education Industrial Association and the Risk and Performance Committee for the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment (OCPSE).



## University of South Australia Organisational Structure



## Administration

### The Vice Chancellor

The Vice Chancellor and President is the University's Chief Executive Officer, and is responsible for its management and administration. The Vice Chancellor is appointed by, and reports to, University Council, which delegates to the Vice Chancellor a range of powers and functions. The Vice Chancellor, in turn, authorises appropriate staff to manage the University's affairs. The responsibilities of each type of management position are detailed in the Vice Chancellor's Authorisations.

### Senior management

The University's senior managers are the Deputy Vice Chancellor Research and Enterprise, the Provost and Chief Academic Officer, the Chief Academic Services Officer, the Chief Operating Officer and the Chief People and Culture Officer. With the Vice Chancellor, they form the Enterprise Leadership Team, which meets regularly and provides advice to the Vice Chancellor on operational and policy matters. Senior managers lead the University's academic units or co-ordinating portfolios.

### Freedom of information

The *Freedom of Information Act 1991* gives individuals a legally enforceable right to access documents held by South Australian universities, subject to certain restrictions. UniSA strives to be an open and accountable organisation in accordance with the Act.

During 2024, we received 25 applications to access records under the Act. Out of the 25 applications, 15 resulted in partial release of the requested documents, five requests were released in full and five resulted in no records found.

## Risk Management

The University Council's Risk Management Policy establishes principles to ensure that risk management is integral to all processes, helps to achieve objectives, and contributes to ongoing performance improvement.

Key elements of the framework include:

- the maintenance and reporting of risk registers that identify key risks at organisational unit level;
- the maintenance and reporting of a university-wide risk register;
- the systematic risk assessment of all projects;
- a systematic approach to the identification, assessment and audit of legislative risk; and
- annual risk assessments of all controlled, associated and partly-owned entities.

We maintain our capacity to respond appropriately to crises through a framework of trained emergency response groups, and a high-level crisis management committee. In addition, management annually certifies to Council that the University risk management and internal compliance and control systems are operating effectively in all material respects. This certification is supported by a process involving questionnaires on control and risk management that are completed by all senior managers and major organisational units.

## Council committees

The Council has a number of standing committees, the performance and effectiveness of each is part of Council's annual review process.

During 2024 these committees were:

- Academic Board;
- Audit, Finance and Risk Committee
- Urgent Business Committee;
- Senior Remuneration Committee;
- Governance and Nominations Committee;
- Student Appeals Committee.

Committees of Academic Board:

- Academic Standards and Quality Committee;
- Research Degrees Committee;
- Research Leadership Committee;

## Legislation requirements

UniSA is governed by the *University of South Australia Act 1990*. Under sections 4–6 of the Act, the University is constituted as a body corporate with the usual associated powers. It has a seal, and it may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

### The University's functions

Under the Act, the University's functions are to:

- preserve, extend and disseminate knowledge through teaching, research, scholarship, consultancy or any other means;
- provide tertiary education in such disciplines and areas of study as the University thinks appropriate to meet the needs of industry, commerce, the professions or any other section of the community;
- provide such tertiary education programs as the University thinks appropriate to meet the needs of Australia's Indigenous people;
- provide such tertiary education programs as the University thinks appropriate to meet the needs of groups within the community whom the University considers have suffered disadvantage in education;
- provide educational programs for the benefit of the wider community or programs for the enhancement of the diverse cultural life of the community, as the University thinks fit;
- foster and further an active corporate life within the University;
- perform any functions ancillary or incidental to the functions referred to above; and
- strive for excellence in teaching and research, and to attain the highest standards in education.

## TEQSA Registration

In October 2021, TEQSA (Tertiary Education Quality Standards Association) extended the University's registration in the category of Australian University from 28 September 2023 to 28 September 2025.

### The University's powers

The powers of the University, described in Section 6 of the Act, may be exercised inside or outside South Australia and Australia.

For example, the University may:

- enter into contracts;
- acquire, hold, dispose of, and deal with property; and
- confer academic awards jointly with another University or registered training organisation.

## University Council

Under Section 10 of the Act, the University Council is responsible for the accountability and control of University affairs. The Act also defines financial responsibilities and specific matters on which statutes can be made. The Council must, in all matters, endeavour to advance the interests of the University.

## Academic freedom

The University has a well-embedded Freedom of Speech Policy, Public Statements Procedure, and Statement on Academic Freedom to ensure that academic freedom and freedom of speech are protected.

These policy documents are closely aligned to the *Model Code for the Protection of Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom in Australian Higher Education Providers*. No issues of concern have been raised with University governing bodies regarding freedom of speech and academic freedom during the 12-month reporting period of this Annual Review.

## Council responsibilities

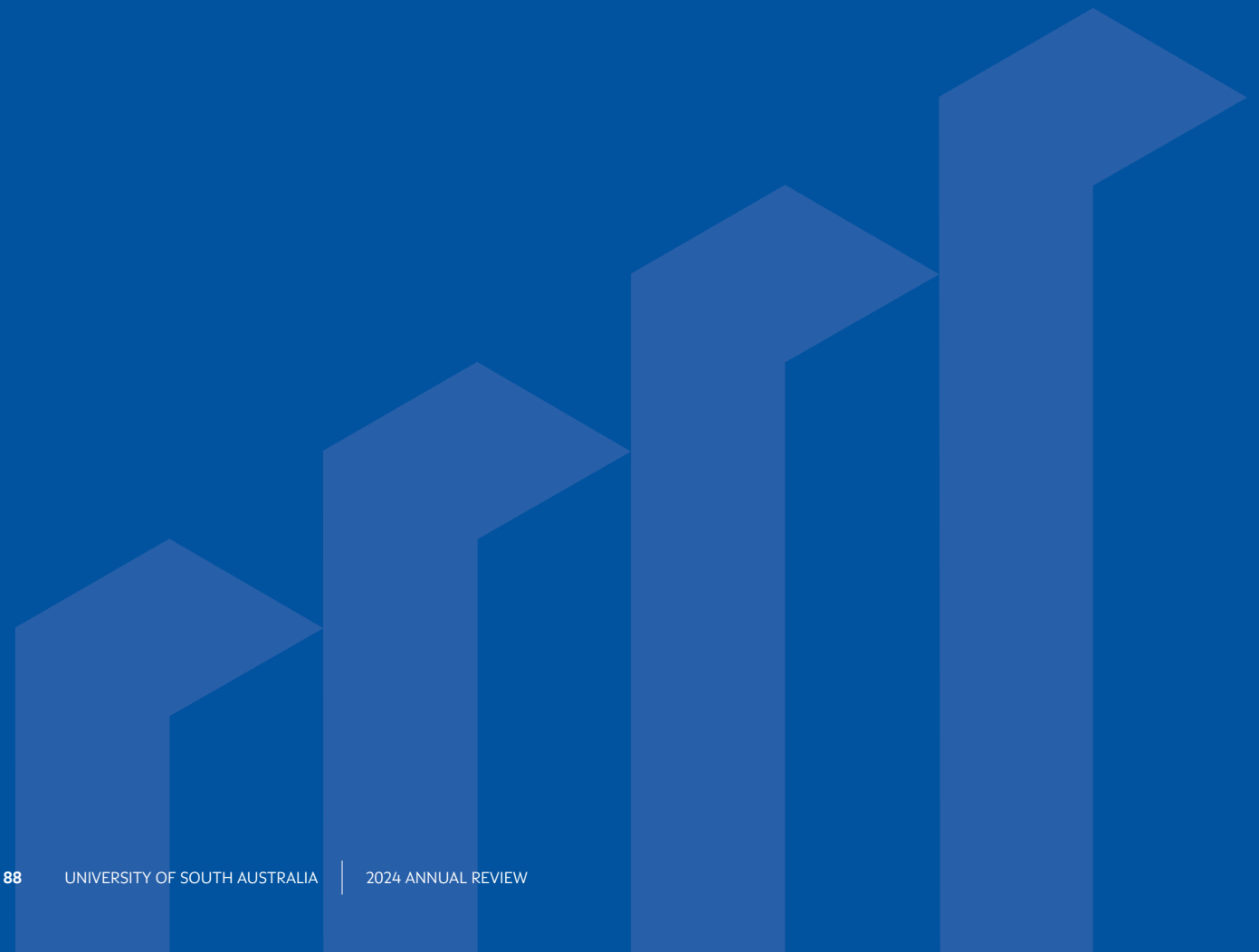
Council's main responsibilities are assigned in part 3 of the Act.

They include:

- appointing the Vice Chancellor as Chief Executive Officer of the University;
- approving the mission and strategic direction of the University, as well as the annual budget and business plan;
- overseeing the management and performance of the University;
- establishing policy and procedural principles consistent with legal requirements and community expectations;
- approving and monitoring systems of control and accountability, including general overview of any;
- entities controlled by the University;
- overseeing and monitoring the assessment and management of risk across the University, including commercial undertakings;
- overseeing and monitoring academic activities across the University; and
- approving significant commercial activities of the University.



# Annual financial statements







# University of South Australia

## Report by the members of the University Council

Members of the University Council present their report on the Group consisting of University of South Australia (the University) and the entities it controlled at the end of, or during, the year ended 31 December 2024.

### 2024 Council members

The following persons were members of University Council during the year and up to the date of this report (unless otherwise noted):

Hon John Hill, Chancellor (commenced 2 May 2024)  
Ms Pauline Carr, Chancellor (resigned 2 May 2024)  
Professor David Lloyd, Vice Chancellor and President  
Mr Michael Abbott AO KC, Deputy Chancellor  
Ms Mary Patetsos AM, Pro Chancellor (commenced 2 May 2024)  
Mr Jim Hazel, Pro Chancellor (resigned 2 May 2024)  
Ms Elaine Bensted (commenced 2 May 2024)  
Ms Ruth Blenkiron (commenced 2 May 2024)  
Mr John Evans (commenced 2 May 2024)  
Mr Terry Evans AM (commenced 2 May 2024)  
Ms Vanessa Matthews  
Ms Carolyn Mitchell (resigned 2 May 2024)  
Mr William (Bill) Muirhead AO  
Mr Benjamin Opiyo (resigned 20 September 2024)  
Ms Nicolle Rantanen Reynolds (resigned 2 May 2024)  
Mr Oliver Shephard-Bayly (until 31 December 2024)  
Mr Ian Smith AM  
Professor Deirdre Tedmanson (until 31 December 2024)  
Professor Craig Williams

The remuneration of Council members is detailed in Note 27(b) of the Financial Statements.

### Changes in Council membership since 31 December 2024

Mr Oliver Shephard-Bayly (re-elected, term commenced 1 January 2025)  
Ms Dasuni Imansa Jaburuthugoda Gamarachchige (elected, term commenced 1 January 2025)  
Professor Deirdre Tedmanson (re-appointed, term commenced 1 January 2025)



## Meetings of members of the University Council

The numbers of meetings of the members of the University Council and of each Council committee held during the year ended 31 December 2024, and the numbers of meetings attended by each member were:

Member of Council	Meetings of Council Committees													
	Council Meetings		Academic Board		Audit, Finance and Risk		Urgent Business		Senior Remuneration		Governance and Nominations		Student Appeals Committee	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
Hon John Hill	6	6					4	4	3	3	3	4		
Mr Michael Abbott AO KC	6	6					4	4	2	2	3	4		
Ms Mary Patetsos AM	6	6			4	4	4	4	2	2			2	2
Professor David Lloyd	6	6	4	6			3	4			4	4		
Ms Vanessa Matthews	6	6					4	4			2	2		
Mr William (Bill) Muirhead AO	4	6												
*Mr Benjamin Opiyo	5	5												
Mr Oliver Shephard- Bayly	6	6	6	6							4	4	5	6
Mr Ian Smith AM	5	6			2	2								
Professor Deirdre Tedmanson	6	6	6	6										
Professor Craig Williams	6	6					4	4			2	2		
***Ms Elaine Bensted	3	3			2	2								
***Mr Terry Evans AM	3	3											6	6
***Ms Ruth Blenkiron	3	3									2	2	5	6
***Mr John Evans	3	3			2	2								
Professor Joanne Cys (acting VC)							1	1						
**Ms Pauline Carr	3	3							1	1	2	2		
**Mr James (Jim) Hazel	2	3			1	2			0	1				
**Ms Carolyn Mitchell	3	3			2	2								
**Ms Nicolle Rantanen Reynolds	3	3			1	2								

A = Number of meetings attended.

B = Number of meetings held during the time the member held office or was a member of the committee during the year.

\* Council Member, no longer eligible as USASA Post-Graduate Student Representative (graduated in September 2024), resigned September 2024.

\*\* Change in Council Membership as of 1:00 pm on Thursday 2 May 2024, resignations from UniSA Council for those members who remain with Adelaide University Transition Council.

\*\*\* New Council Members following resignations (noted above), commencing on Thursday 2 May 2024, at the conclusion of the Council Meeting.

## Principal activities

The principal continuing activities of the Group are:

- To preserve, extend and disseminate knowledge through teaching, research, scholarship, consultancy or any other means;
- To provide tertiary education in such disciplines and areas of study as the University thinks appropriate to meet the needs of industry, commerce, the professions or any other section of the community;
- To provide such tertiary education programs as the University thinks appropriate to meet the needs of Aboriginal people;
- To provide such tertiary education programs as the University thinks appropriate to meet the needs of groups within the community that the University considers have suffered disadvantages in education;
- To provide educational programs for the benefit of the wider community or programs for the enhancement of the diverse cultural life of the community, as the University thinks fit; and
- To foster and further an active corporate life within the University.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the activities of the Group during the 2024 year.

## Review of operations

The 2024 consolidated deficit was \$42.8 million (2023: \$17.1 million deficit). The deficit resulted in a safety margin (operating result as a percentage of total income) of -5.3% (2023: -2.4%). Income increased by 12.4% to \$803.9 million while expenses increased by 15.6% to \$846.8 million.

The University's consolidated financial position remained sound during the 2024 year with net assets of \$1,421 million (2023: \$1,462 million). Cash balances decreased to \$524.3 million at year end (2023: \$526.6 million).

Consolidated cash flows from operating activities in 2024 were net outflows of \$16.7 million (2023: net inflows of \$38.3 million).

## Significant changes in the state of affairs

In the opinion of the members of the University Council, except for the circumstances outlined below, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Group that occurred during the 2024 year.

On 2 July 2023, the respective Councils of the University of South Australia and The University of Adelaide entered into a Heads of Agreement to record the terms and conditions on which both universities would support the creation of a future, combined university, *Adelaide University*, should the South Australian Parliament so legislate.

On 14 December 2023, the Adelaide University Act 2023 was proclaimed by the South Australian Governor and became operative.

Under the Adelaide University Act (2023), the new *Adelaide University* legal entity was established on 8 March 2024 along with the Transition Council as the initial governing body. The Transition Council is responsible for overseeing the transition and commencement of tertiary education and research being provided and conducted by The University of Adelaide or the University of South Australia, and preparing Adelaide University to commence providing courses and other tertiary programs.

