

# *Annual* **Report** 2022





Hon Susan Close MP  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science  
Level 13, 200 Victoria Square  
ADELAIDE SA 5000  
30 June 2023

Dear Minister

In accordance with Section 27 of the *Flinders University Act 1966*, I present to you the Annual Report and audited financial statements for the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022, as per resolution of the members of Council at its meeting on 11 May 2023.

Yours sincerely



**Stephen Gerlach AM**  
Chancellor

**For further information**

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**Front cover**  
Featuring Flinders University’s new logo and branding, our cover shows engineering student Anika Talukder with Spot the robotic dog at our Tonsley innovation campus.

**Image credit**  
*Yara* (2016) by Judy Watson



Flinders University acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which its campuses are located. These are the Traditional Lands of the Arrernte, Dagoman, First Nations of the South East, First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee region, Jawoyn, Kurna, Larrakia, Ngadjuri, Ngarrindjeri, Ramindjeri, Warumungu, Wardaman and Yolngu people. We honour their Elders and Custodians past, present and emerging.

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*“Amongst Council’s priorities has been investment in strategic infrastructure to ensure our students and staff have the facilities they need to excel and achieve our University’s bold ambitions.”*

# Chancellor’s report

**The reputation of a university is built on the sum of its achievements and the benefits it brings to our society. The Council has an important role to play in establishing the culture of the institution and in helping to create an environment in which our students and staff can flourish.**

At a time when the higher education landscape has entered a period of transition, the growing success of Flinders University demonstrates the value of strong, strategic leadership and gives us confidence that the University will continue to build its international reputation as a leader in education and research.

Our culture is built on the values of integrity, courage, innovation and excellence, together with our underpinning student-centred ethos. Our commitment to uphold and cherish our values is captured in our commitment to place the needs and aspirations of our students at the heart of everything we do.

I acknowledge long-serving Council members Stephen Hains AM and Kathryn Gramp, who retired at the end of 2022, and thank them for their many contributions and their commitment to the University and its vision. I was also delighted to welcome Kim Cheater to the Council and look forward to Leanne Liddle joining us in 2023. Both will bring fresh perspectives to our governance, while extending the breadth of talent and experience needed to best inform our strategic decision-making.

Amongst Council’s priorities has been investment in strategic infrastructure to ensure our students and staff have the facilities they need to excel and achieve our University’s bold ambitions.

Investments in the Health and Medical Research Building in the Flinders Village precinct, Factory of the Future at Tonsley, and Flinders’ new vertical city campus in Festival Tower in Adelaide’s CBD, are all underway and are catalysts that will help take Flinders to the next level of performance. Most conveniently, direct rail to and from Bedford Park, Tonsley, and Festival Tower will offer students and staff unparalleled flexibility and connectivity.

With the passing of COVID-19 restrictions, it was pleasing to be able to return to in-person graduation ceremonies. These celebrations are an important opportunity for us to mark the academic achievements of our students as they move on to the next chapter of their lives.

I thank all staff for their hard work during the pandemic and congratulate our graduates on their forbearance and resilience that enabled them to complete their studies under difficult circumstances.

We also celebrated some of our most successful alumni with a range of alumni awards, including the University’s highest award, the Convocation Medal, presented to Dr Ruth Mitchell for her Nobel Peace Prize-winning advocacy through the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, and to Professor Justine Smith for her outstanding research and leadership at Flinders in the field of ophthalmology.

Distinguished alumna Leanne Liddle, Northern Territory Australian of the Year 2022 and Director of the Aboriginal Justice Unit (NT), delivered a moving 2022 Elliott Johnston Oration titled *Red Silk, Black Voices*.

The next generation of emerging leaders also gained widespread recognition, with Associate Professor Sam Elliott and Dr Rong Zhu winning 2022 SA Young Tall Poppy Science Awards.

The quality of our staff and alumni was also reflected in the array of awards bestowed in the Australia Day and Queen’s Birthday honours in recognition of outstanding contributions to society.

We reserve special thanks to our donors and benefactors, for without their support many of our students could not realise their potential. Their wonderful generosity extended from the Stafford Wulff Scholarship in Paramedic Science, and the Neiser Foundation’s funding of shark ecology research, to the Shirley Matthews bequest supporting Indigenous education at Flinders that resulted in construction of the Yungkurinthe Inparrila outdoor cultural gathering place.

Having announced my plans to retire as Chancellor of Flinders University in late 2023, this marks my final Annual Report. After almost 14 years as Chancellor, I reflect on the journey the University has been on, and the progress that has been made, with great pride in the past and confidence for the future.

Flinders University is in a strong position as an outstanding learning and research institution, poised to deliver growing positive contributions to our state and the nation.

**Stephen Gerlach AM**  
Chancellor



*“Flinders’ education credentials are aptly matched by our research capabilities. Our total annual income from research grants and contracts has been growing strongly, with an increase of more than 140% in just five years.”*

# Vice-Chancellor’s report

**2022 has been an extraordinary year for Flinders University on almost any measure. Our performance has seen us forge ahead with unparalleled momentum in research growth, combined with outstanding results in education and student experience.**

Flinders is proud to be South Australia’s number one university for student experience, testament to our authentic focus on student success. Our growing network of industry collaborations also provide valuable workplace experience for our students, enabling them to develop the contemporary skills that will see them succeed in the knowledge economy. This is perhaps best reflected in the fact that Flinders ranked number one in Australia for postgraduate employment in 2021/22.

Flinders’ education credentials are aptly matched by our research capabilities. Our total annual income from research grants and contracts has been growing strongly, with an increase of more than 140% in just five years. The year-on-year growth has been accelerating with 39% growth in 2022 compared to 2021.

There are also highly visible signs of the University’s progress. Our expanding facilities will elevate our research and enhance student experience, with major infrastructure projects cutting a striking profile across the Adelaide skyline.

Building on our proud history as a pioneer in innovative health as the first medical school in the nation to be integrated into a public hospital, Flinders’ new Health and Medical Research Building is the flagship building of the wider Flinders Village development – southern Adelaide’s biomedical research precinct that brings together research, education, accommodation and amenity, and driving \$1.5 billion in economic activity.

At the same time, construction is well underway for Flinders’ brand new, cutting-edge vertical campus in Festival Plaza, in the heart of Adelaide’s CBD. Expanding to Festival Plaza will provide our students with new and innovative ways to study with us, while providing our staff with a state-of-the-art environment in which to teach and work. We look forward to welcoming students to Festival Tower for Semester 1, 2024.

Meanwhile, we are co-investing with our industry and government partners in the growth of world-class research and training facilities at the Tonsley Innovation District, including a new \$50 million development that will co-locate Flinders’ expanded Factory of the Future with the South Australian Government’s Tonsley Technical College.

Addressing the social, political and legal ramifications of digital expansion is another frontier being explored at Flinders. Our researchers at The Jeff Bleich Centre are examining misuse of digital technologies and cybersecurity, our College of Science and Engineering is exploring AI influence on automated vehicles and defence technologies, and the development of software and hardware through the Flinders Digital Health Research Centre are all pointing to brave new technological advances.

Embracing the digital future extends to digital arts, with Flinders standing as a leader through our diverse partnerships. Our Bachelor of Creative Arts (Visual Effects and Entertainment Design) delivered with CDW Studios continues to win international awards for students learning digital illustration, game design and graphics. Flinders’ digital video production facility, The Void, is building professional collaborations with the film, gaming and video industries, and innovative research collaborations through Flinders’ Assemblage Centre for Creative Arts is forming a new nexus to combine art, science, and technology.

These innovations build on targets laid out within Flinders University’s strategic plan *Making a Difference – The 2025 Agenda*. It continues to provide a valuable road map to strengthening our research and education and creating opportunities to make a wider impact.

This is especially important in the wake of COVID-19, and the welcome return of international students - supported by the new Flinders University Academy which is creating new pathways for international students to study with us.

Our responsibility as a leading institution extends beyond protecting and caring for our community. We must also take responsible steps to embrace sustainability, improve our natural environment, and serve as a shining example for society. Ambitious renewable energy goals are being met, with our campuses across South Australia powered with 100% green renewable energy, achieving net-zero emissions from electricity. Our vehicle fleet is being converted to electric vehicles, and vehicle-to-grid chargers are exporting spare battery capacity generated by these vehicles to the main power grid.

The enduring strength of our services are underlined by significant milestones. In December, Flinders celebrated 30 years of Law, bringing together former Flinders Law students with staff members to acknowledge the many successes of our law program and graduates. We also celebrated 25 years of health professional education and research activity in the Northern Territory, which began with the Northern Territory Clinical School providing local medical students with experiences aimed at graduating a workforce fit for practice in the context of remote and Indigenous communities.

These are important stepping stones that chart our progress and reinforce Flinders University’s position as a strong and redoubtable institution, fearlessly prepared for the future with purpose and conviction.

I express my appreciation to our staff for their steadfast commitment to our mission, and their professionalism, hard work, and dedication to serving our students and the wider community. I’m honoured to work with such exceptional individuals.

I thank our longest serving Chancellor, Stephen Gerlach AM, for his remarkable contribution to Flinders University – his foresight, courage and conviction has steered us through turbulent times to emerge stronger than ever.

**Professor Colin Stirling**  
President and Vice-Chancellor



# Our mission

Changing lives and changing the world.

## Our vision

To be internationally recognised as a world leader in research, an innovator in contemporary education, and the source of Australia's most enterprising graduates.

## Our values

Courage | Excellence | Innovation | Integrity  
With an underlying ethos of being student centred.



# Flinders in 2022

## People

**25,247 students**  
19,831 domestic  
5,417 international

**2,054 staff**

**619 active researchers**

**120,000+ alumni in 130 countries**

### 11 campuses across South Australia and Northern Territory

Bedford Park • Tonsley • Victoria Square • Barossa • Berri • Mount Gambier • Murray Bridge • Renmark  
• Victor Harbor • Alice Springs • Darwin • Katherine • Nhulunbuy • Tennant Creek



**6,337 testamurs conferred**

## Rankings

**No. 1  
SA university  
for overall  
experience**

The Good Universities Guide 2023 – overall quality of education experience (postgraduate), public SA-founded universities only.

**No. 1  
SA university  
for learning  
engagement**

The Good Universities Guide 2023 (undergraduate), public SA-founded universities only.

## No. 1 SA university for student support

The Good Universities Guide 2023 (undergraduate), public SA-founded universities only.

**1 Australian Universities' John Monash Scholar**

**450+ scholarships**, worth \$2.4m in total

**500+ undergraduate, postgraduate and research degrees**

**5 Rhodes Scholars • 26 Fulbright Scholars**

**1 Fields Medallist • 1 Australian of the Year**

## International



International students:  
**3,498 onshore**  
**1,919 offshore**



**100+ partner institutions** across  
**33 countries**

**5 transnational education programs in**  
the People's Republic of China and Malaysia

Staff, student and enrolment numbers are preliminary figures based on internal data and subject to change.

# Financial overview

STUDENT AND STAFF NUMBERS – KEY FIVE YEAR FIGURES					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Student Numbers					
Australian	20,665	20,531	21,031	21,122	19,831
International	5,401	5,225	5,086	4,553	5,417
Offshore	1,623	1,558	1,516	1,527	1,919
Onshore	3,778	3,667	3,570	3,026	34,98
Total	26,066	25,756	26,117	25,675	25,247
Gender					
Female Students	16,886	16,809	17,206	16,935	16,301
Male Students	9,165	8,929	8,886	8,705	8,904
Intersex/Unspecified/Not entered	15	18	25	35	42
Total	26,066	25,756	26,117	25,675	25,247
Staff (FTE)					
Academic	879	831	868	886	907
Non-Academic	1,116	1,174	1,161	1,107	1,147
Total	1,995	2,005	2,029	1,993	2,054
Higher Degree Research Enrolments					
Masters Research	67	61	66	83	89
PhD	985	916	858	915	961
Total	1,052	977	924	998	1,050

Source: Planning and Analytical Services

**Data sources:**  
Student data sourced from Student Management via PAS Student Study Model. Data as at 18/4/2023.  
Note: data may not sum to the reported total due to students moving between statuses in a given year.  
2019-2022 staff data sourced from Workday via PAS Workday Model. Data as at 18/4/2023.  
2018 staff data sourced from Workday via PAS Workday Model. Data as at 24/6/2021.