The *Adelaide University* has a target operational date of 1 January 2026 and, under Schedule 1 of the Act, it is expected that the University of South Australia Act 1990 will be repealed on 31 March 2026, and the University of South Australia disestablished as a legal entity.

### **Subsequent events**

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the 2024 year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the members of the University Council, to affect significantly the operations of the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Group, in future financial years.

### **Environmental regulation**

The Group's operations are subject to various environmental regulations under both Commonwealth and State legislation. The significant environmental regulations applying to the Group are Dangerous Substance Act (1979), Radiation Protection and Control Act (1982) and the Environmental Protection Act (1993).

Members of the University Council are not aware of any significant breaches during the period covered by this report.

### **Insurance of officers**

The University has paid insurance premiums in respect to Directors and Officers liability, Directors and Officers supplementary legal expenses and statutory liability, for current and former members of University Council and officers.

Directors and Officers liability insurance does not cover acts that are fraudulent, dishonest or criminal. Statutory liability insurance does not cover breaches that are wilful, intentional or deliberate.

### **Legal proceedings on behalf of the Group**

There are no legal proceedings on behalf of the Group that have arisen during the 2024 year or subsequent to year end that affect significantly the operations of the Group.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the members of the University Council in Adelaide, South Australia on 6 May 2025.



Hon John Hill  
Chancellor



Professor David G. Lloyd  
Vice Chancellor and President





## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Consolidated		University	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Revenue and income from continuing operations</b>					
<b>Australian Government financial assistance</b>					
Australian Government grants	3	316,765	296,317	316,989	296,984
HECS-HELP - Australian Government payments	3	143,722	133,246	143,722	133,246
FEE-HELP	3	8,101	8,081	8,101	8,081
SA-HELP	3	3,393	3,174	3,393	3,174
State and Local Government financial assistance	4	9,077	8,971	9,077	8,946
HECS-HELP - Student payments		15,338	13,532	15,338	13,532
Fees and charges	5	176,515	161,004	176,515	161,004
Royalties		340	393	137	176
Consultancy and contract research	6	56,082	52,644	55,858	52,235
Other revenue	7	17,169	16,133	14,952	14,447
Investment income	9	30,626	21,786	30,614	21,775
Gain / (Loss) on disposal of assets	10	26,778	191	26,778	191
<b>Total revenue and income from continuing operations</b>		<b>803,906</b>	<b>715,472</b>	<b>801,474</b>	<b>713,791</b>
<b>Expenses from continuing operations</b>					
Employee-related expenses	11	475,734	461,607	473,819	460,323
Depreciation and amortisation	19,20	42,153	44,041	42,137	43,961
Repairs and maintenance		16,753	16,464	16,748	16,461
Interest on lease liabilities		896	585	896	585
Impairment of property, plant and equipment	19,20	404	213	72	213
Other expenses	12	216,124	209,516	216,041	208,917
Bad and doubtful debts		2,295	231	2,295	231
Grant Expense - Adelaide University	1	67,453	-	67,453	-
Grant Expense - University of Adelaide	1	25,000	-	25,000	-
<b>Total expenses from continuing operations</b>		<b>846,812</b>	<b>732,657</b>	<b>844,461</b>	<b>730,691</b>
<b>Operating result before income tax</b>		<b>(42,906)</b>	<b>(17,185)</b>	<b>(42,987)</b>	<b>(16,900)</b>
Income tax (income) / expense		(96)	(48)	(3)	16
<b>Operating result attributable to members of University of South Australia</b>		<b>(42,810)</b>	<b>(17,137)</b>	<b>(42,984)</b>	<b>(16,916)</b>
<b>Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:</b>					
Gain / (Loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	16	2,307	1,706	2,442	1,525
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,307</b>	<b>1,706</b>	<b>2,442</b>	<b>1,525</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to the members of the University of South Australia</b>		<b>(40,503)</b>	<b>(15,431)</b>	<b>(40,542)</b>	<b>(15,391)</b>

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Consolidated		University	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	13	524,297	526,626	523,039	525,400
Receivables	14	30,578	21,306	30,511	21,228
Other financial assets	16	11,838	10,175	11,727	10,175
Deferred Government superannuation contribution	32	30,676	29,926	30,676	29,926
Other non-financial assets	17	32,208	27,546	32,205	27,546
Non-current assets held-for-sale	18	-	23,129	-	23,129
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>629,597</b>	<b>638,708</b>	<b>628,158</b>	<b>637,404</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>					
Receivables	14	22,759	22,759	22,759	22,759
Other financial assets	16	39,189	35,327	41,344	37,869
Property, plant and equipment	19	1,088,474	1,089,851	1,088,474	1,089,851
Deferred tax assets		1,011	917	-	-
Intangible assets	20	1,104	1,580	830	1,094
Deferred Government superannuation contribution	32	243,221	265,136	243,221	265,136
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>1,395,758</b>	<b>1,415,570</b>	<b>1,396,628</b>	<b>1,416,709</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>2,025,355</b>	<b>2,054,278</b>	<b>2,024,786</b>	<b>2,054,113</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Trade and other payables	21	52,952	48,157	52,383	47,989
Provisions	23	98,896	91,466	98,896	91,466
Lease liabilities	22	3,598	3,740	3,598	3,740
Current tax liabilities		2	5	2	5
Contract liabilities	24	79,085	74,383	79,085	74,383
Other liabilities	25	29,566	20,794	29,573	20,765
Defined benefit obligation	32	30,676	29,926	30,676	29,926
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>294,775</b>	<b>268,471</b>	<b>294,213</b>	<b>268,274</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>					
Lease liabilities	22	17,636	14,135	17,636	14,135
Provisions	23	16,895	16,672	16,895	16,672
Contract Liabilities	24	30,054	26,209	30,054	26,209
Other liabilities	25	1,512	1,890	1,512	1,890
Defined benefit obligation	32	243,221	265,136	243,221	265,136
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>309,318</b>	<b>324,042</b>	<b>309,318</b>	<b>324,042</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>604,093</b>	<b>592,513</b>	<b>603,531</b>	<b>592,316</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>1,421,262</b>	<b>1,461,765</b>	<b>1,421,255</b>	<b>1,461,797</b>
<b>Equity</b>					
Reserves	26	323,199	343,345	325,354	345,365
Retained earnings		1,098,063	1,118,420	1,095,901	1,116,432
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>1,421,262</b>	<b>1,461,765</b>	<b>1,421,255</b>	<b>1,461,797</b>

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Consolidated				University	
		Reserves	Retained Earnings	Total	Reserves	Retained Earnings	Total
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Balance at 1 January 2023</b>		385,101	1,092,095	1,477,196	387,302	1,089,886	1,477,188
Profit or loss		-	(17,137)	(17,137)	-	(16,916)	(16,916)
Gain / (Loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income							
Transfer of fair value reserve of Land, Buildings and Infrastructure to retained earnings	16	1,706	-	1,706	1,525	-	1,525
Transfer of fair value reserve of equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income to retained earnings		(43,927)	43,927	-	(43,927)	43,927	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		465	(465)	-	465	(465)	-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>		(41,756)	26,325	(15,431)	(41,937)	26,546	(15,391)
		343,345	1,118,420	1,461,765	345,365	1,116,432	1,461,797

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.





**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Consolidated				University	
		Retained Earnings		Reserves		Retained Earnings	Total
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Balance at 1 January 2024</b>		343,345	1,118,420	1,461,765	345,365	1,116,432	1,461,797
Profit or loss		-	(42,810)	(42,810)	-	(42,984)	(42,984)
Gain on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	16	2,307	-	2,307	2,442	-	2,442
Transfer of fair value reserve of Land, Buildings and Infrastructure to retained earnings		(21,997)	21,997	-	(21,997)	21,997	-
Transfer of fair value reserve of equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income to retained earnings		(456)	456	-	(456)	456	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		(20,146)	(20,357)	(40,503)	(20,011)	(20,531)	(40,542)
<b>Balance at 31 December 2024</b>		323,199	1,098,063	1,421,262	325,354	1,095,901	1,421,255

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Consolidated		University	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>					
Inflows:					
Australian Government grants received		480,236	447,342	480,460	448,009
OS-HELP (Net)	40(g)	682	1,199	682	1,199
Superannuation supplementation	40(h)	24,536	23,253	24,536	23,253
State and Local Government Grants		13,809	8,597	13,809	8,572
HECS-HELP - Student payments		15,334	13,533	15,334	13,533
Receipts from student fees and other customers		194,270	165,129	194,270	165,129
Dividends received		1,055	639	1,055	639
Interest received		27,207	16,802	27,195	16,791
Royalties		340	393	137	176
Consultancy and contract research		59,338	44,667	59,114	44,258
Other receipts		16,292	21,631	14,023	19,836
GST recovered		1,175	9,771	1,208	9,782
Outflows:					
Payments to suppliers and employees		(850,066)	(714,033)	(847,434)	(711,890)
Interest paid		(896)	(585)	(896)	(585)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	37	<b>(16,688)</b>	<b>38,338</b>	<b>(16,507)</b>	<b>38,702</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>					
Inflows:					
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		50,012	64,501	50,012	64,501
Proceeds from sale of Investments		11,513	5,820	10,852	5,820
Outflows:					
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(30,952)	(23,698)	(30,793)	(23,427)
Loans to related parties		-	-	-	(450)
Payment for investments		(12,623)	(7,460)	(12,334)	(7,175)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>17,950</b>	<b>39,163</b>	<b>17,737</b>	<b>39,269</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>					
Repayment of lease liabilities		(3,591)	(3,044)	(3,591)	(3,044)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<b>(3,591)</b>	<b>(3,044)</b>	<b>(3,591)</b>	<b>(3,044)</b>
<b>Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>(2,329)</b>	<b>74,457</b>	<b>(2,361)</b>	<b>74,927</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year</b>		<b>526,626</b>	<b>452,169</b>	<b>525,400</b>	<b>450,473</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year</b>	13	<b>524,297</b>	<b>526,626</b>	<b>523,039</b>	<b>525,400</b>

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



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## 1. Establishment of Adelaide University

On 2 July 2023, the Councils of the University of South Australia and The University of Adelaide entered into a Heads of Agreement to record the terms and conditions on which both universities would support the creation of a future, combined University, *Adelaide University* should the South Australian Parliament so legislate.

On the 14 December, the Adelaide University Act (2023) was proclaimed by the South Australian Governor and became operative.

Under the Adelaide University Act (2023), the new *Adelaide University* legal entity was established on 8 March 2024 along with the Transition Council as the initial governing body. The Transition Council is responsible for overseeing the transition and commencement of tertiary education and research being provided and conducted by The University of Adelaide or the University of South Australia, and preparing Adelaide University to commence providing courses and other tertiary programs.

The *Adelaide University* has a target operational date of 1 January 2026 and, under Schedule 1 of the Adelaide University Act, on 31 March 2026 the University of South Australia Act (1990) will be repealed, and the University of South Australia disestablished as a legal entity.

On 8 March 2024, the Councils of the University of South Australia, University of Adelaide and *Adelaide University* entered into a Tripartite Agreement to guide the transition of services, education and research activities to *Adelaide University* in readiness for 1 January 2026.

The Tripartite Agreement also includes the agreed investment in integration costs to be equally funded by both the University of South Australia and University of Adelaide.

During 2024, the University of South Australia incurred \$74.5 million of integration costs. Integration costs of \$7.1 million were incurred prior to the establishment of *Adelaide University* on 8 March 2024 and \$67.4 million subsequently. The University also remitted a grant of \$25.0 million to The University of Adelaide (*Grant Expense – University of Adelaide*) being 50% of the sale proceeds from the disposal of surplus land at the Mawson Lakes Campus to be used to support the funding of the integration costs.

The Integration costs incurred after 8 March 2024 have been recognised as grant expense (*Grant Expense – Adelaide University*). The integration costs are to the benefit of *Adelaide University* which has recognised a corresponding grant revenue.

On 5 December 2024, the *Adelaide University* (Transfer of Staff) Proclamation 2024 was made by the South Australian Governor. The proclamation outlined the dates during 2025 that staff of the University of South Australia and University of Adelaide would transfer employment arrangements to *Adelaide University*. Non-academic staff from both universities transferred to *Adelaide University* in January 2025 and Academic staff are scheduled to transfer in May 2025.

On 4 December 2024, the University of South Australia entered into a Service Agreement with *Adelaide University*. The Service Agreement details the arrangements for *Adelaide University* to provide services back to the University of South Australia once staff have been transferred to *Adelaide University*. These services are designed to ensure the continuity of the University of South Australia operations until 1 January 2026 including its core teaching and research activities and its legal and regulatory obligations.



## 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

### General information

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below and where applicable, throughout the notes to the accounts. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years reported, unless otherwise stated. The financial statements include separate statements for the University of South Australia (the University) and the University and its subsidiaries (the Group).

#### (a) Basis of preparation

The annual financial statements represent the audited general purpose financial statements which have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), AASB Interpretations, requirements of the Department of Education (EDUCATION), the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* and other State / Australian Government legislative requirements.

The University applies Tier 1 reporting requirements.

### Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and under the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities that were valued in accordance with the applicable valuation policy.

### Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of these statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in the process of applying the University's accounting policies. All significant estimates or assumptions made in the preparation of the financial statements are described in the relevant accounting policy notes. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed regularly.

The areas involving a high degree of judgement where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are other financial assets, superannuation receivable and associated defined benefit obligation, long service leave provision, valuation and depreciation of property, plant and equipment and the recognition of revenue over time in accordance with AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*. Further details are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed regularly. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period which it effects. If the revision affects both current and future periods, the revision is recognised in the period of the revision and future periods.

### Rounding of amounts

Unless otherwise indicated, all amounts are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

### Comparative amounts

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to enhance comparability in respect of changes in presentation adopted in the current year.



## 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

### (a) Basis of preparation (continued)

#### Foreign currency translation

Foreign currency transactions are translated into Australian dollars using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gain and loss resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

### (b) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements represent the financial statements of the parent entity, being the University of South Australia, and the assets, liabilities and results of all entities it controlled in accordance with AASB 10 *Consolidated Financial Statements* at the end of, or during the financial year. Control is established when the parent is exposed to or has rights to variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the relevant activities of the entity.

Transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between Group entities are eliminated. Where necessary, accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the Group.

A list of controlled entities are contained in Note 33. Subsidiaries.

### (c) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included in receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

### (d) Income tax

The University is exempt from income tax pursuant to Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*. The University subsidiaries are not exempt from income tax.

Income tax expense or benefit for the period is calculated as the tax payable on the current period's taxable income based on the income tax rate adjusted by changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements, and to unused tax losses. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognised for temporary differences at the tax rates expected to apply when the assets are recovered or liabilities extinguished.

In relation to foreign operations, the University is subject to tax associated with the legislation of the relevant foreign country. Tax in respect of these operations has been brought to account in the year it is incurred.

### (e) Revenue and Income

Notes 3 to 7 disclose the revenue and income received during the year according to the mandatory disclosures required by EDUCATION. The disclosures required by AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* are included in the notes and a reconciliation is included in Note 8 Reconciliation of revenue and income.





## 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

### (e) Revenue and Income (continued)

#### (i) Basis for disaggregation

**Sources of funding:** the Group receives the majority of funds from the Australian Government as well as State and Local Government to further its objectives. In addition the Group also receives revenue and income from private organisations and individuals.

**Revenue and Income streams:** the major revenue and income streams are as follows:

Teaching: the Group has domestic and overseas students enrolled in a variety of programs for different qualification levels. Whilst the number of domestic students is affected by national economic factors such as interest rates or unemployment, the overseas students are impacted by changes in immigration policies.

Research: the Group performs research activities across multiple fields. The Group enters into many different types of research agreements with different counterparties, such as with private sector customers and Government agencies that award research grants. Each agreement needs to be assessed as to whether it is an enforceable arrangement and contains sufficiently specific promises to transfer outputs from the research to the customer (or at the direction of the customer). Judgement is required in making this assessment. The Group has concluded that some research agreements represent a contract with a customer whereas other research grants are recognised as income when the Group obtains control of the research funds.

Other fees and charges: these correspond to the complementary services provided by the Group such as parking and access to fitness and recreational activities.



## 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

### (e) Revenue and Income (continued)

#### **Revenue from Contracts with Customers as per AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers**

##### **(ii) Accounting policies and significant accounting judgement and estimates**

###### **Course fees and charges**

Course fees and charges revenue relate to undergraduate programs, graduate and professional degree programs and continuing education and executive programs.

Revenue is recognised over time as and when the course is delivered to students over the study period.

When the courses have been paid in advance by students or the Group has received the government funding in advance (e.g. before starting the academic period) the Group recognises a contract liability until the services are delivered.

The Group does have refund obligations. This is mainly applicable when the goods are not provided or contracted services are not delivered.

There is no significant financing component as the period from when the student pays and the service is provided is less than 12 months and the consideration is not variable.

###### **Research**

Revenue recognition for research funding is dependent upon the source of the funding and the nature of the transaction.

The following specific research revenue recognition criteria have been applied:

- Funding received from Australian Research Council, National Health and Medical Research Council, and from non government entities. These are enforceable agreements and the performance obligations in those agreements are sufficiently specific.
- Research grants that are considered within the scope of AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* meet the enforceability criteria due to the existence of refund clauses in the agreements with the grantor and the promises to transfer good or services to the customer (or on behalf of the customer) are sufficiently specific. The obligations may include:
  - Comprehensive academic paper with the results of the research after completion
  - Publishing research data and results on an ongoing basis in an openly accessible repository as requested by the grantor
  - Intellectual property

Depending on the nature of the promise, the Group either recognises revenue at a point in time when the promise is delivered (e.g. when the comprehensive academic paper is published) or recognises revenue over time as the service is performed (e.g. as the customer obtains control of the intellectual property as it is created).



## 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

### (e) Revenue and Income (continued)

#### (ii) Accounting policies and significant accounting judgement and estimates (continued)

##### Other fees and charges

Other fees and charges revenue relate to the provision of services such as student services and amenities fees, parking fees, fitness and recreational services.

Revenue is recognised over time as and when the service is provided over the period.

##### Royalties

Royalties that are within the scope of AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* mainly relate to the use of intellectual property. The revenue is recognised at a point in time when the use of intellectual property has occurred.

##### Contract Assets

Contract Assets represent research grants which have met performance obligations in accordance with funding agreements, however, funding has not been received.

##### Contract Liabilities

Contract Liabilities represent research and teaching grants for which funding has been received by the University to provide future services to funding providers and students.

#### (iii) Unsatisfied performance obligations

Remaining performance obligations represent services the Group has promised to provide to customers which are satisfied as the goods or services are provided over the contract term. For customer contracts with terms of one year or less, or where revenue is recognised using the 'right to invoice' method of recognising revenue, as permitted under AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, disclosures are not required in relation to the transaction price allocated to these unsatisfied performance obligations.

Contract liabilities for unsatisfied performance obligations are included in Note 24. Contract Liabilities are classified as either current or non-current based on the expected completion date of the performance obligations.





**2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**(e) Revenue and Income (continued)**

**Income of not-for-profit as per AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities**

**(iv) Accounting policies and significant judgements and estimates**

**Capital grants**

Capital grants are generally received to acquire or construct a non-financial asset, such as a building. Income is recognised over time, as the building is constructed. Income is recognised to the extent of costs incurred to date as the costs of construction are the best measure of the stage of completion.

**Donations and bequests**

The income is recognised immediately when the funds are received.


**3. Australian Government financial assistance including Australian Government loan programs (HELP)**
**Australian Government financial assistance**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Commonwealth Grants Scheme and other grants	40(a)	<b>234,590</b>	218,057	<b>234,590</b>	218,057
Higher Education Loan Programs	40(b)	<b>155,216</b>	144,501	<b>155,216</b>	144,501
EDUCATION Research	40(c)	<b>35,516</b>	34,599	<b>35,516</b>	34,599
Other capital funding	40(e)	<b>43</b>	8	<b>43</b>	8
Australian Research Council	40(f)	<b>7,654</b>	7,523	<b>7,654</b>	7,523
<b>Total CGS, HELP, Scholarships and Research grants</b>		<b>433,019</b>	404,688	<b>433,019</b>	404,688
<b>Other Non-Capital Australian Government financial assistance</b>					
Research		<b>32,377</b>	29,409	<b>32,601</b>	30,076
Other		<b>6,585</b>	6,721	<b>6,585</b>	6,721
<b>Total Other Australian Government financial assistance</b>		<b>38,962</b>	36,130	<b>39,186</b>	36,797
<b>Total Australian Government financial assistance</b>		<b>471,981</b>	440,818	<b>472,205</b>	441,485

**4. State and Local Government financial assistance**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Non-capital research grants	<b>7,523</b>	8,043	<b>7,523</b>	8,043
Non-capital other	<b>1,504</b>	928	<b>1,504</b>	903
Capital	<b>50</b>	-	<b>50</b>	-
<b>Total State and Local Government financial assistance</b>	<b>9,077</b>	8,971	<b>9,077</b>	8,946

**5. Fees and charges**

	Consolidated		University	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Course fees and charges</b>				
Fee-paying onshore overseas students	155,089	140,729	155,089	140,729
Fee-paying offshore overseas students	268	620	268	620
Continuing education	3,902	3,190	3,902	3,190
Fee-paying domestic postgraduate students	2,837	2,290	2,837	2,290
Fee-paying domestic undergraduate students	3	-	3	-
Fee-paying domestic non-award students	551	446	551	446
<b>Total course fees and charges</b>	<b>162,650</b>	<b>147,275</b>	<b>162,650</b>	<b>147,275</b>
<b>Other fees and charges</b>				
Miscellaneous enrolment fees	6,386	6,207	6,386	6,207
Other fees and charges	3,624	3,934	3,624	3,934
Seminar / workshop fees	2,257	2,159	2,257	2,159
Student services fees from students	40(i) 1,598	1,429	1,598	1,429
<b>Total other fees and charges</b>	<b>13,865</b>	<b>13,729</b>	<b>13,865</b>	<b>13,729</b>
<b>Total fees and charges</b>	<b>176,515</b>	<b>161,004</b>	<b>176,515</b>	<b>161,004</b>

**6. Consultancy and contract research**

		Consolidated		University	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Consultancy		3,938	3,141	3,938	3,141
Contract research		52,144	49,503	51,920	49,094
<b>Total consultancy and contract research</b>		<b>56,082</b>	<b>52,644</b>	<b>55,858</b>	<b>52,235</b>

**7. Other revenue**

		Consolidated		University	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Donations and bequests		2,202	2,035	2,202	2,035
Scholarships and prizes		895	710	895	710
Other fees and charges		7,207	8,323	5,199	6,699
Other		6,865	5,065	6,656	5,003
<b>Total other revenue</b>		<b>17,169</b>	<b>16,133</b>	<b>14,952</b>	<b>14,447</b>



**8. Reconciliation of revenue and income**

The following table reconciles the amounts disclosed in Notes 3 to 7 which contain the mandatory disclosures required by EDUCATION as per AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*:

	Note	Consolidated		University	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Australian Government financial assistance including Australian Government loan Programs (HELP)	3	471,981	440,818	472,205	441,485
State and Local Government financial assistance	4	9,077	8,971	9,077	8,946
HECS-HELP - Student Payments		15,338	13,532	15,338	13,532
Fees and charges	5	176,515	161,004	176,515	161,004
Royalties		340	393	137	176
Consultancy and contract research	6	56,082	52,644	55,858	52,235
Other income	7	17,169	16,133	14,952	14,447
<b>Total</b>		<b>746,502</b>	<b>693,495</b>	<b>744,082</b>	<b>691,825</b>
Total Revenue from contracts with customers as per AASB 15					
Revenue from Contracts with Customers		455,633	424,483	453,422	422,875
Total Income of not-for-profit as per AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities		290,869	269,012	290,660	268,950
<b>Total Revenue and income</b>		<b>746,502</b>	<b>693,495</b>	<b>744,082</b>	<b>691,825</b>

**9. Investment income**

	Consolidated		University	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Interest</b>				
Debt instruments at amortised cost	29,595	20,951	29,583	20,940
<b>Dividends</b>				
Equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	1,031	835	1,031	835
<b>Investment income gains</b>	<b>30,626</b>	<b>21,786</b>	<b>30,614</b>	<b>21,775</b>

**Accounting Policy**

Interest income is recognised as it accrues. For all debt instruments measured at amortised cost and equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income, interest income is recorded using the Effective Interest Rate (EIR). The EIR is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash receipts over the expected life of the financial instrument or a shorter period, where appropriate, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

Dividend income is recognised only when it is declared, determined or recommended by external entities before the 31 December reporting date.


**10. Gain / (Loss) on disposal of property, plant and equipment**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Disposal of property, plant and equipment</b>				
Proceeds from sale	<b>50,012</b>	64,501	<b>50,012</b>	64,501
Carrying amount of assets sold	<b>(23,234)</b>	(64,310)	<b>(23,234)</b>	(64,310)
<b>Net Gain / (Loss) on disposal of property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>26,778</b>	191	<b>26,778</b>	191

On 28 August 2024, Renewal SA purchased the University's occupation rights over Crown land for a portion of Mawson Lakes Campus that is surplus to the University's requirements. In 2024, the University has recognised proceeds from sale (GST exclusive) of \$50.00 million and a gain of \$26.87 million. This gain is included in the Total Net Gain of \$26.78 million and has been partially offset by losses on sale of Plant and Equipment.

On 20 December 2023, Renewal SA purchased the entire Magill Campus comprising land, buildings and infrastructure assets. In 2023, the University has recognised proceeds from sale (GST exclusive) of \$64.50 million and a gain of \$0.25 million. This gain is included in the Total Net Gain of \$0.19 million and has been partially offset by losses on sale of Plant and Equipment.


**11. Employee-related expenses**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Academic</b>				
Salaries	<b>197,368</b>	192,452	<b>197,089</b>	192,171
Contributions to superannuation and pension schemes:				
Emerging cost	<b>63</b>	76	<b>63</b>	76
Funded	<b>34,864</b>	31,747	<b>34,864</b>	31,747
Payroll tax	<b>12,462</b>	11,770	<b>12,462</b>	11,770
Workers' compensation	<b>194</b>	140	<b>194</b>	140
Long service leave	<b>4,342</b>	8,827	<b>4,342</b>	8,827
Annual leave	<b>14,954</b>	12,083	<b>14,954</b>	12,083
<b>Total academic</b>	<b>264,247</b>	257,095	<b>263,968</b>	256,814
<b>Non-academic</b>				
Salaries	<b>152,091</b>	151,602	<b>150,460</b>	150,614
Contributions to superannuation and pension schemes:				
Emerging cost	<b>12</b>	16	<b>12</b>	12
Funded	<b>29,267</b>	26,033	<b>29,267</b>	26,033
Payroll tax	<b>10,140</b>	9,344	<b>10,135</b>	9,332
Workers' compensation	<b>598</b>	442	<b>598</b>	443
Long service leave	<b>6,099</b>	5,819	<b>6,099</b>	5,819
Annual leave	<b>12,892</b>	10,902	<b>12,892</b>	10,902
<b>Total non-academic</b>	<b>211,099</b>	204,158	<b>209,463</b>	203,155
<b>Total academic &amp; non-academic employee related expenses</b>	<b>475,346</b>	461,253	<b>473,431</b>	459,969
<b>Council member remuneration</b>	<b>388</b>	354	<b>388</b>	354
<b>Total employee related expenses</b>	<b>475,734</b>	461,607	<b>473,819</b>	460,323

**Accounting Policy**

Refer to Note 23 Provisions for the accounting policy relating to employee benefits and Note 32 Superannuation Plans for the accounting policy relating to employee benefits - Superannuation.




**12. Other expenses**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Scholarships, grants and prizes	23,972	21,992	23,972	21,992
Non-capitalised equipment	6,406	6,654	6,397	6,652
Advertising, marketing and promotion	11,992	11,687	11,991	11,687
Telecommunications	3,240	3,051	3,220	3,033
Travel, staff development and entertainment	17,537	15,631	17,528	15,618
External services	78,046	82,656	78,319	82,399
IT hardware and software	28,851	24,783	28,710	24,695
Library subscriptions	10,906	10,504	10,906	10,504
Printing	1,066	1,167	1,065	1,167
Bank charges, legal costs, insurance and taxes	8,996	8,983	8,943	8,897
General consumables	8,352	8,230	8,203	8,074
Utilities	12,188	10,013	12,188	10,013
Other	4,572	4,165	4,599	4,186
<b>Total other expenses</b>	<b>216,124</b>	<b>209,516</b>	<b>216,041</b>	<b>208,917</b>

**13. Cash and cash equivalents**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Cash at bank and on hand	4,447	4,384	4,196	3,937
Deposits at call	519,850	522,242	518,843	521,463
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>524,297</b>	<b>526,626</b>	<b>523,039</b>	<b>525,400</b>

**Cash at bank and on hand**

During the year Cash at bank and on hand earned an average interest of 1.09% (2023: 0.97%) and interest was credited to the University on a monthly basis.

**Deposits at call**

During the year Deposits at call earned interest at a fixed rate which ranged between 4.47% and 5.60% (2023: range between 0.43% and 5.60%). These deposits had an average maturity of 348 days (2023: 365 days).