FINANCIAL – KEY FIVE YEAR FIGURES					
	2018 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2022 \$'000
UNIVERSITY — CONSOLIDATED RESULTS					
Income					
Teaching	369,179	379,815	386,047	383,605	377,888
Research	79,890	80,327	84,725	104,017	115,815
Other Government (Non-Research)	27,838	29,047	27,839	23,740	26,283
Investment	9,439	19,053	13,230	19,888	9,485
Other	28,778	22,019	23,219	25,552	30,286
Total Income	515,125	530,261	535,060	556,802	559,757
Expenses					
Employee Related	322,173	321,749	324,300	327,295	338,141
Depreciation and Amortisation	38,124	42,260	41,703	44,708	39,803
Other	135,659	141,439	130,680	148,422	165,547
Total Expenses	495,956	505,448	496,683	520,425	543,491
Net Result	19,169	24,813	38,377	36,377	16,266
Operating Margin	3.7%	4.7%	7.2%	6.5%	2.9%
UNIVERSITY — CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL POSITION					
Assets					
Cash and Term Deposits	92,548	85,733	124,913	179,556	276,780
Investments	113,741	140,527	148,336	173,312	139,204
Property, Plant and Equipment	607,224	627,701	648,592	662,555	797,758
Other Assets	111,112	128,677	125,026	131,428	129,400
Total Assets	924,625	982,638	1,046,867	1,146,851	1,343,142
Total Liabilities	165,857	206,098	224,887	251,329	387,342
Net Assets	758,768	776,540	821,980	895,522	955,800
Current Ratio (CA/CL)	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.7	2.1



# 2022 highlights

## Flinders University graduates ranked No. 1 in South Australia

Employers rank Flinders graduates the best in South Australia, and higher than the national average, in the Employer Satisfaction Survey for the Commonwealth Government's QILT assessment.

## Flinders University student experience ranked No. 1 in South Australia

Students rank Flinders the best in South Australia for exceptional learning experiences, placing the University seventh highest in Australia.

## Record external research income

Flinders University's HERDC external research income shows an extraordinary 39% increase in 2022 over 2021, confirming and accelerating a trend that has seen research income increase by some 140% over the last five years.

## World QS award recognises Flinders' international strengths

Rankings agency QS has named Flinders University amongst a select group of global universities excelling in internationalisation in its inaugural Certificates of Recognition awards. Of tens of thousands of universities worldwide, Flinders was one of 26 universities named in the awards, and one of just four awarded in this category.



Professor Colin Stirling receives the QS award from Jessica Turner, Group Managing Director, and Leigh Kamolins, Director of Analytics & Evaluation at QS in New York.

## Award winning student mental health and wellbeing support

The Good Vibes Experiment, Flinders University's student-driven campaign to promote mental health and wellbeing, wins a national tertiary sector award for Most Successful Wellbeing and Support Program and is made available throughout Australia.

## Rural health training

Flinders University's rural health training opportunities were bolstered in the Riverland, Mallee and Coorong regions by \$1.94 million in additional Federal Government funds, and in Katherine and remote Northern Territory communities through an extra \$2 million Rural Health Multidisciplinary Training program.

## A new vertical city campus for Flinders

Construction commenced on Flinders University's new vertical city campus at Festival Tower, in the heart of Adelaide's CBD. Our new city campus will make Flinders a convenient choice for a growing number of students who will have access to the many innovative courses that will be offered there.

## Australia's first photoemission electron microscope at Flinders

Australia's first \$2.4 million photoemission electron microscope is installed at Flinders University's Microscopy and Microanalysis lab at Bedford Park, helping researchers and industry to develop next-generation materials and products.



Professor Robert Saint and Professor John Spoehr with Vice President of Cisco Australia and New Zealand, Ben Dawson at Innovation Central.

## Factory of the Future fires up

Federal and South Australian Governments support expansion of Flinders University's Factory of the Future at Tonsley with commitments of \$10.1 million and \$4 million in funding.

## Innovation Central Adelaide

Innovation Central Adelaide, embracing advanced digital design and visualisation technologies driven by Flinders University and global technology leader Cisco, has been established at Flinders' Digital Transformation Laboratory.

## The power of education being realised in a partnership with PAFC

Flinders University launches a new Diploma in Sports Management in a new partnership with Port Adelaide Institute of Sport to provide students with hands-on experience in Port Adelaide Football Club's daily operations.

## Inaugural scholarship for students with disability

A donation from not-for-profit disability support organisation, Community Bridging Services Inc. has created Flinders University's first scholarship designed to support students with disability. The annual \$3,000 scholarship aims to remove barriers and encourage a community-focused career.

## Scoring goals with our Adelaide United partnership

Our partnership with Adelaide United includes an expanded primary school education program and embedded sports research within the club.

## New international student pathways at Flinders

Flinders University Academy creates strong new pathways for international students to study at Flinders.

## LGBTQIA+ pride

Flinders relaunches its Pride Network, reinforcing support for the LGBTQIA+ community and emphasising the promotion of inclusion and diversity on campus.

## Bringing research and business together

An Australian first offering, Flinders University's concurrent PhD and MBA program enables research candidates to upscale their qualifications and super-charge their career prospects.

## \$34m research grant for ARIIA

Flinders University will establish Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation Australia (ARIIA), to deliver transformative care across the aged care sector, thanks to a \$34 million grant.

## Biofilm research and innovation

In a major boost for Australia's shipbuilding and marine equipment industries, Flinders establishes a \$5 million ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre for Biofilm Research and Innovation.

## Supporting young mental health

Breakthrough Mental Health Research Foundation and Little Heroes Foundation provided \$1.27 million in funding to create the Little Heroes Professor of Child and Adolescent Mental Health at Flinders.

## Ruby Award

Flinders University Museum of Art won a prestigious 2022 Ruby Award, celebrating SA's major achievements in Arts and Culture, for its outstanding retrospective of leading South Australian artist Barbara Hanrahan.



FUMA Director Fiona Salmon receives the coveted Ruby Award



# Advances in research

**Our significant growth in research income is indicative of the quantity and quality of Flinders University's research impact. Our unaudited research income submission to the Commonwealth (HERDC) indicates a research income of \$114.5 million for 2022, representing an impressive increase of 39% over the 2021 result.**

## A new record year for research success

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences secured \$34 million in federal funding over three years to establish Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation Australia (ARIIA), to drive and deliver transformative care across the aged care sector. In addition, new consumer experience and quality of life assessment tools have been rolled out nationally in partnership with the federal Department of Health and Aged Care, to support quality improvement and better health and quality of life outcomes for older Australians.

We're continuing to build our strength in medical research, securing six Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) grants. Flinders also placed first nationally in the MRFF Indigenous health mission for the number of funded projects and second in funded amount.

These grants will enable our researchers to pursue solutions to important problems. For example Associate Professor Tamara Mackean will research community-led solutions to minimise trauma for pregnant Aboriginal women, their children, and families. Dr Brooke Spaeth will lead research into equitable access for full blood evaluation testing in remote regions. Associate Professor Sam Lehman will examine the impact of non-invasive coronary angiography, and Associate Professor Anand Ganesan will research atrial fibrillation. Dr Courtney Ryder will lead the co-design of a diabetes intervention with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living on Ngarrindjeri country. Dr Chris Rissel



Aged Care Research & Industry Innovation Australia team

and the Nhulunbuy Rural and Remote Health team will collaborate with local clinicians, academics and community partners to co-design student-assisted cardiac rehabilitation in East Arnhem.

Flinders researchers enjoyed significant success across the many levels of grants provided through the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). NHMRC Ideas Grants worth \$3.25 million were awarded to Associate Professor Peter Speck, Professor David Lynn, and Professor Melissa Brown. A further \$1.2 million in NHMRC Investigator Grants were awarded to College of Medicine and Public Health researchers Dr Emmanuelle Souzeau and Dr Courtney Ryder to explore projects on injury prevention for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and improving glaucoma diagnosis and management. Addressing the NHMRC target to improve hearing outcomes, Dr Jacqueline Stephens leads The PATHWAY Project, which will co-design culturally appropriate methods to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children access hearing healthcare.

Flinders researchers enjoyed a spectacular Australian Research Council (ARC) success rate of 29.7%, compared with the national average of 18.5%. More than \$4.1 million was awarded for 11 new ARC Discovery Projects, led by Professor Justin Chalker, Professor Michael Gardner, Associate Professor Caitlin Hughes, Associate Professor Rob Manwaring, Professor Colin Raston, Professor Damien Riggs, Professor Gerry Redmond, Associate Professor Ben Wadham, Associate Professor Melanie Takarangi, Dr Zhongfan Jia, and Dr Erin Sebo.

The ARC also announced three Future Fellowships worth more than \$2.9 million, awarded to Associate Professor Natalie Harkin, Associate Professor Ian Moffat, and Professor Justin Chalker.

Professor Sophie Leterme was awarded \$4.93 million from the ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre scheme to establish the Training Centre for Biofilm Research and Innovation, which will explore the microbiological complexities of marine biofilms commonly found on shipping vessels that cause annual billion-dollar losses through shipping inefficiency and contamination. The Centre also attracted an additional \$7.6 million from industry and research partner organisations across the defence, manufacturing, water management, and marine industry sectors, including DSTG, BAE Systems, ASC, and SA Water.

## Seed funds that enable research to flourish

Five of our early career researchers each received up to \$10,000 from the University's 2022 Impact Seed Funding program, to foster innovative new projects in health, nursing, environmental science, and psychology.

Dr Lauren Jones will map the serotonergic pathways that underpin the gut-brain axis and Dr Dan Thorpe will investigate how paracetamol lowers body temperature by a novel gut-brain pathway. Dr Craig Liddicoat will examine the role of leaf litter and organic debris to restore health-promoting environmental microbiomes. Dr Irene Belperio is researching the experiences of support providers who assist older adults

with intellectual disabilities and dementia in shared accommodation. Dr Sam Elliott will conduct research to understand parental violence affecting youth sport.

## Building momentum

Building on more than 50 years of exceptional health and medical research, Flinders' new \$280 million Health and Medical Research Building at Bedford Park will open in early 2024, and be home to over 600 medical researchers, clinicians, and professional staff. Featuring one of South Australia's largest suite of PC2-rated physical containment labs spread across five floors, and equipped with state-of-the-art cell imaging equipment, the new building will be home to researchers working on improving health, preventing disease and combating community health inequities with a focus on molecular biosciences, clinical translation and healthy communities.

Flinders has negotiated an agreement with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) and South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) to advance a progressive research agenda in South Australia, focussing on food and agriculture, aquatic and marine sciences, aquaculture and water research. This strategic alliance will streamline collaborative engagements between PIRSA, SARDI and Flinders for joint funding proposals, commencing with a co-funded Partnership Seed Grant scheme to help leverage high-quality external grant applications.



Flinders has forged new collaborations with international universities and research organisations. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed with the University of Strathclyde and BAE Systems, with the South Australian Government supporting the establishment of an advanced manufacturing research exchange to develop international best practice for shipbuilding manufacturing. A new defence-related research and development MOU was also established with MITRE Australia, to develop solutions that strengthen security and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.

## Expanding Flinders' Centres of Excellence

Developing sustainable new products made from seaweed earned Flinders University's Centre for Marine Bioproducts Development (CMBD) a win at the 2022 SA Science Excellence and Innovation Awards. Its Driving Australia's Blue Bioeconomy project, led by Professor Wei Zhang, won the Excellence in Science and Industry Collaboration category for working collaboratively with South Australian industry to transform sustainable seaweeds into high-value products, such as medicines, biodegradable plastics, bio-inks, nutrition drinks, and eco-friendly fertilisers.

CMBD played an important role in the formation of the \$270 million Marine Bioproducts Cooperative Research Centre based at Flinders, which is expected to generate \$8.6 billion for the Australian economy and create more than 26,000 new jobs by 2035.