**Accounting Policy**

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash at bank and on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions and other highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

**14. Receivables**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>				
Trade debtors	<b>12,539</b>	13,850	<b>12,482</b>	13,772
Less: Provision for impaired receivables	<b>(2,099)</b>	(1,114)	<b>(2,099)</b>	(1,114)
	<b>10,440</b>	12,736	<b>10,383</b>	12,658
Student fees	<b>6,175</b>	5,209	<b>6,175</b>	5,209
Less: Provision for impaired receivables	<b>(2,777)</b>	(2,124)	<b>(2,777)</b>	(2,124)
	<b>3,398</b>	3,085	<b>3,398</b>	3,085
Imputation Credits receivables	<b>448</b>	471	<b>448</b>	471
Commonwealth receivables	<b>1,915</b>	1,820	<b>1,915</b>	1,820
Contract Assets	<b>4,321</b>	3,193	<b>4,321</b>	3,193
Other	<b>10,056</b>	1	<b>10,046</b>	1
<b>Total current receivables</b>	<b>30,578</b>	21,306	<b>30,511</b>	21,228
<b>Non-current</b>				
Imputation Credits receivables	<b>22,759</b>	22,759	<b>22,759</b>	22,759
<b>Total non-current receivables</b>	<b>22,759</b>	22,759	<b>22,759</b>	22,759
<b>Total receivables</b>	<b>53,337</b>	44,065	<b>53,270</b>	43,987

Trade receivables are non-interest bearing and are generally on terms of 14 to 30 days.

Contract Assets represent research activities which have met performance obligations in accordance with funding agreements, however, funding has not been received. The classification of contract assets as current was made on the basis that all projects with expenditure in advance will be invoiced within 12 months. Contract Assets are evaluated for impairment.

The University continues to recognise the franking credits refundable on the in-specie distribution from Education Australia Limited of \$22.76 million as a receivable at 31 December 2024. During 2023, the ATO issued formal notice denying the refund through Notice of Amended Assessment - year ended 30 June 2022. The Universities involved in the transaction have engaged external law firm Herbert Smith Freehills to provide advice regarding their entitlement to a franking credit refund, with formal objections to the ATO assessments lodged during 2023. These objections were disallowed in January 2025. The Universities continue to act collectively and are in the process of initiating legal action to resolve this matter. The timing for any resolution to this matter is uncertain, as such the University has classified the receivable of the franking credits as a non-current receivable.

Other current receivables represent GST receivable from the ATO. In 2023 this was a payable of \$1.9 million and was included in Other in Note 25. Other Liabilities.



#### 14. Receivables (continued)

##### Impaired receivables

Movements in the Trade debtors provision for impaired receivables are as follows:

	<b>Consolidated</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
At 1 January	1,114	1,442
Provision for impairment recognised during the year	1,187	(59)
Unused amount reversed and debts collected	(202)	(269)
<b>At 31 December</b>	<b>2,099</b>	<b>1,114</b>

Movements in the Student fees provision for impaired receivables are as follows:

	<b>Consolidated</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
At 1 January	2,124	2,985
Provision for impairment recognised during the year	1,344	621
Receivables written-off during the year as uncollectible	(673)	(1,453)
Unused amount reversed and debts collected	(18)	(29)
<b>At 31 December</b>	<b>2,777</b>	<b>2,124</b>

The creation and release of the provision for impaired receivables has been included in 'Bad and doubtful debts expense' in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Amounts charged to the provision account are written-off when there is no expectation of recovering additional cash.

The other amounts within receivables do not contain impaired assets and are not past due. Based on credit history, it is expected that these amounts will be received when due.

##### Foreign exchange and interest rate risk

The carrying amount of the Group's receivables are denominated in Australian Dollars.

##### Fair value and credit risk

Due to the short-term nature of these receivables, their carrying amount is assumed to approximate their fair value.



**14. Receivables (continued)****Accounting Policy**

Trade debtors are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Trade debts are generally due for settlement no more than 14 days from the date that invoice was issued for domestic Australian debtors, and no more than 30 days for Overseas/International debtors. Any exceptions to these payment terms for both Domestic & International debtors, are approved by the Director of the local area and also by the Chief Financial Officer, after reviewing the business reasons for the extended terms. The exceptions are very few in number.

Student fees are recognised initially at fair value as at census date and are collectable at that point. Periodically these receivables are adjusted for any provision for impairment.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis and the assessment of the provision for impaired receivables included consideration of the expected credit losses in accordance with AASB 9 *Financial Instruments*. Individual trade debtors and student fee receivables are assessed for impairment, considering both historic and future factors where possible including the age of the debt, the circumstances of the debtor, experience with similar debt types and current economic circumstances. In addition, both trade debtors and student fee receivables are evaluated for impairment based upon past due status and historical collection experience. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. A provision for doubtful debts is established when there is objective evidence that the University will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables.

The other amounts within receivables do not contain impaired assets and are not past due. Based on credit history, it is expected that these amounts will be received when due.

**15. Investments accounted for using the equity method**

The University has no material investments in associates or joint venture entities which would be accounted for in the consolidated financial statements using the equity method of accounting.

**16. Other financial assets**

		Consolidated		University	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
	Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current</b>					
Accrued Income		11,838	10,175	11,727	10,175
<b>Total current other financial assets</b>		<b>11,838</b>	<b>10,175</b>	<b>11,727</b>	<b>10,175</b>
<b>Non-current</b>					
Equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income		39,189	35,327	35,788	31,177
Shares in subsidiaries	33	-	-	5,556	6,242
Loans and receivables		-	-	-	450
<b>Total non-current other financial assets</b>		<b>39,189</b>	<b>35,327</b>	<b>41,344</b>	<b>37,869</b>
<b>Total other financial assets</b>		<b>51,027</b>	<b>45,502</b>	<b>53,071</b>	<b>48,044</b>



## 16. Other financial assets (continued)

### Accounting Policy

#### Shares in subsidiaries

Investments in all wholly-owned subsidiaries are recorded at fair value. Where an estimate of fair value is not readily available, the Net Assets of the subsidiary are used as a proxy for fair value.

#### Loans and receivables

The University has no loans to controlled entities at 31 December 2024 (2023: \$0.45 million).

#### Equity Instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income

The University invests in shares, fixed interest, property trusts and managed funds known as investments. These investments are classified as Equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income in accordance with AASB 9 *Financial Instruments*.

These investments are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the balance sheet date. Purchases and sales of investments are recognised on trade date (the date on which the University commits to purchase or sell the asset). Investments are initially recognised at fair value. Investments are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from them have expired or have been transferred and the University has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

Unrealised gain or loss arising from changes in the fair value of investments are recognised in other comprehensive income under Gain / (Loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income.

Realised gain or loss arising from the sale of investments are recognised in Other Comprehensive income under Gain / (Loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income.

Only dividends are recognised in the income statement when the right of payment has been established unless when it is part of a recovery of cost in which case it is recognised in Other Comprehensive Income.

Since these investments are designated at fair value through other comprehensive income they are not subject to impairment assessment. These investments are adjusted annually to fair value through Other Comprehensive Income.

The Realised and Unrealised Gain / (Loss) on Equity instruments designated at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income were:

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Realised Gain/(Loss)	<b>456</b>	(465)	<b>456</b>	(465)
Unrealised Gain/(Loss)	<b>1,851</b>	2,171	<b>1,986</b>	1,990
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,307</b>	1,706	<b>2,442</b>	1,525


**17. Other non-financial assets**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>				
Prepayments	<b>32,188</b>	27,515	<b>32,185</b>	27,515
Other	<b>20</b>	31	<b>20</b>	31
<b>Total other non-financial assets</b>	<b>32,208</b>	27,546	<b>32,205</b>	27,546

**18. Non-current assets classified as held for sale**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Non-current assets held for sale</b>				
Land and Building	-	23,129	-	23,129
<b>Total non-current assets classified as held for sale</b>	-	23,129	-	23,129

In 2023 the State Government were finalising negotiations to purchase the University's occupation rights over Crown land for a portion of Mawson Lakes Campus that was surplus to the University's requirements.

On 28 August 2024 the sale was completed with the Total Net Gain of \$26.78 million disclosed in Note 10. Gain / (Loss) on disposal of property, plant and equipment.

**Accounting Policy**

Non-current assets are classified as held for sale and stated at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use.

Non-current assets are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as held for sale.

Non-current assets classified as held for sale are presented separately from the other assets in the statement of financial position.



**19. Property, plant and equipment**

University	Capital Works in Progress		Land	Buildings	Plant and equipment	equipment in progress	Leasehold improvements	Art collection	Infrastructure	Subtotal (owned)	Right-of-use assets	Total
	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>At 1 January 2023</b>												
- Cost	2,231	-	-	-	126,121	2,301	8,679	-	-	139,332	20,343	159,675
- Valuation	-	221,890	1,608,359	-	-	-	-	3,093	116,260	1,949,602	-	1,949,602
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	-	(429)	(743,600)	(88,606)	-	-	(8,380)	-	(69,074)	(910,089)	(9,054)	(919,143)
<b>Net book amount</b>	2,231	221,461	864,759	37,515	2,301	299	299	3,093	47,186	1,178,845	11,289	1,190,134
<b>Year ended 31 December 2023</b>												
Opening net book amount	2,231	221,461	864,759	37,515	2,301	299	299	3,093	47,186	1,178,845	11,289	1,190,134
Additions	15,769	-	-	6,272	1,270	-	-	-	-	23,311	8,296	31,607
Disposals	-	(34,650)	(22,302)	(62)	-	-	-	-	(7,296)	(64,310)	-	(64,310)
Reclassifications	(13,900)	-	8,706	2,112	(2,112)	4,735	-	-	459	-	-	-
Assets included in a disposal group classified as held for sale and other disposals	-	(22,700)	(429)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(23,129)	-	(23,129)
Impairment loss in income	-	-	-	(213)	-	-	-	-	-	(213)	-	(213)
Amortisation / Depreciation charge	-	(69)	(28,533)	(8,876)	-	(334)	-	-	(2,443)	(40,255)	(3,195)	(43,450)
Other changes, movements	(671)	-	-	-	(117)	-	-	-	-	(788)	-	(788)
<b>Closing net book amount</b>	3,429	164,042	822,201	36,748	1,342	4,700	4,700	3,093	37,906	1,073,461	16,390	1,089,851
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>												
- Cost	3,429	-	8,706	129,399	1,342	13,414	-	-	459	156,749	28,287	185,036
- Valuation	-	164,540	1,497,499	-	-	-	-	3,093	91,683	1,756,815	-	1,756,815
Accumulated amortisation / depreciation and impairment	-	(498)	(684,004)	(92,651)	-	(8,714)	-	-	(54,236)	(840,103)	(11,897)	(852,000)
<b>Net book amount</b>	3,429	164,042	822,201	36,748	1,342	4,700	4,700	3,093	37,906	1,073,461	16,390	1,089,851





**19. Property, plant and equipment (continued)**

	Capital Works in Progress	Land	Buildings	Plant and equipment	Plant and equipment in progress	Leasehold improvements	Art collection	Infrastructure	Subtotal (owned)	Subtotal Right-of-use assets	Total
University Year ended 31 December 2024	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Opening net book amount	3,429	164,042	822,201	36,748	1,342	4,700	3,093	37,906	1,073,461	16,390	1,089,851
Additions	29,161	-	-	1,866	2,780	-	-	-	33,807	1,062	34,869
Disposals	-	-	-	(105)	-	-	-	-	(105)	-	(105)
Reclassifications	(10,609)	-	10,023	1,124	(1,124)	-	-	586	-	-	-
Impairment loss in income	-	-	-	(72)	-	-	-	-	(72)	-	(72)
Amortisation / Depreciation charge	-	(69)	(26,769)	(8,386)	-	(541)	-	(1,982)	(37,747)	(4,126)	(41,873)
Other changes, movements	-	-	-	-	(80)	-	-	-	(80)	5,884	5,804
<b>Closing net book amount</b>	<b>21,981</b>	<b>163,973</b>	<b>805,455</b>	<b>31,175</b>	<b>2,918</b>	<b>4,159</b>	<b>3,093</b>	<b>36,510</b>	<b>1,069,264</b>	<b>19,210</b>	<b>1,088,474</b>
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>											
- Cost	21,981	-	18,729	127,434	2,918	13,414	-	1,045	185,521	34,507	220,028
- Valuation	-	164,540	1,497,499	-	-	-	3,093	91,683	1,756,815	-	1,756,815
Accumulated amortisation / depreciation and impairment	-	(567)	(710,773)	(96,259)	-	(9,255)	-	(56,218)	(873,072)	(15,297)	(888,369)
<b>Net book amount</b>	<b>21,981</b>	<b>163,973</b>	<b>805,455</b>	<b>31,175</b>	<b>2,918</b>	<b>4,159</b>	<b>3,093</b>	<b>36,510</b>	<b>1,069,264</b>	<b>19,210</b>	<b>1,088,474</b>



**19. Property, plant and equipment (continued)**

	Capital Works in Progress	Land	Buildings	Plant and equipment	Plant and equipment in progress	Leasehold improvements	Art collection	Infrastructure	Subtotal (owned)	Subtotal Right- of-use assets	Total
Consolidated	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>At 1 January 2023</b>											
- Cost	2,231	-	-	126,121	2,301	8,679	-	-	139,332	20,343	159,675
- Valuation	-	221,890	1,608,359	-	-	-	3,093	116,260	1,949,602	-	1,949,602
Accumulated amortisation / depreciation and impairment	-	(429)	(743,600)	(88,606)	-	(8,380)	-	(69,074)	(910,089)	(9,054)	(919,143)
<b>Net book amount</b>	2,231	221,461	864,759	37,515	2,301	299	3,093	47,186	1,178,845	11,289	1,190,134
<b>Year ended 31 December 2023</b>											
Opening net book amount	2,231	221,461	864,759	37,515	2,301	299	3,093	47,186	1,178,845	11,289	1,190,134
Additions	15,769	-	-	6,272	1,270	-	-	-	23,311	8,296	31,607
Disposals	-	(34,650)	(22,302)	(62)	-	-	-	(7,296)	(64,310)	-	(64,310)
Reclassifications	(13,900)	-	8,706	2,112	(2,112)	4,735	-	459	-	-	-
Assets included in a disposal group classified as held for sale and other disposals	-	(22,700)	(429)	-	-	-	-	-	(23,129)	-	(23,129)
Impairment loss in income	-	-	-	(213)	-	-	-	-	(213)	-	(213)
Amortisation / Depreciation charge	-	(69)	(28,533)	(8,876)	-	(334)	-	(2,443)	(40,255)	(3,195)	(43,450)
Other changes, movements	(671)	-	-	-	(117)	-	-	-	(788)	-	(788)
<b>Closing net book amount</b>	3,429	164,042	822,201	36,748	1,342	4,700	3,093	37,906	1,073,461	16,390	1,089,851
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>											
- Cost	3,429	-	8,706	129,399	1,342	13,414	-	459	156,749	28,287	185,036
- Valuation	-	164,540	1,497,499	-	-	-	3,093	91,683	1,756,815	-	1,756,815
Accumulated amortisation / depreciation and impairment	-	(498)	(684,004)	(92,651)	-	(8,714)	-	(54,236)	(840,103)	(11,897)	(852,000)
<b>Net book amount</b>	3,429	164,042	822,201	36,748	1,342	4,700	3,093	37,906	1,073,461	16,390	1,089,851



**19. Property, plant and equipment (continued)**

	Capital Works in Progress	Land	Buildings	Plant and equipment	Plant and equipment in progress	Leasehold improvements	Art collection	Infrastructure	Subtotal (owned)	Subtotal Right- of-use assets	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Consolidated Year ended 31 December 2024</b>											
Opening net book amount	3,429	164,042	822,201	36,748	1,342	4,700	3,093	37,906	1,073,461	16,390	1,089,851
Additions	29,161	-	-	1,866	2,780	-	-	-	33,807	1,062	34,869
Disposals	-	-	-	(105)	-	-	-	-	(105)	-	(105)
Reclassifications	(10,609)	-	10,023	1,124	(1,124)	-	-	586	-	-	-
Impairment loss in income	-	-	-	(72)	-	-	-	-	(72)	-	(72)
Amortisation / Depreciation charge	-	(69)	(26,769)	(8,386)	-	(541)	-	(1,982)	(37,747)	(4,126)	(41,873)
Other changes, movements	-	-	-	-	(80)	-	-	-	(80)	5,884	5,804
<b>Closing net book amount</b>	<b>21,981</b>	<b>163,973</b>	<b>805,455</b>	<b>31,175</b>	<b>2,918</b>	<b>4,159</b>	<b>3,093</b>	<b>36,510</b>	<b>1,069,264</b>	<b>19,210</b>	<b>1,088,474</b>
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>											
- Cost	21,981	-	18,729	127,434	2,918	13,414	-	1,045	185,521	34,507	220,028
- Valuation	-	164,540	1,497,499	-	-	-	3,093	91,683	1,756,815	-	1,756,815
Accumulated amortisation / depreciation and impairment	-	(567)	(710,773)	(96,259)	-	(9,255)	-	(56,218)	(873,072)	(15,297)	(888,369)
<b>Net book amount</b>	<b>21,981</b>	<b>163,973</b>	<b>805,455</b>	<b>31,175</b>	<b>2,918</b>	<b>4,159</b>	<b>3,093</b>	<b>36,510</b>	<b>1,069,264</b>	<b>19,210</b>	<b>1,088,474</b>

**19. Property, plant and equipment (continued)****Accounting Policy**

The net book amount of Capital Works in Progress includes \$16.6 million for the construction and lease of Level 2 of the South Australian Sports Institute Facility (SASI Facility). During 2025 the costs relating to the SASI Facility will be reclassified to Right-of-use and Building Assets.

**Initial recognition and measurement**

Assets with a useful life of more than 12 months and an acquisition cost of more than \$10,000 are initially capitalised at cost. Costs incurred on Plant and equipment which do not meet the capitalisation criteria are expensed as incurred. Following initial recognition at cost Land, Buildings, Infrastructure and Art collection are carried at fair value.

Subsequent capital costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance costs are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income during the financial period in which they are incurred.

All other property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less depreciation.

**Revaluations**

Independent valuations of Land, Buildings and Infrastructure are performed every three years to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the balance date.

The Art collection is internally valued every three years by the Director: Samstag Museum of Art considering current sales and auctions of works by the same artist and / or similar genre.

Revaluation surpluses have been credited to the asset revaluation reserve included in the equity section of the statement of financial position. Revaluation increments and decrements are offset against one another within asset classes, but not otherwise. Revaluation reserves are transferred to retained earnings on derecognition of the relevant asset. Refer to Note 39(c) Fair value measurements for information regarding revaluations.

**Land**

Land occupied by the University is either owned by the University or by the State Government. All land is recognised on the basis that the University effectively controls the land occupied.

Land includes \$55.91 million (2023: \$55.91 million) of Crown Lands and \$6.23 million (2023: \$6.30 million) of Land under Finance Lease. The University has restrictions on the above land by application of the University of South Australia Act, 1990 Section 6(3).

**Impairment of assets**

Assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.



**19. Property, plant and equipment (continued)****Accounting Policy (continued)****Depreciation**

Land (excluding Land under finance lease), Art collection and Buildings under construction are not depreciated. Depreciation, where applicable, is calculated on a straight-line basis to allocate the written down current cost of an asset over its estimated remaining useful life.

<b>Assets class</b>	<b>Useful Life</b>
Property:	
Buildings	30 - 160 years
Infrastructure	25 - 50 years
Land under finance lease	99 years
Leasehold improvements	1 - 14 years
Plant and equipment:	
IT infrastructure	5 years
IT other	3 years
Motor vehicles	5 years
Other	10 years
Right-of-use assets:	
Buildings	1 - 18 years
Plant and equipment	1 - 5 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.


**19. Property, plant and equipment (continued)**
**(a) Right-of-use assets**

Information about leases where the University is a lessee is presented below:

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Right-of-use assets</b>				
<b>Buildings</b>				
Opening Balance	<b>15,779</b>	10,507	<b>15,779</b>	10,507
Additions of right-of-use assets	<b>199</b>	8,084	<b>199</b>	8,084
Other changes, movements	<b>5,884</b>	-	<b>5,884</b>	-
Depreciation charge	<b>(3,611)</b>	(2,812)	<b>(3,611)</b>	(2,812)
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>	<b>18,251</b>	15,779	<b>18,251</b>	15,779
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>				
Opening Balance	<b>611</b>	782	<b>611</b>	782
Additions of right-of-use assets	<b>863</b>	212	<b>863</b>	212
Depreciation charge	<b>(515)</b>	(383)	<b>(515)</b>	(383)
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>	<b>959</b>	611	<b>959</b>	611
<b>Total right-of-use assets</b>	<b>19,210</b>	16,390	<b>19,210</b>	16,390

**Accounting Policy**
**Assessment of whether a contract is, or contains, a lease**

At inception of a contract, the University assesses whether a contract is, or contains a lease. A contract is, or contains a lease if the contract conveys a right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

The University assesses whether:

- (a) The contract involves the use of an identified asset. The asset may be explicitly or implicitly specified in the contract.
- (b) The customer has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from the use of the asset throughout the period of use.
- (c) The customer has the right to direct the use of the asset throughout the period of use. The customer is considered to have the right to direct the use of the asset only if either:
  - i. The customer has the right to direct how and for what purpose the identified asset is used throughout the period of use; or
  - ii. The relevant decisions about how and for what purposes the asset is used is predetermined and the customer has the right to operate the asset, or the customer designed the asset in a way that predetermines how and for what purpose the asset will be used throughout the period of use.


**19. Property, plant and equipment (continued)**
**Accounting Policy (continued)**
**Accounting for leases - University as lessee**

In contracts where the University is a lessee, the University recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the commencement date of the lease, unless the short-term or low-value exemption is applied.

**Right-of-use asset**

A right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost comprising the initial measurement of the lease liability adjusted for any lease payments made before the commencement date (reduced by lease incentives received), plus initial direct costs incurred in obtaining the lease and an estimate of costs to be incurred in dismantling and removing the underlying asset, restoring the site on which it is located or restoring the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease.

A right-of-use asset associated with land and buildings is subsequently measured at fair value. All other property, plant and equipment are measured as described in the accounting policy in Note 19. Property, plant and equipment.

**20. Intangible assets**

	Intangibles in progress \$'000	Other intangible assets \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>University</b>			
<b>At 1 January 2023</b>			
Cost	787	16,051	16,838
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	-	(15,277)	(15,277)
<b>Net book amount</b>	787	774	1,561
<b>Year ended 31 December 2023</b>			
Opening net book amount	787	774	1,561
Additions	44	-	44
Reclassifications	(831)	831	-
Amortisation	-	(511)	(511)
<b>Closing net book amount</b>	-	1,094	1,094
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>			
Cost	-	16,420	16,420
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	-	(15,326)	(15,326)
<b>Net book amount</b>	-	1,094	1,094
<b>Year ended 31 December 2024</b>			
Opening net book amount	-	1,094	1,094
Amortisation	-	(264)	(264)
<b>Closing net book amount</b>	-	830	830
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>			
Cost	-	16,388	16,388
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	-	(15,558)	(15,558)
<b>Net book amount</b>	-	830	830

**20. Intangible assets (continued)**

	Intangibles in progress	Other intangible assets	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Consolidated</b>			
<b>At 1 January 2023</b>			
Cost	787	16,051	16,838
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	-	(15,277)	(15,277)
<b>Net book amount</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>1,561</b>
<b>Year ended 31 December 2023</b>			
Opening net book amount	787	774	1,561
Additions	44	566	610
Reclassifications	(831)	831	-
Amortisation	-	(591)	(591)
<b>Closing net book amount</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>1,580</b>
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>			
Cost	-	16,985	16,985
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	-	(15,405)	(15,405)
<b>Net book amount</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>1,580</b>
<b>Year ended 31 December 2024</b>			
Opening net book amount	-	<b>1,580</b>	<b>1,580</b>
Additions	-	<b>167</b>	<b>167</b>
Disposals	-	<b>(31)</b>	<b>(31)</b>
Amortisation	-	<b>(280)</b>	<b>(280)</b>
Impairment loss in income	-	<b>(332)</b>	<b>(332)</b>
<b>Closing net book amount</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>1,104</b>
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>			
Cost	-	<b>16,739</b>	<b>16,739</b>
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	-	<b>(15,635)</b>	<b>(15,635)</b>
<b>Net book amount</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>1,104</b>

For the year ended 31 December 2024, there were no costs (2023: \$0.04 million) incurred in implementing Software as a Service (SaaS) arrangements that were recognised as intangible assets.

**Accounting Policy**

Expenditure on research activities, undertaken with the prospect of obtaining new scientific or technical knowledge and understanding, is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as an expense when incurred.

With respect to internally generated Intangible assets, expenditure on development activities is capitalised if the product or service is technically and commercially feasible and adequate resources are available to complete development. The expenditure capitalised comprises all directly-attributable costs, including costs of materials, services, direct labour and an appropriate proportion of overheads where the University has control over the expected benefits. Other development expenditure is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as an expense as incurred. Capitalised development expenditure is recognised at cost less accumulated amortisation.

Amortisation is calculated using the straight line method to allocate the cost over the period of the expected benefit, which is currently between 4 and 7 years.

Intangibles in progress represent capitalised expenditure where the project was incomplete at balance date. The expenditure is capitalised upon the completion of the project.



**20. Intangible assets (continued)****Accounting Policy (continued)**

Intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired.

**21. Payables**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>				
Trade creditors*	<b>44,895</b>	31,616	<b>44,326</b>	31,448
Accrued salaries	<b>5,443</b>	14,860	<b>5,443</b>	14,860
OS-HELP liability to Australian Government	<b>2,614</b>	1,681	<b>2,614</b>	1,681
<b>Total current payables</b>	<b>52,952</b>	48,157	<b>52,383</b>	47,989
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>52,952</b>	48,157	<b>52,383</b>	47,989

**Accounting Policy**

\* These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Group prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition. Accrued expenses relate to expenses incurred not yet invoiced.

**22. Lease liabilities**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>				
Lease liabilities	<b>3,598</b>	3,740	<b>3,598</b>	3,740
<b>Total current lease liabilities</b>	<b>3,598</b>	3,740	<b>3,598</b>	3,740
<b>Non-current</b>				
Lease liabilities	<b>17,636</b>	14,135	<b>17,636</b>	14,135
<b>Total non-current lease liabilities</b>	<b>17,636</b>	14,135	<b>17,636</b>	14,135
<b>Total lease liabilities</b>	<b>21,234</b>	17,875	<b>21,234</b>	17,875

The University has elected to measure the land and building, vehicles and equipment classes of right-of-use assets at initial recognition at cost.

**Concessionary Leases**

During 2023 the University sold the Magill Campus to the State Government of South Australia and entered into 2 leases to lease back the campus with significantly below-market terms and conditions. The lease terms vary and are 3 years and 10 years with annual rental of \$1 per annum (if demanded). The University has elected to measure the class of right-of-use assets arising under concessionary leases at cost, in accordance with AASB 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment* paragraphs 23-25 and has therefore not recognised a leased asset (right-of-use asset) or lease liability.

**22. Lease liabilities (continued)****Financing arrangements****Maturity analysis - undiscounted contractual cash flows (Lease liabilities)**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Less than one year	<b>4,487</b>	3,629	<b>4,487</b>	3,629
One to five years	<b>13,006</b>	12,857	<b>13,006</b>	12,857
More than 5 years	<b>12,116</b>	7,418	<b>12,116</b>	7,418
<b>Total undiscounted contractual cash flows</b>	<b>29,609</b>	23,904	<b>29,609</b>	23,904

The University has no loans.

Unrestricted access was available at reporting date to the following lines of credit:

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Credit standby arrangements</b>				
<b>Total facilities</b>				
Credit card facility	<b>3,000</b>	3,000	<b>3,000</b>	3,000
Documentary letter of credit facility	<b>200</b>	200	<b>200</b>	200
Bank guarantee	<b>5,100</b>	5,100	<b>5,100</b>	5,100
<b>Total credit standby arrangements</b>	<b>8,300</b>	8,300	<b>8,300</b>	8,300
<b>Used at balance date</b>				
Credit card facility	<b>4</b>	995	<b>4</b>	995
Documentary letter of credit facility	<b>-</b>	-	<b>-</b>	-
Bank guarantee	<b>1,600</b>	1,600	<b>1,600</b>	1,600
<b>Total used at balance date</b>	<b>1,604</b>	2,595	<b>1,604</b>	2,595
<b>Unused at balance date</b>				
Credit card facility	<b>2,996</b>	2,005	<b>2,996</b>	2,005
Documentary letter of credit facility	<b>200</b>	200	<b>200</b>	200
Bank guarantee	<b>3,500</b>	3,500	<b>3,500</b>	3,500
<b>Total unused at balance date</b>	<b>6,696</b>	5,705	<b>6,696</b>	5,705

**23. Provisions**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current provisions expected to be settled within 12 months</b>				
Annual leave*	<b>24,221</b>	21,301	<b>24,221</b>	21,301
Long service leave**	<b>9,380</b>	8,847	<b>9,380</b>	8,847
Workers' compensation liability***	<b>473</b>	365	<b>473</b>	365
	<b>34,074</b>	30,513	<b>34,074</b>	30,513
<b>Current provisions expected to be settled after more than 12 months</b>				
Annual leave*	<b>10,536</b>	9,092	<b>10,536</b>	9,092
Long service leave**	<b>54,286</b>	51,861	<b>54,286</b>	51,861
	<b>64,822</b>	60,953	<b>64,822</b>	60,953
<b>Total current provisions</b>	<b>98,896</b>	91,466	<b>98,896</b>	91,466
<b>Non-current</b>				
Long service leave**	<b>16,356</b>	16,269	<b>16,356</b>	16,269
Workers' compensation liability***	<b>539</b>	403	<b>539</b>	403
<b>Total non-current provisions</b>	<b>16,895</b>	16,672	<b>16,895</b>	16,672
<b>Total provisions</b>	<b>115,791</b>	108,138	<b>115,791</b>	108,138

Movements in the Workers' compensation liability are set out below:

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Carrying amount at start of year	<b>768</b>	584	<b>768</b>	584
Additional provisions recognised	<b>864</b>	576	<b>864</b>	576
Amounts used	<b>(641)</b>	(401)	<b>(641)</b>	(401)
Increase/(Decrease) in discounted amount	<b>21</b>	9	<b>21</b>	9
Carrying amount at end of year	<b>1,012</b>	768	<b>1,012</b>	768



## 23. Provisions (continued)

### Accounting Policy

#### \*Annual leave

The annual leave liability is independently calculated each year in accordance with AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*. The last update was performed at 31 December 2024 by Deborah Jones, FIAA of Brett & Watson Pty Ltd.