Flinders University Institute for Mental Health and Wellbeing (formerly known as Orama), received funding from the Little Heroes Foundation and the Breakthrough Mental Health Research Foundation to support its endeavours. Forged around five key research pillars, the Institute conducts research to enhance resilience in children and young people, develop interventions for disordered eating, increase resilience and reduce the impact of trauma, promote wellbeing through sport and physical activity, and improve the health and wellbeing of older people.

Flinders' College of Education, Psychology and Social Work introduced two new research initiatives during the year. Research in Inclusive and Specialised Education combines researchers from multiple disciplines to build world-class inclusive education for diverse young people, while the Generations Initiative promotes health and wellbeing to middle-aged and older adults through collaborative projects with older people, the aged care workforce, and people with dementia.

These new endeavours join the Open Door and Blackbird Initiatives as important Flinders community engagement efforts. Further, the Flinders Research Centre for Palliative Care, Death and Dying, based in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, delivers national care projects in collaboration with multidisciplinary experts and organisations, and supports projects that deal with clinical research and studies into carers' attitudes.

## Increased support for First Nations researchers

The First Nations Researcher Collective was launched in March 2022, providing a supportive network to share knowledge, foster collaboration, enhance opportunities, and build capacity for all Flinders researchers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds. The Collective is aligned with Flinders' Reconciliation Action Plan and will be linked to the Indigenous Research Strategy.



# Teaching excellence and student experience

**Boosting student support and providing flexible learning programs to protect continuity of study through the disruptive COVID era has seen Flinders University’s satisfaction rating among undergraduate students rise to 78.9% – almost 6% above the national average.**

Flinders improved in all five categories on which performance is measured and was ranked 14% ahead of the national average in learner engagement.

## Innovation at the heart of new study offerings

Further expansion of a revitalised Masters in Business Administration program at Flinders saw the introduction of an Australian first – a combined PhD-MBA. Starting in 2023, the new program gives enterprising researchers an opportunity to gain a doctorate and an accelerated MBA qualification in four years. Equipping researchers with important business, management, technology, sustainability, innovation, and entrepreneurial skills in addition to their field of research will help prepare a dynamic class of graduates ready to lead the future workforce.

Other significant course expansions at Flinders include the Graduate Certificate in Digital Health Management for medical and allied health professionals, and the commencement of the Bachelor of Paramedic Science course in the Northern Territory.

## Benchmark of excellence in Law for 30 years

A gala dinner celebration in December marking 30 years of Law highlighted the strength and ongoing success of law studies at Flinders. A special podcast – *Expect More of Law*, hosted by Dean of Law Professor Tania Leiman – featured interviews with some of our 2,800 Flinders Law graduates, including our first Flinders alumni to be appointed as a judge, a Member of Parliament, and advisors in human rights and social impact. Listeners tuned in from Australia, the United States, Singapore, Denmark, the United Kingdom, and many more international territories.

## Outstanding staff lead teaching triumphs

The annual Flinders University Staff Awards recognised remarkable contributions to the University’s success as a leader in contemporary education. The 2022 Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Innovation in Teaching was awarded to Associate Professor Jonathan Benjamin, Hiro Yoshida, Associate Professor Wendy Van Duivenvoorde, and Dr John McCarthy for tailoring student skills development and workforce-ready graduates, significantly enhancing the Maritime Archaeology program by introducing an accredited micro-credential in Professional Scientific Diving.

The 2022 Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching was awarded to an individual and also a team. Dr Mai Ngo was recognised for her transformational approach to hybrid teaching in the Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages program, while a team from the College of Science and Engineering – comprising Dr David Hobbs, Dr Thomas Vincent, Professor Giselle Rampersad and Dr Vlatka Zivotic-Kukolj – was awarded for developing an immersive five-month work integrated learning placement for all students in the College of Science and Engineering.

Special awards recognised efforts to keep the Flinders campus safe and functioning during the pandemic, with Flinders Living recognised for supporting resident students during lockdown and isolation periods, and the COVID-19 Taskforce recognised for diligently providing for the Flinders community throughout the pandemic.

In recognition of 25 years of service to the University, Staff Service Awards were presented to Professor Karen Reynolds, Professor Jian Qin, Professor Craig Simmons, Katherine Reaiche, Helen Weedon, Professor James Harrison, and Margaret Alexander.

## Improved resources on campus

Investment in new facilities for students and staff continued in 2022, including a new state-of-the-art biodiversity building to support teaching and research in ecology, molecular ecology, biodiversity and conservation, marine biology, aquaculture and microbiology. With facilities designed to support practical solutions for real world challenges, key research includes conservation management of Pygmy

Blue-tongue lizards, restoration genetics of endangered native fish, reproductive strategies of Diamond Fire-tail Finches, Clownfish relationships with their host anemone, and hands-on training in animal husbandry and welfare.

Study spaces for students were enhanced by the conversion of the McHugh building at Bedford Park into a student-friendly multifunctional space for study, club events and activities.

Other amenity upgrades included a new reception area for the College of Science and Engineering building, along with the refurbishment of laboratories and Higher Degree Research spaces.

## Library provides student employment

During the year, Flinders University Library provided employment opportunities for 35 students, including two Indigenous cadets. The new role of Student Library Officers enabled 16 students to work across all library branches, providing face-to-face help at information desks and a roving support service. A further 12 Student Library Assistants supported collections-based tasks. A Library high school work experience program brought in Year 10 students to experience library tasks and the University working environment, with plans underway to continue this program in 2023.

## International engagement

Substantial onshore international student growth occurred during 2022, after Australia re-opened its international borders in December 2021. The number of international students who commenced at Flinders doubled from the previous year, surpassing load and revenue targets.

These impressive recruitment outcomes stemmed from strong offshore staff networks in India, China, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Vietnam, and flourishing commercial relationships with external recruitment partners.

India has emerged as the largest source of new international students, and the University is advancing plans to establish an Admissions and Compliance team in New Delhi to build the University’s application processing capacity in India from early 2023.

Record annual recruitment outcomes were achieved in Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong,

and Pakistan. China remains an important market for the University, although pandemic implications did not allow Chinese student arrivals to rebound during the year.

The Flinders’ International Student Ambassador program was a key initiative in reinvigorating student recruitment, with international students employed to engage at a peer-to-peer level in the acquisition process as a way of building trust and confidence among prospective applicants.

## New international student academy

During the year, our new in-house international pathway to a Flinders University degree – the Flinders University Academy – was launched after 12 months of intensive preparations. The Academy offers English language courses, Foundation Studies, Diplomas in Business, Engineering, Information Technology, Health and Creative, and a Pre-Masters in Business.

Our first Academy students from Indonesia, Thailand, Bangladesh, and Vietnam arrived in November to begin studies enabling their transition into more than 50 destination degrees at Flinders.

## International student experience

Delivery of in-person service for international students expanded to our Tonsley innovation campus, with the rollout of a pilot program to support the growing number of international students in IT and Engineering programs.

Flinders students continued to excel in Education Adelaide’s International Student of the Year Award, underlining the strength of our international student experience. Nigerian biomedical engineering student Chidozie ‘Elvis’ Chidi-Ezeama won the 2022 International Student of the Year (following previous International Student of the Year Award winners from Flinders in 2016, 2018, 2019 and 2021). Undergraduate and postgraduate awards were presented to Flinders students Leonard Banda from Zambia, Reynal Mudiyansele from Sri Lanka, and Thi Minh Hoang from Vietnam.

To support the return of international students to Adelaide, a partnership was developed between Flinders and The Switch – a new student accommodation provider on North Terrace. Prospective international



‘Elvis’ Chidi-Ezeama at the StudyAdelaide awards

students are provided with the option of booking The Switch at the same time as they receive their course offer, creating a seamless student-experience. The Switch will be especially convenient for students studying at our new Festival Plaza campus, opening in 2024.

## Collaboration with international impact

A new international partnerships strategy, *Collaboration with Impact*, will build a network of strategic partners linked to industry and government. The strategy is aligned to the Federal Government’s *Australian Strategy for International Education 2021-2030* and plays a key role in the continued diversification of international education at Flinders. An important component of the strategy is to establish select discipline-themed transnational education (TNE) micro-campus teaching locations.

Singapore was selected as the first new location to employ a TNE program, with Flinders contributing our expertise in advanced counselling studies through a new partnership with the Executive Counselling and Training Academy (ECTA). Singapore-based students will be able to study a Flinders Master of Counselling, delivered in collaboration with ECTA, with Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma options also available. It will provide advanced counselling and research skills across education, mental health and other community sectors, fostering new

opportunities to collaborate with industry, government and academia in Singapore and across Southeast Asia.

Flinders has maintained its strong relationships with Nankai University and Capital Normal University in China.

In response to COVID, programs were delivered online, with Flinders College staff providing exceptional extra support to ensure a positive study experience for students. All four TNE programs delivered at these universities realised their Chinese Ministry of Education allocated recruitment quotas with 650 commencing students.

Throughout 2022, Flinders’ strategy to increase its presence in India progressed through many meetings with partners. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Kaushalya Skill University to progress the Government of Gujarat’s important initiative to upskill students within the state through quality applied academic programs at bachelor and postgraduate levels.

## New international learning experiences

The Learn Without Borders team at Flinders recommenced both outbound and inbound student activities during 2022. Completion dates of New Colombo Plan funding for 27 overseas programs worth \$1.2 million has been extended, providing support for about 300 students to undertake short-term international education programs throughout the Asia/Indo-Pacific region.



# Industry partnerships and collaboration

**Flinders University is deeply engaged with government, industry and academic partners to solve some of the most pressing issues of our time, while providing our students with real-world experience and application of their learning.**



Photo: BAE Systems Australia

## Advancing modern manufacturing

Research to advance modern manufacturing and drive economic and employment growth was supported by a wide range of partnerships and collaborations forged during 2022. Supporting defence teaching and research, a Memorandum of Understanding between Flinders University, the University of Strathclyde (which operates the National Manufacturing Institute Scotland), and BAE Systems will establish high level collaborations in modern manufacturing research and training. The South Australian Government lent its support with \$120,000 to help establish the Advanced Manufacturing Research Exchange at the Factory of the Future in the Tonsley Innovation District. This will facilitate international best practice in shipbuilding processes via innovative applications of advanced manufacturing, digital tools, and Industry 4.0 in shipbuilding – spanning automation and robotics, simulation, and modelling, materials, and light weighting, as well as welding and joining technologies.

Recognising that artificial intelligence is key to autonomous and decision-making systems of the future, global aerospace and defence leader Northrop Grumman is providing annual scholarships for four Flinders computer science students. The scholarships support outstanding computer science undergraduates to build their skills in artificial intelligence, information technology, and games development.

Another hi-tech treasure will emerge with the creation of Innovation Central Adelaide, located within the new Digital Transformation Laboratory at Tonsley. Jointly driven by Flinders and global technology leader Cisco, this centre completes a national advanced technology network that will solve real business problems for small- and medium-sized enterprises.

Bolstered by a \$3.4 million commitment from the Federal Government's funding for the Women in STEM Cadetships and Advanced Apprenticeship Program, Flinders' award-winning Diploma of Digital Technologies course has added 120 places for women to gain practical high-tech digital skills, building on the 150 women currently enrolled in the program.

## Connecting research to commercial markets

A significant boost in commercialisation activities saw the successful industrial application of leading-edge innovations from Flinders research projects. The Department of Health and Aged Care licensed two quality indicator measures from Flinders: quality of life (QOL-ACC) and quality of consumer experience (QCE-ACC), developed by Professor Julie Ratcliffe. These tools are recognised by the aged care sector as critical to address a key Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety recommendation.

The Department of Health and Aged Care entered an agreement with Flinders in June 2022 to include both measures in the new National Aged Care Mandatory Quality Indicator Program (QI Program), which will be introduced across the sector in April 2023 to survey 243,000 aged care residents quarterly across 2,722 facilities, then expand into the home care setting to reach another 841,000 people. The measures will inform the new Star Ratings system of aged care providers, to identify high-quality providers and ultimately improve the standard of care.

Pioneering German biomaterials developer one •five worked with Flinders researchers to develop next-generation biopolymers from seaweed extracts for coating disposable food packaging materials. This partnership aims to produce these materials in large volumes and present a viable replacement to conventional plastic coatings that are currently used for food packaging.

Flinders extended its long-term partnership with Clean Earth Technologies through a new \$1.6 million initiative to increase output of the Chalker Laboratory's novel polysulfide materials for oil spill remediation and slow-release fertiliser applications. Working in conjunction with two Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage grants, this initiative will also focus on the development of circuit board recycling methodology and a pilot plant.

A collaborative research and development project between Flinders and SeaStock progressed into Phase 2. The partners are developing a cultivation and harvesting platform for Asparagopsis seaweed, with the aim of building it to a scale that can provide methane-reducing feed to livestock.

## Solving biofouling

New partnerships with industry will enable the \$12.5 million ARC Training Centre for Biofilm Research and Innovation at Flinders to prepare highly skilled professionals for maritime, water and other industries.

As the University's first ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre, it will offer training and research opportunities for PhD students to work on innovative solutions for the maritime and defence industries by creating improved biofilms, while also supporting other sectors from the provision of assured water quality, to addressing health and safety issues related to biofouling.

## Higher degree research forges new industry links

Flinders established a new PhD Enterprise Scholarship scheme in which the University co-funds, with industry partners, Higher Degree Research scholarships. The industry partners also provide internship opportunities for the students who take up the scholarships, enabling PhD students who are developing in-depth research skills an opportunity to understand industry challenges and contribute directly to their solution.

Participation in higher degree research industry internships provides students with skills critical for future success in an academic career, while industry also benefits from the analysis support and engagement.

The University also participated in the Office of the Chief Scientist for South Australia EXCITE Industry Doctoral Training Centres (IDTC) – an initiative designed to enhance the value chain for STEMM research. In 2022, the themes of the EXCITE IDTCs were Biomufacturing and Industrial Application of Quantum Technologies.



## Digital production degrees have a profound effect

Growing demand within Adelaide's film industry for skilled screen effects creators has spurred Flinders' launch of a postgraduate degree in Virtual Production. The Masters program covers everything from virtual production, motion capture, virtual reality, and visual effects, catering to the seismic change currently happening in the film and television landscape.

It builds on continuing success from Flinders' partnership with CDW Studios to deliver the Bachelor of Creative Arts (Visual Effects and Entertainment Design). The program was recognised by the international Rookies Awards for digital illustration and design, ranking Flinders and CDW studios amongst the top 30 creative media and entertainment art schools and colleges in the world, and the top VFX Australian program.

The new Masters program will be taught at Flinders' purpose-built motion capture studio, The Void, which also hosts successful industry partnerships that have created innovative immersive virtual reality (VR)

collaboration projects – best demonstrated by *Herding Caterpillars*, created by Flinders Assemblage Centre for Creative Arts 2022 Artist in Residence, Rosina Possingham.

Her virtual and augmented reality artwork that depicted the lifecycle of a butterfly was part of Adelaide's CreaTech City Challenge, an initiative funded by the South Australian Government, the City of Adelaide, and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency. The State Library of South Australia presented the *Herding Caterpillars* VR experience featuring a 360-degree recording delivered through supplied VR headsets.

## Examining social impact

Collaborations at Flinders extend to a new research group examining a wide range of social issues in South Australia and the Northern Territory, from homelessness and affordable housing to food relief, employment and mental health.

The Centre for Social Impact (CSI) Flinders, based within the College of Business, Government and Law, has become the fourth university partner in the national CSI networks, joining The University of New South Wales, The University of Western Australia, and Swinburne University of Technology.

Local projects for the CSI Flinders team include an evaluation of the Aspire social impact bond with the South Australian Department of Treasury and Finance, food relief services and systems reform, designing culturally safe services for remote Indigenous visitors, and working in partnerships to redesign the South Australian homelessness service sector.



## Crucial support for sports

Partnerships with leading sports organisations will deliver a new generation of professional sport managerial and training staff.

The new Port Adelaide Institute of Sport at Alberton will be the home of Flinders University's Diploma in Sports Management, providing students with access to elite performance facilities, industry experts, and practical insights to Port Adelaide Football Club's daily operations. Two candidates will be guaranteed graduate roles at the Port Adelaide Football Club on completion of the course.

A renewed two-year partnership with Adelaide United Football Club has fostered a primary schools program focused on increasing youth participation in sport, plus industry placements for students, as well as Flinders sports and medical research being embedded at the club. Flinders' new logo is prominently displayed on the front of Adelaide United A-League Men's home playing shirts and the back of the A-League Women's home and away jerseys through to the 2024 season.

The Flinders brand also featured on the Adelaide 36ers basketball team jersey this season, thanks to a partnership with the Adelaide 36ers basketball club to provide work experience placements in exercise science, marketing and business for Flinders students.

The player jerseys of men's and women's teams at the South Adelaide Football Club in the South Australian National Football League were also emblazoned with the Flinders logo, and the Panthers' home ground at Noarlunga carries the name Flinders University Stadium.



# Precincts and communities

**Our commitment to vibrant, integrated campuses with modern facilities equipped to support our education and research is a critical factor in Flinders University's continued growth and success.**

2022 has been a year of advancement and celebration across our campus network, which stretches from Adelaide and regional areas in South Australia, through Central Australia to the Top End.

## Flinders Village

### Health and Medical Research Building

Construction commenced for the landmark \$280 million Health and Medical Research Building (HMRB) at the heart of the Flinders Village precinct. The 10-storey building reached more than half its finished height during 2022.

Once complete, the building will be home for more than 600 medical researchers, clinicians and professional staff, translating world-class research into better health and wellbeing outcomes for the community.

Building on more than 50 years of exceptional health and medical teaching and research, HMRB will feature one of South Australia's largest suite of PC2-rated physical containment labs spread across five floors. It will be equipped with state-of-the-art cell imaging equipment for use by researchers working on improving health, preventing disease and combating community health inequities with a focus on molecular biosciences, clinical translation and healthy communities.

Located adjacent to Flinders Medical Centre and Flinders Private Hospital, HMRB is the flagship building of the wider Flinders Village development – southern Adelaide's biomedical research precinct that will bring together research, education, accommodation and amenity, and drive \$1.5 billion in economic activity.

## Tonsley Innovation District

### Factory of the Future

Flinders University is leading the establishment of Australia's first industrial-scale advanced manufacturing accelerator in support of naval shipbuilding, known as Factory of the Future.

Inspired by the enormously successful high value manufacturing catapult centres in the UK, Flinders has partnered with BAE Systems Maritime Australia to adapt the catapult model to Australian circumstances, in support of a digital shipyard and digitally empowered workforce.

Established in 2019, our pilot Factory of the Future demonstrated the value of collaborative research and training facilities dedicated to accelerating the update and diffusion of advanced technologies in shipbuilding.

The facility is a test bed for advanced technologies and a site for education and training, linking primes and SMEs with researchers and students to test and trial potential applications of the latest technologies in naval shipbuilding, and develop new skills and capability to work productively in the industry.

Building on the success of the pilot, the South Australian Government, Australian Government, and Flinders University are now investing \$50 million to develop a new Factory of the Future.

Factory of the Future is also home to the \$8 million Manufacturing Growth Accelerator Program. Co-funded by the South Australian and Australian Governments, the program successfully engages companies in projects that accelerate the adoption of advanced manufacturing technologies, processes and skills.

### Tonsley Technical College

Built in tandem with Flinders' Factory of the Future, the South Australian Government is establishing a Tonsley Technical College.

Opening early 2025, the co-location of the Factory of the Future with the Tonsley Technical College will be a world-first and place South Australia at the global forefront of developing vibrant industry-linked research, education and training facilities.

It will provide secondary students with visibility of a wide range of rewarding employment opportunities available in sectors of great strategic importance, and be a focal point for capability and skills development in support of naval shipbuilding and advanced manufacturing.

### Innovation Central Adelaide

A space designed to nurture innovation and growth by solving real business problems for small and medium sized enterprises, Innovation Central Adelaide is a joint initiative with global technology leader Cisco to realise a national advanced technology network, joining sister facilities in Sydney, Perth and Brisbane.

Located at Flinders' new Digital Transformation Laboratory at Tonsley, both facilities were launched concurrently to provide a high-tech treasure chest to South Australian firms, and turbo charge students' real-world learning.

## Adelaide CBD

### Festival Tower

Construction commenced on Flinders University's new vertical city campus at Festival Tower, within the Festival Plaza development adjacent to Parliament House and the Adelaide Rail Station.

Our new city campus will make Flinders a convenient choice for a growing number of students who will have access to the many innovative courses that will be offered there. Students will also find a modern, state-of-the-art vertical campus at the doorstep of key technology, business, sports, government, law, and arts precincts.

Just 19 minutes by rail to Tonsley and 22 minutes to Bedford Park, Festival Tower will offer students and staff unparalleled flexibility, convenience and connectivity.

### The Switch student accommodation

Flinders University has partnered with The Switch, a new student accommodation provider on North Terrace, Adelaide – a few minutes' walk from Festival Tower. Flinders has preferential access to its 347 student-focused residential apartments, with our international students offered the option of booking The Switch at the same time as they receive their course offer.

## Northern Territory

### Celebrating 25 years

Flinders University marked 25 years of health education and research in the Northern Territory with celebrations across our campuses in Alice Springs, Darwin, Katherine, Nhulunbuy and Tennant Creek.

### Rural health multidisciplinary training

Thanks to a \$2 million injection in federal Rural Health Multidisciplinary Training funding, Flinders will extend its Allied Health Placement Program in Katherine and surrounding remote communities, in collaboration with Indigenous Allied Health Australia and two local Aboriginal Medical Services.

Testament to Flinders' long-standing commitment to serving the Territory and Katherine region, the investment will provide an excellent opportunity to expand allied health learning opportunities for students to experience, contribute to, and return as graduates to these extraordinary communities, and ultimately improve the retention of allied health professionals in the region.

## Bedford Park

### Photoemission electron microscope

Flinders' Microscopy Australia facility in Bedford Park became home to Australia's first photoemission electron microscope – a powerful new microscope that provides researchers and industry partners with the latest techniques to develop the next generation of materials and products.

The \$2.4 million device is co-funded by the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy, and will be instrumental in fields such as mining, space, advanced manufacturing, energy, defence, and quantum devices.

It has myriad applications from progressing research into biofuels and the hydrogen energy industry, to supporting local companies such as Tonsley-based Micro-X to develop its next generation of high-tech products and services.



Artist impression of Flinders' new city campus, North Terrace



# Celebrating our alumni

As graduates of Flinders University, our alumni receive more than a degree at a world-class university. They gain lifelong membership to our alumni network of over 120,000 enterprising, innovative and curious thought leaders in over 130 countries around the world.

From health to law, cutting edge technology to ancient knowledge, Flinders alumni are changing lives and changing the world through their dedication, passion and fearless pursuit of a better future.

Flinders congratulates our 2022 Alumni Award winners on their extraordinary achievements and celebrates their success.

## Convocation Medallists

**Dr Ruth Mitchell** (*BM, BS(GradEntry)* '07)

Awarded for her outstanding contributions to the global community through humanitarian services and activism as a member of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.

**Professor Justine Smith** (*PhD(Med)* '99)

Awarded for her outstanding leadership in the field of ophthalmology, serving as a tireless mentor and role-model for young clinician-scientists, especially women.



Professor Justine Smith

## Distinguished Alumni Awards

**Anastasia Bougesis** (*BHlthSc(Paramedic)* '10, *BNg(GradEntry)* '12)

Awarded for her distinguished leadership in disaster relief, both as a volunteer and employee, bringing together a passion for emergency management, community service, and women in leadership.

**Felicity Crowther** (*BDisComRehab* '12)

Awarded for her distinguished leadership and advocacy in driving an inclusive practice for people with an intellectual disability in South Australia.

**Dr James Doube** *AAM (BSc '96, BM, BS(GradEntry)* '02)

Awarded for his distinguished contribution to rural and remote medicine and environmental conservation efforts.

**Dr David Jeffery** (*BTech(Forensic&AnalyticalChem)* '01, *BSc(Hons)* '02, *PhD(Chem)* '05)

Awarded for his distinguished contribution to grape and wine research and teaching.