The employees' entitlement to annual leave expected to be settled within twelve months of the end of the reporting period has been calculated at the amounts expected to be paid when liabilities are settled. Where the employees' entitlement to annual leave is not expected to be settled within 12 months of the end of the reporting period, the provision has been discounted to present values.

#### Sick leave

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement of sick leave.

#### \*\*Long service leave

The long service leave liability is independently actuarially estimated each year in accordance with AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*. The last update was performed at 31 December 2024 by Deborah Jones, FIAA of Brett & Watson Pty Ltd.

The liability for long service leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national Government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows. The long service leave liability includes associated on-costs.

Liabilities for employees' entitlements, which are expected to be settled after twelve months are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national Government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows. The discount rate used for the 2024 valuation is 4.59% (2023: 4.08%).

#### \*\*\*Workers' compensation

The University is responsible for payment of workers' compensation.

The provision for workers' compensation is independently actuarially estimated each year. The last update was performed at 31 December 2024 by Brett & Watson Pty Ltd using Case Estimation Methodology. Under this methodology, consideration is given to individual case estimates of all open claims plus an allowance for incurred but not reported claims, re-opening of claims regarded as closed and unforeseen escalation of case estimates as more information becomes available.




**24. Contract liabilities**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>				
Commonwealth and State Government grants	<b>33,031</b>	26,404	<b>33,031</b>	26,404
Income in Advance on incomplete projects	<b>15,520</b>	13,967	<b>15,520</b>	13,967
Student fees and charges in advance	<b>27,912</b>	29,160	<b>27,912</b>	29,160
Other	<b>2,622</b>	4,852	<b>2,622</b>	4,852
<b>Total current contract liabilities</b>	<b>79,085</b>	74,383	<b>79,085</b>	74,383
<b>Non-current</b>				
Commonwealth and State Government grants	<b>19,399</b>	15,291	<b>19,399</b>	15,291
Income in Advance on incomplete projects	<b>9,115</b>	8,103	<b>9,115</b>	8,103
Other	<b>1,540</b>	2,815	<b>1,540</b>	2,815
<b>Total non-current contract liabilities</b>	<b>30,054</b>	26,209	<b>30,054</b>	26,209
<b>Total contract liabilities</b>	<b>109,139</b>	100,592	<b>109,139</b>	100,592

**Accounting Policy**

Commonwealth and State Government Grants represents Australian Government Grants received and represents funding received but not spent as detailed in Note 2(e) Summary of significant accounting policies.

Income in advance on incomplete projects represents grants and contracts received from other sources and represents the amounts received but not spent.

**25. Other liabilities**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>				
Funds held on behalf of external entities	<b>140</b>	119	<b>147</b>	111
Commonwealth and State Government unspent financial assistance	<b>22,389</b>	17,791	<b>22,389</b>	17,791
Other	<b>7,037</b>	2,884	<b>7,037</b>	2,863
<b>Total current other liabilities</b>	<b>29,566</b>	20,794	<b>29,573</b>	20,765
<b>Non-current</b>				
Commonwealth and State Government unspent financial assistance	<b>1,512</b>	1,890	<b>1,512</b>	1,890
<b>Total non-current other liabilities</b>	<b>1,512</b>	1,890	<b>1,512</b>	1,890
<b>Total other liabilities</b>	<b>31,078</b>	22,684	<b>31,085</b>	22,655


**25. Other liabilities (continued)**
**Accounting Policy**

Funds held on behalf of external entities are amounts held by the University on behalf of a number of external entities. As at balance date, the funds held are included in cash and cash equivalents and a corresponding liability is included in other liabilities above.

Commonwealth and State Government unspent financial assistance represents Australian Government Grants received which the University regards as reciprocal and represents funding received but not spent.

**26. Reserves**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	2023	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000
Property, plant and equipment revaluation surplus				
Land, Buildings and Infrastructure	<b>315,267</b>	337,264	<b>315,267</b>	337,264
Art collection	<b>652</b>	652	<b>652</b>	652
	<b>315,919</b>	337,916	<b>315,919</b>	337,916
Equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	<b>7,280</b>	5,429	<b>9,435</b>	7,449
<b>Total reserves</b>	<b>323,199</b>	343,345	<b>325,354</b>	345,365

The University has three reserves. The Land, Buildings and Infrastructure reserve records revaluations in Land, Buildings and Infrastructure, the Art collection reserve records revaluations in the Art collection and the Equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income records revaluations in Investments.



## **27. Key management personnel disclosures**

### **(a) Names of responsible persons**

The following persons were responsible persons of the University during the 2024 year. Council members include University employees who may be ex-officio members or elected staff members.

#### **2024 Council Members**

Hon John Hill, Chancellor\*\*  
Ms Pauline Carr, Chancellor\*  
Professor David Lloyd, Vice Chancellor and President  
Mr Michael Abbott AO KC, Deputy Chancellor  
Ms Mary Patetsos AM, Pro Chancellor\*\*  
Mr Jim Hazel, Pro Chancellor\*  
Ms Elaine Bensted\*\*  
Ms Ruth Blenkiron\*\*  
Mr John Evans\*\*  
Mr Terry Evans AM\*\*  
Ms Vanessa Matthews  
Ms Carolyn Mitchell\*  
Mr William (Bill) Muirhead AO  
Mr Benjamin Opiyo\*\*\*  
Ms Nicolle Rantanen Reynolds\*  
Mr Oliver Shephard-Bayly  
Mr Ian Smith AM  
Professor Deirdre Tedmanson  
Professor Craig Williams

\*Ceased 2 May 2024

\*\*Commenced 2 May 2024

\*\*\*Ceased 20 September 2024

#### **2024 University Enterprise Leadership Team**

Professor David Lloyd, Vice Chancellor and President  
Professor Joanne Cys\*  
Distinguished Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington AO  
Professor Peter Murphy\*\*  
Mr Paul Beard\*  
Ms Jane Booth  
Mr Alan Brideson\*\*  
Mr Phil Clatworthy\*\*  
Mr Tom Steer\*

\*Ceased 10 November 2024.

\*\*Commenced 11 November 2024.

**27. Key management personnel disclosures (continued)****(b) Remuneration of key management personnel**

	Consolidated		University	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	Number	Number	Number	Number
<b>Remuneration of Council members</b>				
Nil to \$9,999	6	4	6	4
\$10,000 to \$19,999	4	-	4	-
\$20,000 to \$29,999	5	8	5	8
\$30,000 to \$39,999	3	-	3	-
\$40,000 to \$49,999	-	2	-	2
\$70,000 to \$79,999	1	-	1	-
\$80,000 to \$89,999	-	1	-	1
	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>

Remuneration received and receivable by Council members for their services as Council members was \$390,798 (2023: \$353,714). The total remuneration received and receivable by Council members in their position as Council members and as Directors of subsidiary companies was \$390,798 (2023: \$353,714).

	Consolidated		University	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	Number	Number	Number	Number
<b>Remuneration of executive officers</b>				
\$60,000 to \$69,999	2	-	2	-
\$90,000 to \$99,999	1	-	1	-
\$410,000 to \$419,999	1	-	1	-
\$420,000 to \$429,999	-	1	-	1
\$510,000 to \$519,999	-	2	-	2
\$550,000 to \$559,999	1	-	1	-
\$570,000 to \$579,999	1	-	1	-
\$600,000 to \$609,999	-	1	-	1
\$650,000 to \$659,999	1	-	1	-
\$660,000 to \$669,999	1	-	1	-
\$700,000 to \$709,999	-	1	-	1
\$1,230,000 to \$1,239,999	-	1	-	1
\$1,300,000 to \$1,309,999	1	-	1	-
	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>

The above table includes the University of South Australia's remuneration for performance duties in the capacity as Vice Chancellor of the University of South Australia and as co Vice Chancellor of the new *Adelaide University*. *Adelaide University* has not recognised any remuneration for the Vice Chancellor. Total remuneration paid to the Vice Chancellor during the 2024 reporting period was \$1.303 million (2023: \$1.235 million and included a deferred benefit payment of \$0.178m accumulated over 3 years).

Executive officers are defined as the Vice Chancellor and President, and the University's Enterprise Leadership Team. The remuneration includes all normal salary, leave, allowances and other benefits paid during the reporting year. No executive received any remuneration from the University other than by way of salary and related benefits from a normal employment relationship.




**27. Key management personnel disclosures (continued)**
**(c) Executive officers' compensation**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	2023	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000
Short-term employee benefits	<b>3,994</b>	3,717	<b>3,994</b>	3,717
Post-employment benefits	<b>397</b>	283	<b>397</b>	283
<b>Total executive officers' compensation</b>	<b>4,391</b>	4,000	<b>4,391</b>	4,000

**(d) Related party transactions**

From time to time key management personnel have interests or positions in entities with which the University conducts business. In all cases transactions with these entities are undertaken during the ordinary course and under normal trading terms.

**28. Remuneration of auditors**

During the year, the following fees were paid for services provided by the auditor of the University, its related practices and non-related audit firms:

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	2023	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000
<b>Audit of the Financial Statements</b>				
Fees paid to Audit Office of South Australia	<b>290</b>	293	<b>290</b>	293
Fees paid to other auditors	<b>30</b>	29	-	-
<b>Other audit and assurance services</b>				
Fees paid to other auditors	<b>23</b>	16	<b>23</b>	16
<b>Total paid for audit</b>	<b>343</b>	338	<b>313</b>	309

Audit fees paid / payable to the Audit Office of South Australia relating to work performed under Section 19 of the University of South Australia Act 1990 in 2024 were \$0.290m (2023: \$0.293m).

**29. Contingencies**

The University has no material contingent liabilities or assets.

### 30. Commitments

#### (a) Capital commitments

Capital expenditure contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities is as follows:

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	2023	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000
Property, plant and equipment:				
Within one year	<b>10,942</b>	2,621	<b>10,942</b>	2,621
<b>Total Property, plant and equipment commitments</b>	<b>10,942</b>	2,621	<b>10,942</b>	2,621

Property, plant and equipment commitments represent capital works project expenditure.

#### (b) Other expenditure commitments

Commitments for other expenditure in existence at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, are payable as follows:

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	2023	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>	\$'000
Within one year	<b>59,213</b>	19,200	<b>59,213</b>	19,200
Between one and five years	<b>27,289</b>	11,620	<b>27,289</b>	11,620
Later than five years	<b>1,563</b>	2,638	<b>1,563</b>	2,638
<b>Total other expenditure commitments</b>	<b>88,065</b>	33,458	<b>88,065</b>	33,458

Other expenditure commitments includes integration costs for the benefit of *Adelaide University*, contributions to Co-operative Research Centres (CRC), cleaning, security and material commitments arising from grants received from National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

### 31. Related Parties

#### (a) Parent entities

The ultimate Australian parent entity within the Group is the University of South Australia.

#### (b) Subsidiaries

Interests in subsidiaries are set out in Note 33. Subsidiaries.

#### (c) Key management personnel

Disclosures relating to directors and specified executives are set out in Note 27. Key management personnel disclosures.



### 31. Related Parties (continued)

#### (d) Transactions with related parties

The following transactions occurred during the reporting period with related parties:

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Loans to subsidiaries (interest free)	-	450

### 32. Superannuation plans

#### (a) Categories

The University contributes to a number of superannuation schemes, divided into the following categories:

- (i) UniSuper plans open to membership:
  - UniSuper Defined Benefit Plan or Accumulation Super 2
  - Accumulation Super 1
- (ii) State Government Schemes closed to future membership by University employees:
  - State Pension Scheme
  - State Lump Sum Scheme

#### (b) UniSuper Limited Superannuation Scheme

The employees' UniSuper plan is determined by the terms of employment and is managed by a corporate trustee, UniSuper Limited. The plan is administered by UniSuper Management Pty Ltd.

The employer contribution rate for 2024 for employees in either the Defined Benefit Division (DBD) or Accumulation Super 2 was 17% of salaries. For employees in Accumulation Super 1 the contribution rate was 11.5% for 2024.

The UniSuper DBD is a defined benefit plan under Superannuation Law but is considered to be a defined contribution plan under Accounting Standards AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*. As set out under paragraph 28 of AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*, a defined contribution plan is a plan where the employer's legal or constructive obligation is limited to the amount it agrees to contribute to the funds and the actuarial risk and investment risk fall on the employee.

Clause 34 (b) of the Trust Deed states that the "Trustee must consider whether it is in the interests of the Members of Division A and Division B as a whole to reduce the benefits payable under Division A and Division B and, if it so considers that it should reduce benefits (which may include benefits in the course of payment), it must do so on a fair and equitable basis and at a time or times it decides".

As at 30 June 2024 the assets of the DBD aggregate (i.e. entire multi-employer DBD plan) were estimated to be:

- \$5,838 million above (2023: \$5,206 million in excess) vested benefits, after allowing for various reserves. The Vested Benefits Index based on funding assumption was 122.1%. The vested benefits are benefits which are not conditional upon continued membership (or any factor other than leaving the service of the participating institution) and include the value of indexed pensions being provided by the DBD.
- \$8,489 million above (2023: \$7,756 million in excess) accrued benefits, after allowing for various reserves. The Accrued Benefits Index based on best estimate assumptions was 135.6%. The accrued benefits have been calculated as the present value of expected future benefit payments to members and indexed pensioners which arise from membership of UniSuper up to the reporting date.



## 32. Superannuation plans (continued)

### (b) UniSuper Limited Superannuation Scheme (continued)

The vested benefit and accrued benefit liabilities were determined by the Fund's actuary using the actuarial demographic assumptions outlined in their report on the actuarial investigation of the DBD as at 30 June 2024. The financial assumptions used were:

	<b>Vested Benefits</b>	<b>Accrued Benefits</b>
Gross of tax investment return - DBD pensions	7.3% p.a.	8.2% p.a.
Gross of tax investment return - commercial rate indexed pensions	4.3% p.a.	4.3% p.a.
Net of tax investment return - non pensioner members	6.3% p.a.	7.1% p.a.
Consumer Price Index - Year 1	3.0% p.a.	3.0% p.a.
Consumer Price Index - Year 2	3.0% p.a.	3.0% p.a.
Consumer Price Index - Beyond 2 years	2.5% p.a.	2.5% p.a.
Inflationary salary increases - For the next 2 years	3.75% p.a.	3.75% p.a.
Inflationary salary increases - Beyond 2 years	3.5% p.a.	3.5% p.a.

Assets have been included at their net market value, that is, after allowing for realisation costs.

### (c) Super SA Superannuation plan

A number of present and past employees of the University and its predecessor institutions are members of the South Australian Superannuation Scheme. This scheme is administered by Super SA on behalf of the South Australian Superannuation Board (the Board) which is responsible for managing this scheme. The Board was established under section 5 of the *Superannuation Act 1988*. The funds are managed by the specialist investment manager, Superannuation Funds Management Corporation of South Australia (Funds SA).

Under this scheme, benefits are paid as a continuing pension or lump sum to members eligible to claim their entitlement. The Pension Scheme is a defined benefit scheme where member benefits are calculated as a percentage of final salary. Benefits are generally payable fortnightly and are indexed by Consumer Price Index (CPI). The Lump Sum Scheme is part accumulation and part defined benefit where member basic entitlements represent a refund of the member's contributions with investment returns plus a defined multiple of final salary.

Under current arrangements, Super SA pays eligible members their benefit and is reimbursed by the University for the shortfall in the employer's contribution. The Commonwealth Government fully funds the University on an emerging cost basis for the costs and recovers the State's share of the cost directly from the State Government under the Commonwealth - State Agreement. The Agreement provides that the employer component of the superannuation benefits payable to former employees of the University who were members of one of the main State Schemes, be shared.

An actuarial assessment (the Assessment) of the University's superannuation liability with respect to future benefits for current pensioners and employees was performed by Mercer Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd as at 31 December 2024. The actuarial valuation was based on 30 June 2024 membership data which was projected to 31 December 2024 using the Projected Unit Credit Method. The University's present value of the defined benefit obligations was assessed to be \$311.85 million (2023: \$334.97 million).

The University's liability under the scheme has been partly funded by assets of \$37.95 million (2023: \$39.91 million) from 3% productivity employer contributions. This results in an unfunded liability of \$273.89 million (2023: \$295.06 million).



**32. Superannuation plans (continued)****(c) Super SA Superannuation plan (continued)**

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation is 7.70 years (2023: 8.20 years). The expected maturity analysis of undisclosed benefit obligations is as follows:

	<b>Less than 1 year</b>	<b>Between 1 and 2 years</b>	<b>Between 2 and 5 years</b>	<b>More than 5 years</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Defined Benefit obligation - 31 December 2024	30,676	29,204	83,878	120,786	264,544
Defined Benefit obligation - 31 December 2023	29,926	30,264	85,380	125,041	270,611

The analysis of the plan assets at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	<b>2024 (%)</b>		<b>2023 (%)</b>	
	<b>Active Market</b>	<b>No Active Market</b>	<b>Active Market</b>	<b>No Active Market</b>
Equity instruments	<b>48.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	50.2	0.0
Property	<b>0.3</b>	<b>14.2</b>	0.8	16.3
Private Markets	<b>0.2</b>	<b>14.0</b>	0.2	13.4
Core Infrastructure	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	0.0	4.9
Defensive Alternatives	<b>2.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	2.0	0.0
Credit Taxable	<b>6.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	6.2	0.0
Growth Alternatives	<b>5.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	5.7	0.0
Cash	<b>3.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	0.3	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>33.3</b>	65.4	34.6

**32. Superannuation plans (continued)****(d) Amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Position**

	<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Reconciliation of the present value of the defined benefit obligation</b>		
<b>Present value of defined benefit obligation at beginning of year</b>	<b>334,969</b>	312,200
Current service cost	<b>124</b>	161
Interest cost	<b>12,800</b>	12,513
Actuarial (gain) / loss		
(a) Impact of changes in demographic assumptions	-	1,183
(b) Impact of changes in financial assumptions	<b>(9,303)</b>	18,110
(c) Experience items	<b>3,239</b>	20,863
Benefits and expenses paid	<b>(29,978)</b>	(30,061)
<b>Present value of defined benefits obligations at end of year</b>	<b>311,851</b>	334,969
<b>Reconciliation of the fair value of the defined benefit plan assets</b>		
<b>Fair value of Scheme assets at start of year</b>	<b>39,907</b>	42,178
Interest income	<b>1,491</b>	1,626
Actual return on assets less Interest income	<b>1,863</b>	1,832
Employer contributions	<b>24,671</b>	24,332
Benefits and expenses paid	<b>(29,978)</b>	(30,061)
<b>Fair value of Scheme assets at end of year</b>	<b>37,954</b>	39,907
<b>Net Liability</b>		
Defined Benefit Obligation	<b>311,851</b>	334,969
Less: Fair value of plan assets	<b>(37,954)</b>	(39,907)
<b>Net Liability</b>	<b>273,897</b>	295,062
<b>Defined Benefit Provision</b>		
Current	<b>30,676</b>	29,926
Non-current	<b>243,221</b>	265,136
<b>Total Defined Benefit Provision</b>	<b>273,897</b>	295,062

The net unfunded amount of \$273.89 million (2023: \$295.06 million) has been recognised in the accounts of the University as a liability and a corresponding receivable from the Commonwealth Government. The asset and liability have been classified as current and non-current according to cash flow projections of the Assessment.



## 32. Superannuation plans (continued)

### (d) Amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Position (continued)

The Commonwealth Government has agreed to provide assistance under Section 20 of the *Higher Education Funding Act* to meet the additional costs in respect of State Government emerging cost schemes, where costs are in excess of funding provided for this purpose in the base operating grant.

Assumptions adopted by Mercer Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd in determining the University's liability were:

- Long term rate of increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) 2.5% per annum (2023 2.5%)
- Long term rate of increase in Salary increases 4.0% per annum (2023 4.0%)
- Discount Rate 4.4% per annum (2023 4.0%)

These rates provide for a 1.5% real gap between long term CPI and salary increases.

The sensitivity of the defined benefit obligation to changes in the significant assumptions is:

Significant Assumption	Increase in assumption	Impact on Defined Benefit Obligation	Decrease in assumption	Impact on Defined Benefit Obligation
Discount rate	0.5%	Decrease by 3.5%	0.5%	Increase by 3.8%
Pension increase rate	0.5%	Increase by 3.6%	0.5%	Decrease by 3.4%
Mortality rate	10%	Decrease by 3.8%	10%	Increase by 4.3%

### Accounting Policy

Superannuation schemes exist to provide benefits to University employees and their dependants upon resignation, retirement, disability or death. The University recognises an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for contributions paid to the funded schemes and on an emerging cost basis for the unfunded schemes.

### Unfunded superannuation

An arrangement exists between the Australian Government and the South Australian State Government to share the unfunded liability of the University's beneficiaries of the South Australian State Superannuation Scheme on an emerging cost basis. This arrangement is evidenced by the State Grants (General Revenue) Amendment Act 1988, *Higher Education Funding Act 1988* and subsequent amending legislation. Accordingly, the unfunded liabilities have been recognised in the Statement of Financial Position as a liability with a corresponding asset. The recognition of both the asset and the liability consequently does not affect the year end net asset position of the University. The net expense is nil.



### 33. Subsidiaries

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets, liabilities and results of the following subsidiaries in accordance with the accounting policy included in Note 16. Other financial assets:

Name of Entity	Principal Activities	Principal place of business	Ownership interest	
			2024 %	2023 %
University of South Australia Foundation Incorporated	Dormant entity with no assets, liabilities or equity	Australia	100	100
UniSA Ventures Pty Ltd	Commercialisation of research of the University	Australia	100	100
UniSA Health Pty Ltd	Provision of clinical placements to undergraduate and postgraduate students in allied health clinics	Australia	100	100

### 34. Investments in associates

The South Australian Broadband Research & Education Network (SABRENet) Ltd is an associate of the Group. While the University has significant influence over SABRENet, its interest in SABRENet is limited to the use of SABRENet's asset. That is, the University receives no return for its interest in SABRENet. The investment in this associate is not material and therefore it is not incorporated in the financial statements.

#### Accounting Policy

Associates are all entities over which the Group has significant influence but not control. If material, investments in associates are accounted for in the parent entity financial statements using the cost method and in the consolidated financial statements using the equity method of accounting, after initially being recognised at cost.

### 35. Interests in joint arrangements

#### Accounting Policy

Under AASB 11 *Joint Arrangements*, interests in joint arrangements are classified as either joint operations or joint ventures depending on the contractual rights and obligations each investor has, rather than the legal structure of the joint arrangement.

#### Joint operations

The University's interests in joint operations are Centre for Cancer Biology (Ownership Interest 2024:-% (2023:50%)) and Mawson Centre Building (Ownership Interest 2024:63% (2023:63%)). The Centre for Cancer Biology agreement expired 31 December 2023 and it is expected to be formally renewed with Adelaide University.

Overall the University's interests in these joint operations are not considered to be material to the University's core activities and therefore are not incorporated in the financial statements. If material, the share of assets, liabilities and expenses of a joint operation are incorporated in the financial statements under the appropriate headings.

#### Joint ventures

The University's interest in joint ventures is South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre Ltd (Ownership Interest 2024:20% (2023:20%)).

The University's interest in this joint venture is not considered to be material to the University's core activities and therefore are not incorporated in the financial statements. If material, interests in a joint venture are accounted for in the consolidated financial statements using the equity method, after initially being recognised at cost by the University.




**36. Events occurring after the balance sheet date**

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report, any item, transaction, event of a material and unusual nature likely to affect significantly the operation of the University or the Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the University or the Group in future periods.

**37. Reconciliation of operating results after income tax to net cash flows from operating activities**

	<b>Consolidated</b>		<b>University</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Operating result for the period	<b>(42,810)</b>	(17,137)	<b>(42,984)</b>	(16,916)
Add / (less) non-cash items:				
Depreciation and amortisation	<b>42,153</b>	44,041	<b>42,137</b>	43,961
Non-cash donations	<b>75</b>	-	<b>75</b>	-
Net (gain) / loss on sale of property, plant and equipment	<b>(26,778)</b>	(191)	<b>(26,778)</b>	(191)
Impairment of property, plant and equipment	<b>404</b>	213	<b>72</b>	213
Property, plant and equipment in progress adjustments	<b>80</b>	788	<b>80</b>	788
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:				
(Increase) / decrease in receivables	<b>(9,272)</b>	(2,621)	<b>(9,283)</b>	(2,718)
(Increase) / decrease in other assets	<b>(6,419)</b>	(9,221)	<b>(6,211)</b>	(9,159)
Increase / (decrease) in payables and tax liabilities	<b>1,288</b>	13,280	<b>1,758</b>	13,549
Increase / (decrease) in provisions	<b>7,653</b>	7,103	<b>7,653</b>	7,103
Increase / (decrease) in other liabilities	<b>16,938</b>	2,083	<b>16,974</b>	2,072
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(16,688)</b>	38,338	<b>(16,507)</b>	38,702



### **38. Financial risk management**

The University's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including currency risk, fair value interest rate risk, cash flow interest rate risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The University's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the University of South Australia.

The University uses different methods to measure different types of risk to which it is exposed. These methods include informal sensitivity analyses and seeking professional advice to manage the market risk of its investments.

Risk management is co-ordinated by the University under policies approved by Council. The University identifies and evaluates financial risks in close co-operation with the University's operating units.

#### **(a) Market risk**

##### **(i) Foreign exchange risk**

The University assesses the likely foreign exchange risk for offshore activities and enters into hedging arrangements if appropriate.

As at 31 December 2024 the University held US\$2.01 million (A\$3.23 million) (2023: US\$2.01 million (A\$2.93 million)) as Cash at bank and Deposits at call.

The University assesses the likely foreign exchange risk for probable forecasted transactions in foreign currencies for onshore activities and enters into hedging arrangements to mitigate foreign exchange risk if appropriate.

##### **(ii) Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk**

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates.

Exposures arise predominantly from assets and liabilities bearing variable interest rates as such the Group intends to hold fixed rate assets and liabilities to maturity.

##### **(iii) Risk associated with equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income**

Investments comprise investments in listed and unlisted entities. The University has a prudent investment strategy. It is acknowledged there may be short-term fluctuations in asset values from time to time; however historical trends for such a strategy indicate that, with reasonable probability, unrealised losses will be recovered in the medium to long-term.

The nature of the University's activities are generally low risk. Investments tend to be largely held in term deposits with banking institutions and debtors are spread across a large number of customers. Due to the nature and value of the financial instruments held by the University, sensitivity analysis has not been provided.



### **38. Financial risk management (continued)**

#### **(b) Credit risk**

Credit risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties failed to perform as contracted.

The credit risk on financial assets excluding investments of the University which have been recognised in the statement of financial position is the carrying amount net of any provisions for impaired receivables.

The University is not materially exposed to credit risk from any specific overseas country or individual customer.

#### **(c) Liquidity risk**

The University manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows to enable the University to meet financial commitments in a timely manner.

Non-Interest Bearing financial assets and financial liabilities include receivables, other financial assets and payables. Cash and cash equivalents are interest earning financial assets, ranging from immediate availability to maturity of less than two years.

### **39. Fair value measurements**

#### **(a) Fair value measurements**

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes.

Due to the short-term nature of the current receivables, their carrying value approximates their fair value and based on credit history it is expected that the receivables that are neither past due nor impaired will be received when due. Similarly, due to the short-term nature of current payables, the carrying value is assumed to approximate fair value.

The University measures and recognises the following assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss
- Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income
- Available-for-sale financial assets
- Land and Buildings
- Infrastructure
- Art collection

#### **(b) Fair value hierarchy**

The University categorises assets and liabilities measured at fair value into a hierarchy based on the level of inputs used in measurements.

Level 1	Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
Level 2	Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly
Level 3	Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs)

**39. Fair value measurements (continued)****(b) Fair value hierarchy (continued)****(i) Recognised fair value measurements**

Fair value measurements recognised in the statement of financial position are categorised into the following levels at 31 December 2024.

**Fair value measurements**

	Note	2024 \$'000	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000
<b>Recurring fair value measurements at 31 Dec 2024</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	16	39,189	33,258	2,530	3,401
Total financial assets		39,189	33,258	2,530	3,401
<b>Non-financial assets</b>					
Land and buildings	19				
Land		163,973	-	163,973	-
Buildings		805,455	-	15,560	789,895
Infrastructure		36,510	-	-	36,510
Other non-financial assets	19				
Art Collection		3,093	-	-	3,093
Total non-financial assets		1,009,031	-	179,533	829,498
<b>Recurring fair value measurements at 31 Dec 2023</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Equity Instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	16	35,327	29,014	2,163	4,150
Total financial assets		35,327	29,014	2,163	4,150
<b>Non-financial assets</b>					
Land and buildings	19				
Land		164,042	-	164,042	-
Buildings		822,201	-	15,560	806,641
Infrastructure		37,906	-	-	37,906
Other non-financial assets	19				
Art collection		3,093	-	-	3,093
Total non-financial assets		1,027,242	-	179,602	847,640

There were no transfers between Levels 1 and 2 for recurring fair value measurements during the year.

The University's policy is to recognise transfers into and transfers out of fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.