**Hannah Kent** (*BCreatArts* '07, *BCreatArts(Hons)* '09)

Awarded for her distinguished service to arts and culture as a writer and champion of emerging literary talent in Australia.

**Helen Leake AM** (*BA* '83)

Awarded for her distinguished service to, and continuous fostering of, business and innovation within the film industry.



Dr David Jeffery

## Early Career Alumni Award

**Kim Anastasiou** (*BNutDiet(Hons)* '18)

Awarded for her significant advocacy and research in creating environmentally sustainable diets and improving healthy food systems.

**Assistant Professor Suvimol Charoensiddhi** (*PhD(Med)* '17)

Awarded for her significant contribution in the field of marine bioproducts for human health and nutrition and for actively contributing to the wider scientific community.

**Rikki Cooke** (*BBehavSc(Psych)* '14, *MSW* '17)

Awarded for her significant commitment and dedication to improving the lives of vulnerable South Australians by establishing Treasure Boxes, a vital, practical and life-changing organisation.

**Laura Drexler** (*MAUD* '20)

Awarded for her significant research that promotes and protects hearing health and the development of innovative communication strategies, including the Ambient Menu.

**Dr Brittany Johnson** (*BNutDiet* '11, *PhD* '20)

Awarded for her significant contributions within the field of public health nutrition and behavioural change that support children and families to establish positive health behaviours.

**Anthony Robinson**

(*BCreatArts(DigitalMedia)* '19, *BCreatArts(Hons)* '21)

Awarded his significant contributions to the creative industries sector as a storyboard artist and independent game developer.



Dr Brittany Johnson



## 2022 Honorary Awards

**Maggie Beer AO**

Beloved Australian foodie Maggie Beer was awarded a Doctor of the University *honoris causa* in May 2022 for her distinguished service to improving food experience and wellbeing outcomes for older Australians, and for promoting principles of nutrition and nutritional access through the lifespan. Over some four decades, Maggie has worn many hats – cookbook author, TV star, restaurateur, board member, advocate – with a down-to-earth charm and admirable work ethic that has cemented her as an Australian icon.

**Josh Cavallo**

Like our partner Adelaide United, Flinders University supports the embodiment of an inclusive community. In May 2022, player Josh Cavallo was awarded a Doctor of the University *honoris causa* in recognition of his courage and strength following his decision to come out as gay in late October 2021 and open up about his sexuality, which was a hugely significant and very welcomed moment in both men's professional football and sporting history.

**Clifford Coulthard**

Respected Adnyamanthanha Elder Clifford Coulthard was awarded a Doctor of Letters *honoris causa* in December 2022, for his long-standing commitment to collaborating with researchers, sharing cultural knowledge and heritage, and mentoring early career Adnyamanthanha students.

**Richard Fejo**

Larrakia man and Senior Elder on Campus (NT) with Flinders University since 2020, Richard Fejo was awarded a Doctor of the University *honoris causa* in May 2022 in acknowledgement of the key role he has played in the University's Reconciliation Action Plan, in advising and supporting the Poche SA+NT team, and as a powerful advocate for Flinders University, its students and partners in the Northern Territory.

**Kerry Heysen AM**

Kerry Heysen AM attended Flinders University as a young widow and graduated in 1975 with a Bachelor of Arts with Honours. Kerry went on to become a Hollywood film producer and CEO of the Kino Films Group of Companies in Australia, Color and Movement in the USA, and March Forth Entertainment in Singapore. A quiet achiever in Australia, yet widely known in the USA, Kerry was awarded Doctor of Letters *honoris causa* in May 2022 in recognition of her outstanding achievements in her field, and for being a brilliant advocate for South Australia, particularly in the field of arts.

**Tanya Hosch**

Social activist and changemaker Tanya Hosch was awarded a Doctor of the University *honoris causa* in December 2022 for her work to shape policy and create space for diverse representation in Australian culture, including sport and the arts. Her leadership in the community sets an example for generations to come and facilitates real positive changes for Indigenous people and culture, benefitting all Australians.

**Dr Dale A Lambert PSM FTSE**

A Flinders graduate four times over, Dr Dale A Lambert PSM FTSE was awarded a Doctor of Science *honoris causa* in May 2022 in recognition of over 30 years at the forefront of defence science, as a visionary leader in driving artificial intelligence and automated analysis capabilities that have helped shape the future of his field. Currently serving as the Chief of Cyber and Electronic Warfare Division in the Defence Science and Technology Group within the Australian Department of Defence, Dale's career has been spent ensuring that our country's defences are amongst the best in the world.

**Associate Professor Anton Lucas**

Associate Professor Anton Lucas was awarded a Companion of the University *honoris causa* in December 2022 for his tireless endeavours to improve Australia-Indonesia engagement and international understanding of Indonesian society. Through teaching, research and philanthropy, he has shared his knowledge of Indonesian culture, society, identity, performing arts and language.

**Professor Leonard Notaras AO**

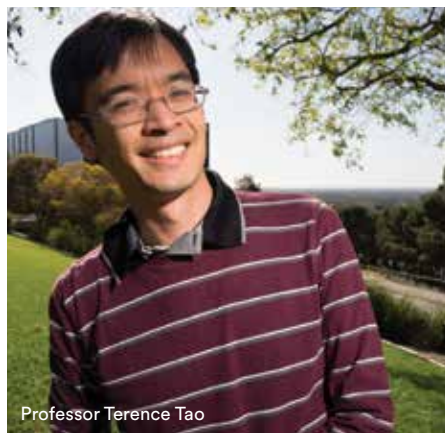
Emergency medicine pioneer Professor Leonard Notaras AO was awarded a Doctor of the University *honoris causa* in December 2022 for his dedicated service to communities nationally and internationally through health services, particularly in critical care and trauma response. Setting the standard for a centre now recognised as the most effective crisis response team in the world, he developed a model of emergency response which has saved lives across the globe.



# Our people

## The shining example set by Flinders University researchers, teachers, staff and alumni is evident in the vast number of awards and honours bestowed upon our people in the past year.

At the forefront stands Flinders graduate Professor Terence Tao (BSc(Hons) '92, MSc(IST)(Res) '93), named Global Australian of the Year for 2022 by Advance.org. Professor Tao, currently at the University of California Los Angeles, has been hailed as 'the Mozart of maths', having made countless ground-breaking discoveries over his career. He is focused on developing the next generation of mathematicians.



Professor Terence Tao

## International students rise to the top

The successful return of international students to South Australia was underlined by four Flinders University wins at the 2022 StudyAdelaide International Student Awards. Nigerian student Chidozie 'Elvis' Chidi-Ezeama was awarded International Student of the Year – as well as taking the award for Academic Postgraduate Coursework – for his work designing medical devices for developing countries and his community work in South Australia. Leonard Banda from Zambia won a Rising Star award while Reynal Mudiyansele from Sri Lanka and Thi Minh Hoang from Vietnam were also presented with postgraduate awards during a ceremony at the National Wine Centre in October.



Associate Professor Sam Elliott and Dr Rong Zhu

## Tall Poppies grow into new leaders

As leaders in communicating their scientific research, Flinders academics Associate Professor Sam Elliott and Dr Rong Zhu were named as South Australian Young Tall Poppies in Science for 2022. Presented by the Australian Institute of Policy and Science, the Tall Poppy campaign celebrates Australian scientific excellence that encourages younger Australians to follow in the footsteps of outstanding achievers. Associate Professor Elliott is an expert in sport parenting, participation and retention, and has created popular sports science podcast *Beyond the Club*. Dr Zhu's research in labour economics, education economics and health economics has led him to make a presentation to the World Bank, along with advising government and business agencies on policy formulation and business decision-making.

## Robotics prowess rewarded

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Awards Board annually recommends a select group of recipients to receive their highest honour. Our own Professor Rodney Brooks, who is co-founder of the Roomba and is involved with the Mars Rover, received the 2023 IEEE Founders Medal 'For leadership in research and commercialization of autonomous robotics, including mobile, humanoid, service, and manufacturing robots'.

## Women shine in STEM

Dr Kelsi Dodds was named among Australia's newest Superstars of STEM, an elite line-up of 60 Australian scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians entering the media spotlight as STEM experts. Dr Dodds heads uterine physiology research within the Visceral Neurophysiology Laboratory at the Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute, primarily examining the anatomy and function of sensory nerves that effect the uterus.

Another of our Superstars of STEM, Dr Dhani Dharmapranj also won the Math category in South Australia's Women in STEM Winnovation Awards. A Biomedical Engineer and Postdoctoral Research Associate in Cardiac Electrophysiology at the Cardiac Signals Analysis Laboratory, she was also involved in Fresh Science's Bright Spark program and has helped attract \$2 million in research funding during the past two years.



Dr Dhani Dharmapranj and Professor Nicola Spurrier, South Australia's Chief Public Health Officer

## Science accolades

The 2022 South Australian Scientist of the Year was awarded to Flinders alumna Professor Maria Makrides. Graduate Dr Chelsea Thorn was also recognised with an award for PhD Research Excellence, while the Centre for Marine Bioproducts, headed by Flinders Professor Wei Zhang, scored the Excellence in Science and Industry Collaboration award.



Stephen Hains AM

## National recognition for outstanding service

Revered Adelaide songwriter John Schumann AM, a Flinders drama graduate who enjoyed a national hit song with the plaintive Vietnam War Veterans anthem *I Was Only 19*, and Flinders University Deputy Chancellor Stephen Hains AM led an impressive list of 24 Flinders graduates and former staff members acknowledged with 2022 Australia Day Honours.

Also receiving Member of the Order of Australia honours were Emeritus Professor Timothy Roberts AM, for service to environmental and life sciences; Jan Phillips for service to palliative care and oncology nursing; Professor Gregory Crawford AM, for service to palliative care; and Professor William Heddle AM RFD, for service to cardiology.

An Order of Australia Medal (OAM) was awarded to former Flinders lecturer (1969-1986) and Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary creator Dr John William Wamsley OAM, for service to conservation and the environment. Other Flinders OAM recipients were Emeritus Professor Lawrence Mather OAM; Pamela Cohen OAM; Valerie Fewster OAM; Professor Cherrie Galletly OAM; Dr Kerry Hancock OAM; Heather Spence OAM; Jennifer Williams OAM; Elizabeth D'Arcy Wilson OAM; Paige Greco OAM; and John Ziesing OAM.

The Public Service Medal (PSM) was awarded to graduates Mark Connelly PSM, for service to Anangu communities, and Sara Fleming PSM, for Paediatric Palliative Care Services. The Australian Police Medal was awarded to Assistant Commissioner Brian Connors; Australian Service Medals awarded to Josephine Brookes and Dr Felix Ho; Emergency Services Medal awarded to Keith O'Brien; and the Australian Corrections Medal to Bernard Kruhse.

In the 2022 Queen's Birthday honours list, Flinders alumni and former staff were recognised for their enduring and highly valued contributions to society. Member of the Order of Australia AM was awarded to Dr Susan Marsden AM, Ms Margaret R Richardson AM, Mrs Lesley Salem AM, Dr Peter Heysen AM, Dr Michelle Kiley AM, and Emeritus Professor Hilary Winchester AM. Medal of the Order of Australia was awarded to The Reverend Dr Christopher Carl Aiken OAM and Professor Lilian Kow OAM. The Public Service Medal was awarded to Ms Paula Duffy PSM, Dr Elisabeth Kerr PSM, and Mr Paul Nunnari PSM. The Australian Corrections Medal awarded to Mrs Sky M Lambert ACM.



Professor Lilian Kow OAM. Image credit SA Life

## Political impact

The 2022 South Australian election saw a new Labor government elected, together with the appointment of many Flinders University alumni to key portfolios.