**39. Fair value measurements (continued)**

**(c) Valuation techniques used to derive Level 2 and Level 3 fair values**

**Assets or liabilities not traded in active markets**

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise the use of observable market data where it is available and rely as little as possible on entity specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an instrument are observable, the instrument is included in Level 2. All other financial instruments that are not traded in an active market are included in Level 3.

**Land, Buildings and Infrastructure**

The University engages external, independent and qualified valuers to determine the fair value of the University's Land, Buildings and Infrastructure at least every three years. As at 31 December 2022, the fair values of Land, Buildings and Infrastructure have been determined by Opteon Pty Ltd.

Land fair value estimates were based on the highest and best use of the land, being the existing use as University campuses and valued separately from any structures or improvements residing on it, but having regard to any restrictions on its use. These assets are classified as Level 2.

Buildings fair value estimates were based on the highest and best use, being the existing use as University campuses. The valuation technique for buildings adopted by Opteon Pty Ltd was to assess the written down current cost for the buildings. New replacement costs on the basis of a modern equivalent were assessed and then generally depreciated using the straight line method, having regard to the estimated useful and remaining life for each structure. 12 properties were identified as having sufficient market based evidence to assess their value and these are classified as Level 2. All other Buildings are classified as Level 3.

**Art collection**

The Art collection is revalued at least every three years using an internal valuation carried out by the Director: Samstag Museum of Art giving consideration to current sales and auctions of works by the same artist and/or similar genre. The collection was valued at 31 December 2022.

**39. Fair value measurements (continued)****(d) Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)**

The following table is a reconciliation of Level 3 items for the periods ended 31 December 2024 and 2023.

<b>Level 3 Fair Value Measurement 2024</b>	<b>Unlisted equity securities \$'000</b>	<b>Buildings \$'000</b>	<b>Infrastructure \$'000</b>	<b>Art collection \$'000</b>	<b>Total \$'000</b>
Opening balance	4,150	806,641	37,906	3,093	851,790
Additions	288	-	586	-	874
Reclassifications	-	10,023	-	-	10,023
Disposals	(150)	-	-	-	(150)
Recognised in profit or loss	-	(26,769)	(1,982)	-	(28,751)
Recognised in other comprehensive income	(887)	-	-	-	(887)
Closing balance	<b>3,401</b>	<b>789,895</b>	<b>36,510</b>	<b>3,093</b>	<b>832,899</b>

<b>Level 3 Fair Value Measurement 2023</b>	<b>Unlisted equity securities \$'000</b>	<b>Buildings \$'000</b>	<b>Infrastructure \$'000</b>	<b>Art Collection \$'000</b>	<b>Total \$'000</b>
Opening balance	4,400	849,199	47,186	3,093	903,878
Acquisitions	285	-	-	-	285
Reclassifications	-	8,706	459	-	9,165
Disposals	-	(22,302)	(7,296)	-	(29,598)
Recognised in profit or loss	-	(28,533)	(2,443)	-	(30,976)
Recognised in other comprehensive income	(535)	-	-	-	(535)
Transfers out	-	(429)	-	-	(429)
Closing balance	<b>4,150</b>	<b>806,641</b>	<b>37,906</b>	<b>3,093</b>	<b>851,790</b>

**(i) Transfers between Level 2 and Level 3 and changes in valuation techniques**

Other than described above, there were no changes in valuation techniques during the year.

**39. Fair value measurements (continued)****(d) Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) (continued)****(ii) Valuation inputs and relationships to fair value**

The following table summarises the quantitative information about the significant unobservable inputs used in Level 3 fair value measurements. See (c) above for the valuation techniques adopted.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Fair value at 31 December 2024 \$'000</b>	<b>Unobservable inputs</b>	<b>Range of inputs (probability weighted average)</b>	<b>Relationship of unobservable inputs to fair value</b>
Unlisted equity securities	3,401	Market comparison based on internal assessment of net asset values and potential growth.	Net asset position and future earnings	Increase in net assets and increase in future earnings would result in higher fair values; decrease in net assets and decrease in future earnings would result in lower fair values.



**40. Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance**

**(a) EDUCATION - CGS and other Education grants**

Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the program)

Net accrual adjustments

**Revenue for the period**

Movement in deferred income

Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year

**Total revenue including accrued revenue**

Less expenses including accrued expenses

**Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period**

	Commonwealth Grants Scheme #1		Indigenous, Regional and Low-SES Attainment Fund #2		Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Teaching		Higher Education Disability Support Program #3	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	223,127	205,556	9,990	9,511	-	-	355	397
	(6,737)	(4,717)	(34)	-	-	-	-	-
3	216,390	200,839	9,956	9,511	-	-	355	397
	-	-	34	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	23	36	363	127
	216,390	200,839	9,990	9,511	23	36	718	524
	(216,390)	(200,839)	(9,990)	(9,511)	(4)	(13)	(308)	(161)
	-	-	-	-	19	23	410	363





**40. Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)**

**(a) EDUCATION - CGS and other Education grants (continued)**

	National Priorities and Industry Linkage Fund		Tertiary Access Payment		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note</b>						
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the program)	7,880	7,310	(1,087)	-	240,265	222,774
Net accrual adjustments	-	-	1,096	-	(5,675)	(4,717)
<b>Revenue for the period</b>	<b>7,880</b>	<b>7,310</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>234,590</b>	<b>218,057</b>
Movement in deferred income	-	-	(1,096)	-	(1,062)	-
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year	-	-	1,096	1,096	1,482	1,259
<b>Total revenue including accrued revenue</b>	<b>7,880</b>	<b>7,310</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>235,010</b>	<b>219,316</b>
Less expenses including accrued expenses	(7,880)	(7,310)	-	-	(234,572)	(217,834)
<b>Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>1,482</b>

#1 Includes the basic CGS grant amount, Allocated Places and Non Designated Courses.

#2 Includes the Higher Education Participation and Partnership Program, regional loading, enabling loading and Indigenous Student Success Program.

#3 Higher Education Disability Support Program includes Additional Support for Students with Disabilities and Australian Disability Clearing house on Education and Training.



**40. Acquitall of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)**

**(b) Higher Education Loan Programs (excl OS-HELP)**

	HECS-HELP (Australian Government payments only)		FEE-HELP		SA-HELP		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Note</b>								
Cash Payable / (Receivable) at the beginning of the year	<b>7,936</b>	5,881	<b>783</b>	220	<b>658</b>	146	<b>9,377</b>	6,247
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period	<b>140,676</b>	135,301	<b>8,986</b>	8,644	<b>3,264</b>	3,686	<b>152,926</b>	147,631
Cash available for the period	<b>148,612</b>	141,182	<b>9,769</b>	8,864	<b>3,922</b>	3,832	<b>162,303</b>	153,878
Revenue earned	<b>143,722</b>	133,246	<b>8,101</b>	8,081	<b>3,393</b>	3,174	<b>155,216</b>	144,501
<b>Cash Payable / (Receivable) at the end of the year</b>	<b>4,890</b>	7,936	<b>1,668</b>	783	<b>529</b>	658	<b>7,087</b>	9,377



**40. Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)**

**(c) Department of Education and Research**

	Increase Workforce		Trailblazer Universities		Launch Australia's		Research Training	
	Mobility#4				Economic		Program	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the program)	17	-	1,308	1,414	323	193	17,307	16,957
	(4)	-	(89)	(2)	77	(193)	-	-
	13	-	1,219	1,412	400	-	17,307	16,957
	3	-	89	2	(87)	193	-	-
	-	-	2	-	193	-	611	961
Net accrual adjustments								
<b>Revenue for the period</b>								
Movement in deferred income	16	-	1,310	1,414	506	193	17,918	17,918
Surplus/(deficit) from the prior year	(14)	-	(1,219)	(1,412)	(400)	-	(17,426)	(17,307)
<b>Total funding available during the year</b>								
Less expenses including accrued expenses	2	-	91	2	106	193	492	611
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for reporting period</b>								



**40. Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)**

**(c) Department of Education and Research (continued)**

	Research Support Program				Total	
	2024		2023		2024	2023
	Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the program)		16,577	16,230		35,532	34,794
Net accrual adjustments		-	-		(16)	(195)
<b>Revenue for the period</b>	3	<b>16,577</b>	<b>16,230</b>		<b>35,516</b>	<b>34,599</b>
Movement in deferred income		-	-		5	195
Surplus/(deficit) from the prior year		-	-		806	961
<b>Total funding available during the year</b>		<b>16,577</b>	<b>16,230</b>		<b>36,327</b>	<b>35,755</b>
Less expenses including accrued expenses		<b>(16,577)</b>	<b>(16,230)</b>		<b>(35,636)</b>	<b>(34,949)</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for reporting period</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>691</b>	<b>806</b>

#4 National Industry PhD Program.  
#5 Australia's Economic Accelerator.





## 40. Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)

## (d) Total Higher Education Provider Research Training Program expenditure

	Total domestic students \$'000	Total overseas students \$'000
Research Training Program fees offsets	11,711	-
Research Training Program stipends	4,067	1,640
Research Training Program allowances	10	(2)
<b>Total for all types of support</b>	<b>15,788</b>	<b>1,638</b>

## (e) Other capital funding

	Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities Scheme		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the program)	549	33	549	33
Net accrual adjustments	(506)	(25)	(506)	(25)
<b>Revenue for the period</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>8</b>
Movement in deferred income	506	25	506	25
Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year	25	-	25	-
<b>Total revenue including accrued revenue</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>33</b>
Less expenses including accrued expenses	(43)	(8)	(43)	(8)
<b>Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>25</b>



**40. Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)**

**(f) Australian Research Council Grants**

Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the program)

Net accrual adjustments

**Revenue for the period**

Movement in deferred income

Surplus / (deficit) from the previous year

**Total revenue including accrued revenue**

Less expenses including accrued expenses

**Surplus / (deficit) for reporting period**

	Discovery		Linkages		Networks and Centres		Special Research Initiatives		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Note	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	6,569	4,864	869	843	-	-	-	65	7,438	5,772
	(1,479)	71	729	1,228	912	442	54	10	216	1,751
3	5,090	4,935	1,598	2,071	912	442	54	75	7,654	7,523
	1,653	(210)	(647)	(695)	(93)	92	(54)	(10)	859	(823)
	4,684	4,894	2,047	2,741	1,048	956	51	60	7,830	8,651
	11,427	9,619	2,998	4,117	1,867	1,490	51	125	16,343	15,351
	(5,090)	(4,935)	(1,599)	(2,070)	(912)	(442)	(55)	(74)	(7,656)	(7,521)
	6,337	4,684	1,399	2,047	955	1,048	(4)	51	8,687	7,830



**40. Acquittal of Australian Government financial assistance (continued)**

**(g) OS-HELP**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Cash received during the reporting period	<b>1,512</b>	2,745
Cash spent during the reporting period	<b>(830)</b>	(1,546)
Net cash received	<b>682</b>	1,199
Cash surplus / (deficit) from the previous period	<b>2,937</b>	1,738
<b>Cash surplus for the reporting period</b>	<b>3,619</b>	2,937

**(h) Superannuation Supplementation**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Cash received during the reporting period	<b>24,536</b>	23,253
Cash available	<b>24,536</b>	23,253
Cash surplus / (deficit) from the previous period	<b>7</b>	19
Cash available for current period	<b>24,543</b>	23,272
Contributions to specified defined benefit funds	<b>(24,532)</b>	(23,265)
<b>Cash surplus for the reporting period</b>	<b>11</b>	7

**(i) Student services and amenities fee**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Unspent / (overspent) revenue from previous period	<b>887</b>	1,531
SA-HELP revenue earned	<b>3,393</b>	3,174
Student services fees direct from students	<b>1,598</b>	1,429
Total revenue expendable in period	<b>5,878</b>	6,134
Student services expenses during period	<b>(5,190)</b>	(5,247)
<b>Unspent student services revenue</b>	<b>688</b>	887

**Note**

5



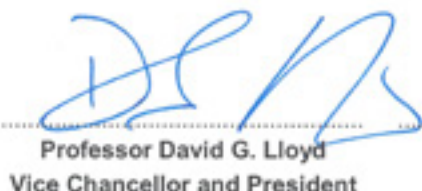
**CERTIFICATE**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

To the best of our knowledge and belief:

- the financial statements:
  - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the University and give an accurate indication of the financial transactions of the University for the year then ended;
  - comply with the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*;
  - comply with relevant Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia; and
  - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the University as at 31 December 2024 and the result of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.
- the amount of Australian Government financial assistance expended during the reporting period was for the purpose(s) for which it was intended and the University has complied with applicable legislation, contracts, agreements and program guidelines in making expenditure.
- the University charged Student Services and Amenities Fees strictly in accordance with the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* and the *Administration Guidelines* made under the Act. Revenue from the fee was spent strictly in accordance with the Act and only on services and amenities specified in subsection 19-38(4) of the Act.
- internal controls over financial reporting and preparation of the financial statements have been effective throughout the reporting period.
- at the time of signing this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the University will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.



Hon John Hill  
Chancellor



Professor David G. Lloyd  
Vice Chancellor and President



Ms Gihette Fogarty  
Chief Financial Officer

6 May 2025



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



**Government of South Australia**  
Audit Office of South Australia

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**To the Chancellor  
University of South Australia**

## Opinion

I have audited the financial report of the University of South Australia and the consolidated entity comprising the University of South Australia and its controlled entities (the group) for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.

In my opinion the accompanying consolidated financial report has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* and Australian Accounting Standards, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the University of South Australia and its controlled entities as at 31 December 2024, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended
- b) complying with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022*.

The consolidated financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2024
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2024
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 31 December 2024
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2024
- notes, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor and President and the Chief Financial Officer.

## **Basis for opinion**

I conducted the audit in accordance with the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial report' section of my report. I am independent of the University of South Australia and its controlled entities. The *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* establishes the independence of the Auditor-General. In conducting the audit, the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* have been met.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

## **Responsibilities of the Vice Chancellor and President and the Council for the financial report**

The Vice Chancellor and President is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* and the Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Vice Chancellor and President is responsible for assessing the entity's and consolidated entity's ability to continue as a going concern, taking into account any policy or funding decisions the government has made which affect the continued existence of the entity. The Vice Chancellor and President is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

The Council is responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

## **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial report**

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and section 19 of the *University of South Australia Act 1990*, I have audited the financial report of the University of South Australia and its controlled entities for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.



As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the University of South Australia's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Vice Chancellor and President
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Vice Chancellor and President's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- plan and perform the group audit to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business units within the group as a basis for forming an opinion on the group financial report. I am responsible for the direction, supervision and review of the audit work performed for the purposes of the group audit. I remain solely responsible for my audit opinion.

My report refers only to the financial report described above and does not provide assurance over the integrity of electronic publication by the entity on any website nor does it provide an opinion on other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the report.

I communicate with the Vice Chancellor and President and the Council about, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.



Andrew Blaskett  
**Auditor-General**

9 May 2025



**University of  
South Australia**

***Australia's University of Enterprise***

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Information correct at time of publishing (May 2025)

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