### Hon (Dr) Susan Close MP

Deputy Premier  
Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science  
Minister for Defence and Space Industries  
Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

### Hon Zoe Bettison MP

Minister for Tourism  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

### Hon Nat Cook MP

Minister for Human Services

### Hon Katrine Hildyard MP

Minister for Child Protection  
Minister for Women and Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence  
Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing

### Hon Andrea Michaels MP

Minister for Small and Family Business  
Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs  
Minister for Arts

### Hon Chris Picton MP

Minister for Health and Wellbeing

### Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development  
Minister for Forest Industries

### Hon Joe Szakacs MP

Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services

Other Flinders alumni also won seats in the 2022 South Australian election:

**Sarah Andrews MP** Member for Gibson

**Tony Piccolo MP** Member for Light

**Sam Telfer MP** Member for Flinders

**John Fulbrook MP** Member for Playford, and

**Catherine Hutchesson MP** Member for Waite.



# Serving *First Nations peoples*

## A comforting Indigenous outdoor space

Flinders University celebrated the introduction of a valuable new space with the official opening of Yungkurinthe Inparrila (meaning meeting space in Kaurna language) in June 2022. Located next to the Yungkurinthe Truku building at the Bedford Park campus, Yungkurinthe Inparrila is an outdoor space designed to host Welcome to Country smoking ceremonies, events, and teaching activities. It provides a place of wellbeing and healing, a place to grieve and somewhere to bring Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities together. The space features a sculptured metal Wardli (shelter) designed by Kaurna artist James Tylor and Wiradjuri architectural designer Samantha Rich.

## Advances along our road to reconciliation

The efforts of staff to advance the University's path towards reconciliation were recognised in the Vice-Chancellor's 2022 Staff Awards. Dr Nina Sivertsen was acknowledged for establishing the College of Nursing and Health Sciences Aboriginal Curriculum Interest Network, while Professor Amy Roberts was recognised for her long-term, multi-layered engagement with Traditional Owner groups and for her work with South Australian Aboriginal communities, focusing on social justice, employment, capacity building, cultural heritage protection, exploring colonial legacies, and amplifying Aboriginal ways of knowing.

Sarah Higgins was recognised for her work with Arrernte artist Pat Ansell-Dodd and external firms to design, produce and distribute a unique shirt based on an original central Australian painting, to create a meaningful and significant celebration of NAIDOC Week in 2022.

Three teams also received Flinders Reconciliation Awards: Flinders Rural and Remote Health NT, for leading activities or projects that promote reconciliation through employment, research, education, community participation and campus culture; Student Administration Services RAP Working Group, for exploring the importance of Welcome to Country and created Kaurna Welcome signage in student spaces; and the College of Education, Psychology and Social Work RAP Working

Group, for its pursuit of social justice for First Nations peoples across teaching, research and administration.

The Office of Indigenous Strategy and Engagement received a Professional Staff Award for its team's significant contributions to the work of Flinders in Indigenous education, strategy, community engagement and reconciliation.

## Elliott Johnston Oration

Indigenous justice advocate and Northern Territory Australian of the Year 2022 Leanne Liddle used Flinders' 2022 Elliott Johnston AO QC Oration to critique the justice system and lack of progress since findings from the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody were handed down in 1991.

A Flinders Law graduate and Director of the Aboriginal Justice Unit in the Northern Territory Department of Justice, Ms Liddle used her speech to raise awareness that high rates of arrest and imprisonment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue, and more than 500 have died in custody despite the commission's recommendations.

She called on society to recognise that disempowerment and systemic racism have resulted in a failure to engage with Indigenous people.

## Northern Territory Point of Care Testing success

Flinders University's International Centre for Point of Care Testing is at the heart of a project to improve the speed of blood tests in remote areas to reduce potentially lethal conditions such as sepsis.

Established in 2008, the NT-focused centre will trial a newly available point-of-care testing device which provides full blood examination results in less than 10 minutes, a significant improvement from the current laboratory test turn-around times of around 3 to 7 days in remote communities.

The project was awarded almost \$3 million from the Medical Research Future Fund, with Chief Investigator Dr Brooke Spaeth assessing if timely testing reduces the incidence of septic shock and need for medical evacuations, saving lives and money. The program won a 2022 national Engagement Australia Award for Outstanding Engagement for Research Impact.

*“Disempowerment and systemic racism have resulted in a failure to engage with Indigenous people.”*



Leanne Liddle (LLB/LP Grad Entry '04), NT State Recipient Australian of the Year 2022, Director of the Aboriginal Justice Unit in the Northern Territory, 2021 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and Flinders University Council member, transforming the Northern Territory Justice System



# Flinders for the future



**Flinders University has always been ready to step away from the security of the familiar and forge fearlessly forward.**

Our bold and modern new logo heralds the next confident chapter in the history of Flinders University.

Introduced during 2022, the new logo reflects the original elements of our founding crest – sun, sea, sky, book and shield – respecting our heritage and symbolising our enduring strengths.

The fresh design reflects Flinders' progressive, adaptive and inclusive culture, presenting a clear symbol that unites everyone within our community.

## **Finding innovative solutions to real-world problems for social good.**

Significant sustainability advances are supporting our performance as a best practice Green Campus. Expansion of the University's electric vehicle fleet has been supported by the introduction of 10 vehicle-to-grid recharging stations.

Reflecting our commitment to a climate positive future, our South Australian campuses and facilities are powered by 100% green renewable energy, achieving net-zero emissions.

Our extensive network of more than 7600 solar panels is complemented by a long-term agreement with green energy provider ENGIE, ensuring our Bedford Park campus is 100% renewable energy powered.

Our ongoing efforts to promote a circular economy on campus have resulted in some 90 tonnes of organic waste being diverted from landfill annually for local composting. Likewise, our sustainable new Health and Medical Research Building is setting a high standard with 100% of construction waste being diverted from landfill during construction.

2022 saw increased collaboration with industry partners and all levels of government to find innovative ways for our sustainability research to be used in real-world applications delivering social good for communities now and into the future.

Demonstrating that Flinders University practices what it teaches, these achievements meet targets laid out in *Flinders' Sustainability Plan to 2025: Bold Ideas, Brighter Future.*





# Governance



# University *council*



**From left to right:**

Sean Henschke, Kate Walsh, Kim Cheater, Amanda Muller, Colin Stirling, John Hood, Stephen Gerlach, George Freney, Elizabeth Perry, Douglas Gautier, Christopher Kee.

Absent: Brenda Wilson, Sharon Wilson, Emily Williams, Leanne Liddle.



# University council

## Council Members

### Mr Stephen Gerlach AM Chancellor

Stephen Gerlach AM was appointed Chancellor of Flinders University in March 2010. For 23 years he was a Partner and Managing Partner at Adelaide legal firm Finlaysons. A company director and corporate advisor, and Distinguished Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, he has chaired numerous high-profile organisations, including Santos, Elders, and Penrice, and held public company directorships including Southcorp and companies in the UK, USA and Chile. His community service includes the inaugural Chair of Foodbank SA and the Chair of the Australian Red Cross (SA division). He is a Trustee of the Australian Cancer Research Foundation, the General Sir John Monash Scholarship Foundation, and Chair of Psychosis Australia.

### Professor Colin Stirling President and Vice-Chancellor

Professor Colin Stirling has extensive experience in research, teaching and management. As President and Vice-Chancellor, he is responsible for ensuring the success and efficacy of Flinders University while providing strategic direction to its employees. Educated in Scotland, his early genetics research took him to the University of California, followed by the University of Manchester where he was awarded several prestigious prizes. Throughout an esteemed academic career, Professor Stirling has established a record of leadership, innovation and successful change management through roles including Vice-President at the University of Manchester, and Provost and Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Curtin University.

### Professor Christopher Kee Chair, Academic Senate

Professor Christopher Kee is a professor of law and the Dean (Education) in the College of Business, Government and Law, joining Flinders University in 2018 from the University of Aberdeen after prior positions at the University of Basel and Deakin University.

An expert in international arbitration, he is a Director of the prestigious Willem C Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, a past Co-Chair of Asia Pacific Forum for International Arbitration, and has served on the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration Rules Drafting committee. He joined Council in 2021 as the Chair of Academic Senate.

### Ms Elizabeth Perry AM Deputy Chancellor

Elizabeth Perry AM has an extensive background as a Non-Executive Director and in corporate governance and leadership, particularly in the areas of tertiary education, insurance, health, and mobility. Working as a lawyer for more than 35 years, she is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and holds a Bachelor of Law degree.

Awarded a Member of the Order of Australia in 2020 for significant service to tertiary education, business, and community, she has served on Flinders University Council since 2013, and as Deputy Chancellor since 2016.

### Mr Douglas Gautier AM Deputy Chancellor

Douglas Gautier AM is CEO and Artistic Director of Adelaide Festival Centre – South Australia’s principal arts venue, hosting more than one million people annually, and which he has positioned as a hub for Asian-Australian cultural engagement since 2006. A past Director of the Hong Kong Arts Festival, he was formerly part of the leadership team of News Corp’s Asian STAR TV network, Deputy Executive Director of the Hong Kong Tourism Board, and currently chairs the Association of Asia Pacific Performing Arts Centres. In 2016 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for services to the arts and the community. He has served on the Flinders University Council since 2012, and as Deputy Chancellor since 1 January 2023.

### Professor Brenda Wilson AM

Professor Brenda Wilson is an experienced Board Director who has held several senior executive and CEO roles in the health sector and served almost eight years from 2014 as the state’s first female Lieutenant Governor. While CEO at Cancer Council SA, she was appointed the inaugural Chair of the Cancer Clinical Network and produced South Australia’s first state-wide Cancer Control Plan. She has volunteered her time to mentor senior executives for the Australian College of Health Service Management mentoring program and the College of Nursing Australia and served as a volunteer board Director on the Opera SA Board. She joined Flinders University Council in 2015.

### Mr John Hood

John Hood is a business strategy, planning, and finance specialist. He is the Director of Humanee, a business consulting firm. His diverse background includes directorships with Port Adelaide Football Club, Foodbank South & Central Australia, Sturt Lions and Cumberland United Women’s Football Clubs, Intersect Coworking, Gannon Lifestyle Communities, and Mighty Craft Ltd. He has served on Flinders University Council since 2017.

### Ms Sharon Wilson

Sharon Wilson is the Business Development and Continuous Naval Shipbuilding Director at BAE Systems Australia Maritime, and the Chair of the Defence Innovation Partnership Board.

Responsible for strategy, innovation, business development and new business incubation, she has three decades’ experience at BAE Systems, including leadership roles in project management, procurement, estimating and as the General Manager of the BAE Systems Global Supply Chain program and Head of Industrial Strategy. She joined Flinders University Council in 2019.

### Mr George Freney

George Freney is an experienced entrepreneur who has been involved in several technology-centric businesses as an investor, advisor, founder, director, and executive. In 2007 he helped found conTgo, a market-leading mobile travel technology platform sold in 2013. In 2012 he co-founded booodl to solve a complex problem for physical retail businesses. A member of the South Australian Entrepreneurship Advisory Board from 2018 to 2019 and a Board Member of RAA from 2018 to 2019, he is a Founding Partner at 11point2, and Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Space Machines Company. He joined Flinders University Council in 2019.

### Associate Professor Amanda Muller

Associate Professor Amanda Muller has been at Flinders for 25 years and has served as a previous student member on Council, as well as on governance bodies including Senate, Resources Sub-Committee, Research Advisory Committee, and numerous school- and course-based committees. A researcher in public health, assistance dogs, nursing, CALD populations, and language testing, she is a recognised TEQSA expert member in international education, and an Australian Research Council Assessor. She joined Council in 2018 as the Academic Staff Member.

### Ms Kate Walsh

Kate Walsh is an experienced Student Representation and Development Officer and advocates strongly for the role of professional staff as the connection between management, academics, and students. She is an advocate in social justice, inclusivity and partnership, and passionate about the tertiary sector and public institutions. She joined Council in 2021 as the Professional Staff Member.

### Mx Sean Henschke

Sean Henschke is past President of the Flinders University Student Association. They are an advocate for LGBTIQ issues, social, and economic welfare, and are passionate about educational equity and access. They are also an LGBTIQ peer worker with headspace, and they serve on the Board of Wear It Purple. They joined Council for 2022-2023 as the Undergraduate Student Elected Member.

### Ms Emily Williams

Emily Williams holds a Bachelor of Psychological Science (Counselling & Interpersonal Skills) and is studying a Master of Arts (Women’s Study) focussing on policy advocacy for gender justice and equity. Emily works with the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness, and is a Board Director with Henhouse Co Op. They have experience in youth empowerment and local government. She is passionate about working with disadvantaged communities, as well as advocating for their local community. They joined Council for 2022-2023 as the Postgraduate Student Elected Member.

### Mr Kim Cheater From 1 January 2023.

Kim Cheater is a former Managing Partner of PwC and led their Governance and Risk Consulting practice in Adelaide for over 20 years, and their reconciliation initiatives for over 10 years.

He is an experienced board director, holding roles as the Chair of the South Australian Museum, Chair of the Warriparinga Advisory Team, and as a director for the SARAH Group, RAA, RAA Insurance, Minda Inc, and Return to Work SA. A Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, he was appointed by the South Australian Governor as an Ambassador for Aboriginal Employment and recognised as a Distinguished Alumnus by Flinders University for his contribution to business and reconciliation. He joined Council in 2023.

### Ms Leanne Liddle From 11 May 2023.

Leanne Liddle is an Arrernte woman from central Australia and has deep connections to both the South Australian and Northern Territory communities. Leanne has academic qualifications in Environmental Science, Law and Management, but she believes her most important knowledge has come from her grandmother and great-grandmother who taught her about traditional land management skills, particularly with the use of fire.

She was the first Aboriginal police officer in South Australia and has dedicated her career to principles of equity and social justice, working across environmental and Aboriginal land management and Aboriginal justice policy. She is currently the Director of Aboriginal Justice in the Northern Territory’s Attorney-General’s Department, and Deputy Chair of the Menzies School of Health Research. She joined Council in 2023.

*The Council farewelled and thanked Council members Stephen Hains AM and Kathryn Gramp, whose terms concluded in 2022.*



Mr Stephen Haines AM



Ms Kathryn Gramp



# Governance

The University Council acknowledges and observes the Universities Australia and Universities Chancellors Council Voluntary Code of Best Practice for the Governance of Australian Universities and confirms that it complies with this code.

Flinders University and its governing Council are established under the *Flinders University Act 1966*. The University is regulated by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency and is registered as a self-accrediting institution. The University’s governing Council exercises stewardship of the University’s activities and governance framework.

The primary responsibilities of Council are:

- Appointing and monitoring the performance of the Vice-Chancellor as Chief Executive Officer;
- Approving the mission and strategic direction of the University, including its annual Budget and Business Plan;
- Overseeing and reviewing the management of the University and its performance;
- Establishing policy and procedural principles consistent with legal and community expectations;
- Approving and monitoring systems of control and accountability, including controlled entities;
- Overseeing and monitoring the assessment and management of risk, including commercial undertakings;
- Overseeing and monitoring the academic activities of the University; and
- Approving significant commercial activities of the University.

### Council members

The Council consists of the following members:

- The Chancellor *ex officio*;
- The Vice-Chancellor *ex officio*;
- The presiding member of the Academic Senate *ex officio* or if the presiding officer is the Vice-Chancellor, an academic staff member of the Academic Senate who is not a student at the University, elected by the Academic Senate;
- Eight persons appointed by the Council on the recommendation of a selection committee (the term of office is 2 or 4 years determined on the recommendation of the selection committee);
- If the Council so determines, one person co-opted and appointed by the Council; (the term of office is 2 or 4 years determined by Council);
- One member of the academic staff elected by the academic staff (the term of office is 2 years);
- One member of the professional staff elected by the professional staff (the term of office is 2 years); and

- Two students at the University (not being persons in the full-time employment of the University), one of whom must be a postgraduate student and one of whom must be an undergraduate student, appointed or elected in a manner determined by the Council (the term of office is 2 years).

### Council Committees

The Council has established a number of committees which meet regularly and contribute to effective governance, while supporting Council in making informed decisions on issues of significance to the University. The Council refers matters to its committees in accordance with their terms of reference.

#### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is responsible for advising and assisting Council in the performance of its responsibilities, including governance requirements; composition, structure and monitoring of Council and its committees; the appointment of the Chancellor, Deputy Chancellors and Vice-Chancellor; succession planning; and advising Council on the University’s strategic plan, emerging risks and opportunities.

#### Academic Senate

Academic Senate oversees and monitors the academic activities of the University and ensures the academic quality and integrity of the University’s academic operations.

Academic Senate has four sub-committees to support its functions:

- Education Quality Committee
- Learning & Teaching Innovation Committee
- Research Quality Committee
- University Higher Degrees by Research Committee.

#### Audit & Risk Committee

The Audit & Risk Committee assists Council to discharge its oversight and monitoring responsibilities by providing advice on financial reporting, compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, internal control structure, risk management procedures, and the internal and external audit functions.

#### Finance & Investment Committee

The Finance & Investment Committee advises Council on matters concerning the overall financial performance and management of the University, including matters having a significant financial impact, annual budget setting and performance, and monitoring of investments and resources.

#### Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee assists Council to discharge its oversight and monitoring responsibilities in relation to the setting and annual review of remuneration and performance goals for the Vice-Chancellor and senior executive remuneration and succession planning.

2022 Council member attendance	FA	TE	C	Standing Committees#				
				AS	ARC	EC	FIC	RC
<b>Mr Stephen Gerlach AM</b> Chancellor ( <i>ex officio</i> ) Chair, Executive Committee ( <i>ex officio</i> ) Chair, Remuneration Committee ( <i>ex officio</i> )	1/03/10	N/A	5/5			6/6		2/2
<b>Professor Colin Stirling</b> President & Vice-Chancellor ( <i>ex-officio</i> ) Member, Academic Senate ( <i>ex-officio</i> ) Member, Executive Committee ( <i>ex-officio</i> ) Member, Finance & Investment Committee ( <i>ex-officio</i> ) Observer, Audit & Risk Committee	1/01/15	N/A	5/5	4/5	4/4	6/6	4/4	
<b>Professor Christopher Kee</b> Presiding member of Academic Senate ( <i>ex-officio</i> ) Member, Executive Committee ( <i>ex-officio</i> ) Member, Remuneration Committee ( <i>ex-officio</i> )	1/7/2021	N/A	5/5	5/5		6/6		2/2
<b>Mr George Freney</b> Member, Audit & Risk Committee Appointed member of Council	1/01/19	N/A	4/5		3/4			
<b>Mr Douglas Gautier AM</b> Member, Executive Committee Member, Remuneration Committee Appointed member of Council	19/04/12	N/A	4/5			6/6		2/2
<b>Ms Kathryn Gramp</b> Chair, Audit & Risk Committee Appointed member of Council	1/01/15	31/12/2022	5/5		4/4			
<b>Mr Stephen Hains AM</b> Deputy Chancellor Member, Audit & Risk Committee Member, Executive Committee Member, Remuneration Committee Appointed member of Council	1/01/11	31/12/2022	5/5		4/4	6/6		2/2
<b>Ms Elizabeth Perry AM</b> Deputy Chancellor Member, Executive Committee Member, Finance & Investment Committee Member, Remuneration Committee Appointed member of Council	8/08/13	N/A	5/5			5/6	3/4	2/2
<b>Mr John Hood</b> Chair, Finance & Investment Committee Appointed member of Council	9/03/17	N/A	5/5				4/4	
<b>Professor Brenda Wilson AM</b> Member, Executive Committee Member, Remuneration Committee Appointed member of Council	1/10/15	N/A	5/5			6/6		2/2
<b>Ms Sharon Wilson</b> Appointed member of Council	23/08/19	N/A	5/5					
<b>Associate Professor Amanda Muller</b> Elected Academic staff member of Council	13/07/18	N/A	5/5					
<b>Ms Kate Walsh</b> Elected Professional staff member of Council	1/01/17	N/A	5/5					
<b>Ms Emily Williams</b> Elected Postgraduate student member of Council	1/01/22	N/A	5/5					
<b>Mx Sean Henschke</b> Elected Undergraduate student member of Council	1/01/22	N/A	4/5					

# Data for Council Members only.

<b>FA</b>	First Appointed / Elected	<b>EC</b>	Executive Committee
<b>TE</b>	Term Ended	<b>FIC</b>	Finance and Investment Committee
<b>C</b>	Council	<b>RC</b>	Remuneration Committee
<b>AS</b>	Academic Senate		
<b>ARC</b>	Audit and Risk Committee		



# Governance

## Risk management

The University has a risk management framework which is supported by risk management and legislative compliance policies and regular reporting to Council and its Committees on enterprise and operational risk, including work health and safety. The approach to risk management is consistent with the Australian and New Zealand Standard (AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018).

The University maintains a rolling three-year Internal Audit Plan that is undertaken by the University’s internal auditors and is developed with regard to the University’s Strategic Risk Register. The Strategic Risk Register is reviewed at least biennially by the Senior Executive Team, Audit & Risk Committee, and Council.

The University also maintains a corporate insurance program that is regularly reviewed with regard to the University’s risk profile.

## Freedom of speech and academic freedom

In December 2020, Emeritus Professor Sally Walker AM conducted a *Review of the Adoption of the Model Code on Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom* in Australian higher education providers.

Flinders University used this opportunity to further strengthen its policy in protecting academic freedom and freedom of speech, including adopting in full the definition of Academic Freedom as set out in the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*.

The Policy expressly affirms Flinders University’s commitment to the exercise of academic freedom and freedom of speech and specifically states that staff, students and others to whom the policy applies must not prevent, harass, disrupt, vilify or intimidate those seeking to exercise academic freedom or freedom of speech in accordance with the policy.

As part of this commitment, our *Policy Development and Review Procedures* specifically require that academic freedom and freedom of speech must be taken into account when policies are developed and/or reviewed. Academic freedom and freedom of speech are also expressly called out in our *Code of Conduct*, which is part of our staff induction processes.

Since 2019, the Flinders University Student Association (FUSA) has had a *Freedom of Speech on Campus* charter that promotes FUSA’s commitment to ‘freedom of speech and expression on campus as an important right for students, staff, and members of the public.’

No issues of concern have been raised with University governing bodies regarding freedom of speech and academic freedom in 2022.

The *Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech Policy* will be reviewed in 2023 to ensure that it continues to effectively ensure Flinders University’s commitment to academic freedom and freedom of speech.

## Modern Slavery Statement

Flinders University is committed to eliminating all forms of slavery and human trafficking from our operations and supply chain, in keeping with our mission to change lives and change the world and supported by our strategic plan *Making a Difference – The 2025 Agenda*.

Flinders has been working closely with the Australian University Procurement Network (AUPN), as a member of the Modern Slavery Working Group, where a sector wide effort to analyse, identify, educate, and address modern slavery within supply chains has been progressing.

Pursuant to the federal *Modern Slavery Act 2018* Flinders University publishes an annual statement which sets out the actions taken to identify, assess, and address modern slavery risks across our operations and supply chains. Our statement is published on the Australian Government’s Modern Slavery Statement Register.

The supply chain for Flinders University, together with the entities it owns and controls, is diverse and reflects a similar risk profile to that of most universities. We purchase goods and services across several high-risk groups, especially IT hardware (laptops, computers and mobile phones), clothing and apparel, construction and cleaning.

The University has established contracts for many of these categories with first tier suppliers, many of whom are reporting entities under the *Modern Slavery Act*. A significant percentage of Flinders spend, however, is with smaller non-reporting entities.

Most of Flinders spend is with suppliers based in Australia (>92%), with spend across a broad range of industry sectors. In many of these cases, the Australian supplier is merely an agent for the product sold.

Our major international spend in 2022 was with the United States, India, Singapore, Germany, the United Kingdom, China and Ireland, with transactions involving suppliers across 68 countries.

Prior to and during 2022 Flinders has incorporated a modern slavery assessment into the procurement decision-making process, as part of a broader *Social Procurement Framework*.

We are continuing to work to assist our suppliers in understanding their supply chain and to educate them on how to identify and address areas of modern slavery risks.

# Organisational structure





# Senior Executive Team



**President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Colin Stirling**

Professor Colin Stirling has extensive experience in research, teaching and management. As Vice-Chancellor, he is responsible for ensuring the success and efficacy of Flinders University while providing strategic direction to its employees. Educated in Scotland, his early genetics research took him to the University of California, followed by the University of Manchester where he was awarded several prestigious prizes. Throughout an esteemed academic career, Professor Stirling has established a record of leadership, innovation and successful change management through roles including Vice-President at the University of Manchester, and Provost and Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Curtin University.



**Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Robert Saint AM**

Professor Robert Saint oversees research including research students. A University of Adelaide graduate, he has a notable background in science research and innovation, particularly in the area of molecular biology. Professor Saint has been a member of the Prime Minister’s Science Engineering and Innovation Council, the ARC College of Experts, NHMRC Grant Review Panels and the Human Frontier Science Program Grant Review Panel. Prior to Flinders University, he led research teams across Australia including while at the Australia National University and Dean of Science at the University of Melbourne. Professor Saint has received several prestigious awards throughout his career, including his appointment as a Member of the Order of Australia in 2017.



**Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students), Professor Romy Lawson**

Professor Romy Lawson commenced at Flinders University in January 2022, bringing 25 years of national and international experience in learning and teaching, and strategic curriculum development in both Australia and the UK. Prior positions include Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education), Provost, and Interim Vice-Chancellor at Murdoch University, and roles at Edith Cowan University, the University of Wollongong, James Cook University and the University of Technology Sydney. Professor Lawson has a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology and Physical Education, and a Master of Philosophy and PhD from the University of Wales, Bangor, where she studied and worked for 18 years prior to moving to Australia.



**Vice-President and Pro Vice-Chancellor (International), Sebastian Raneskold**

Sebastian Raneskold has responsibility for international strategy and activities, ensuring internationalisation is integrated into university teaching, research and engagement. A social anthropology graduate from Lund and Stockholm Universities with 25 years of international education experience, he has a strong track record in strategic business development, student recruitment and international partnership development. Prior to joining Flinders, Mr Raneskold held international leadership roles in Australia and Sweden across both the private and public sector at Navitas, University of South Australia, IDP Education and Örebro University. He chairs the Flinders University Academy Board, sits on the Study Adelaide Board and is a member of the International Committee of the Innovative Research Universities (IRU) network.



**Vice-President (Corporate Services), Mark Gregory**

With a leadership background in Australia and the United States, Mark Gregory has twenty years’ experience in higher education, capital projects, regional development and start-up incubation. He has been Chief Information Officer at the University of Adelaide and Associate Vice-President, Finance and Administration at Portland State University. Mr Gregory oversees a broad portfolio including finance, people and culture, information technology, property, governance, student accommodation and the University Library. He holds an MBA and degrees in computer science, mathematics and psychology.



**Chief Financial Officer, Richard Porter**

With previous roles as CEO and CFO across a range of South Australian sectors, Mr Porter has a wealth of experience in corporate governance and finance, business strategy, property, and investment management. A graduate of both the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia, he holds a Bachelor of Economics and an MBA and is a Certified Practising Accountant. Mr Porter is charged with managing Flinders University’s finance and procurement function including reporting, operations, investments, procurement, tax, and financing.



**Chief of Staff, Jayne Flaherty**

Jayne Flaherty joined Flinders University in October 2022 as Chief of Staff, with responsibility for government and external relations, media and communications, alumni relations, advancement, and strategic policy within the Vice-Chancellor’s portfolio. She has previously led strategic communications functions within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and for a range of iconic South Australian organisations, including BankSA, ASC and RAA. She brings industry experience in defence, financial services, tourism, higher education, and the public sector, and is an experienced non-executive board director with the South Australian Tourism Commission and the Centre for Economic Development Australia (SA) Advisory Council.



**General Counsel and University Secretary, Marc Davies**

Marc Davies is a legal, risk and governance professional, with international experience in commercial and higher-education sectors. He has a passion for good corporate governance, the importance of trust and integrity in decision making, and the value proactive risk management can add to an organisation. Marc has advised on significant transactions across a range of diverse industries and brings significant expertise to the University in corporate governance, commercial transactions, public integrity and accountability laws, and commercialising the results of research. He is an experienced lawyer and non-executive director, and a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Governance Institute of Australia. Mr Davies assumed the role on the departure of Mr David Lim from the University in 2022.



**Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Business, Government and Law Professor Michael Gilding**

Professor Michael Gilding joined the College of Business, Government and Law in 2021, leading an extensive program of educational renewal and research concentration and scale. He has previously worked at ANU, Monash and Swinburne University of Technology, where he was Executive Dean of the Faculty of Business and Law (including foundation of the law school). He is a member of the National Education Committee of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the national board of the Centre for Social Impact. Professor Gilding is an economic sociologist, with particular expertise in the creation of new markets and intergenerational business families, and has published across multiple disciplines, including management, entrepreneurship, sociology, politics, public administration, criminology, communications and history.



**Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Education, Psychology and Social Work, Professor Deborah West**

Professor Deborah West accepted the role as Vice President and Executive Dean after a period as interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students). Previously as Pro Vice-Chancellor Learning and Teaching Innovation she led the Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching at Flinders University, and oversaw the Student Transition Office, Student Learning Centre and Careers and Employability teams. Her research work has focused on learning and teaching innovation and improvement, particularly the use of educational technology in higher education.



**Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Professor Peter Monteath**

Professor Peter Monteath has taught history extensively in Australia at The University of Queensland, Griffith University, Deakin University, The University of Western Australia and the University of Adelaide, before coming to Flinders University. He has also been Adjunct Professor at The University of St Louis Missouri in the US and the Technical University of Berlin, where he was an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow.



**Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Nursing and Health Sciences Professor Alison Kitson**

Professor Alison Kitson joined Flinders University following her leadership of the University of Adelaide’s nursing school. She has held executive roles at the Royal College of Nursing in the United Kingdom and published extensively on nursing and health care, with a focus on research translation. Professor Kitson is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences, the American Academy of Nursing and the Royal College of Nursing of the United Kingdom. She also was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Malmo University Sweden for her work on nursing quality and standards of care.



**Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Medicine and Public Health Professor Jonathan Craig**

Professor Jonathan Craig has contributed substantially to kidney disease research, including leading the formation of state, national and international networks for trials and being instrumental in the development of best-practice methods and guidelines. A Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences, and past member of a WHO expert review panel for public health, Professor Craig’s many current advisory roles include member of the National Health and Medical Research Council’s Health Impact Committee, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee, Medical Services Advisory Committee and the Health Life Savings Drug Program.



**Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Science and Engineering Professor Alistair Rendell**

Professor Alistair Rendell joined Flinders University in 2019 following a 23-year career with the Australian National University, including more than five years as Director of the Research School of Computer Science where he oversaw a near trebling of its size. He has significant experience in both academic leadership and high-performance computing research. With an undergraduate degree in chemistry and a PhD in theoretical chemistry he has made contributions to several widely used computational chemistry software packages and is part of a US-based team developing software for the world’s leading fastest computer.





Heath Wingard, Business  
(Sports Management) student

# Annual Financial Statements

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To be read in conjunction with the full financial statement.  
Full audited financial statements are available online at [Flinders.edu.au](https://www.flinders.edu.au)



# Financial performance statement

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT – FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
INCOME STATEMENT				
Total income from continuing operations	559,757	556,802	555,850	552,413
Total expenses from continuing operations	543,491	520,425	538,439	516,786
Operating result	16,266	36,377	17,411	35,627
Operating margin	2.9%	6.5%	3.1%	6.4%
BALANCE SHEET				
Net assets	955,800	895,522	954,854	893,431
Current ratio	2.1	1.7	2.1	1.7

This year’s financial result places Flinders University well to pursue its key strategic initiatives, particularly the construction of the Health and Medical Research Building (HMRB) which is scheduled for completion in 2024, and the establishment of the city campus in the Festival Tower development on North Terrace, estimated to be completed late 2023. Following on from strong financial performances in prior years, the University is well-prepared to take advantage of the opportunities presented following the relaxation of COVID restrictions and the reopening of international borders in early 2022.

In 2022, Flinders University recorded an operating surplus of \$16.3m compared to a surplus of \$36.4m in 2021. Total revenue was \$559.8m in 2022, in line with the 2021 revenue result. International student fees grew as border restrictions eased and international travel started to recover. Australian government funding and domestic student fee income declined slightly in 2022 when compared with 2021.

The University’s investment income fell as financial markets experienced a challenging 2022, higher interest rates, higher inflation and economic growth concerns negatively impacted the valuation of the University’s investment portfolio. As a result, the Investment gain in 2021 converted to losses in 2022 reflecting the downward movement in equities that in part was offset by an uplift in the value of investment property.

University research income continued to strengthen, up year-on-year to \$115.8m, largely attributable to increases from the Commonwealth (other than Research Block Grant, ARC and NHMRC) and state governments. The positive result is due to the continued strategic attention of the University on growing its research capacity and capability.

The upward trajectory of the post-pandemic recovery and increased activity in both research and teaching was mirrored by growth in expenditure of 4.4% in 2022. Salary costs increased by 3.3% on the 2021 expenditure, while non-salary strategic and operating expenditure increased by 6.3% as borders opened, and supply chain restrictions eased.

The University’s total assets increased by \$196.3m from 2021 to \$1,343.1m including cash holdings and deposits of \$276.8m and an increase of \$56.6m in land, buildings and infrastructure resulting from a revaluation. The University also saw an increase in its liabilities commensurate with the construction of the University’s \$255m Health and Medical Research Building.

The pleasing and positive financial result for 2022 further underpins the University’s financial resources and strength.

# Income statement

## INCOME STATEMENT – FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS				
Australian Government financial assistance				
Australian Government grants	266,567	266,924	266,567	266,924
HELP - Australian Government payments	103,099	105,745	103,099	105,745
State and local Government financial assistance	11,639	6,358	11,639	6,358
HECS-HELP - Student Payments	6,024	6,201	6,024	6,201
Fees and charges	119,233	116,619	119,132	116,530
Investment revenue	9,112	15,314	9,090	15,310
Royalties, trademarks and licences	1,330	174	1,323	168
Consultancy and contracts	19,027	12,188	19,011	12,373
Other revenue	23,353	22,503	19,965	18,028
Gains on disposal of assets	-	202	-	202
Other investment gains	373	4,574	-	4,574
Total income from continuing operations	559,757	556,802	555,850	552,413
EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS				
Employee related expenses	338,141	327,295	334,393	324,413
Depreciation and amortisation	39,803	44,708	39,714	44,565
Repairs and maintenance	16,949	14,776	16,849	14,694
Borrowing costs	498	501	498	501
Impairment of assets	641	13,134	276	13,134
Loss on disposal of assets	73	-	73	-
Other investment losses	6,482	-	6,482	-
Other expenses	140,904	120,011	140,154	119,479
Total expenses from continuing operations	543,491	520,425	538,439	516,786
Net result from continuing operations	16,266	36,377	17,411	35,627
Net result attributable to				
University	16,166	36,039	17,411	35,627
Non-controlling interest	100	338	-	-
Total	16,266	36,377	17,411	35,627

Full audited financial statements are available online at [Flinders.edu.au](https://www.flinders.edu.au)



# Comprehensive income

## COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT – FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Net result for the period	16,266	36,377	17,411	35,627
ITEMS THAT WILL BE RECLASSIFIED TO PROFIT OR LOSS:				
Gain/(loss) on financial assets designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	(12,578)	36,827	(12,578)	36,827
Total	(12,578)	36,827	(12,578)	36,827
ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE RECLASSIFIED TO PROFIT OR LOSS:				
Gain / (loss) on revaluation of land, buildings, library and artworks	56,590	-	56,590	-
Total	56,590	-	56,590	-
Total other comprehensive income	44,012	36,827	44,012	36,827
Total comprehensive income	60,278	73,204	61,423	72,454
Total comprehensive income attributable to:				
University	60,178	72,866	61,423	72,454
Non-controlling interest	100	338	-	-
Total	60,278	73,204	61,423	72,454

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# Financial position

## FINANCIAL POSITION STATEMENT – AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
ASSETS				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	226,780	179,556	223,633	176,755
Receivables	42,416	40,785	41,899	39,195
Contract Assets	4,194	3,311	4,194	3,311
Inventories	342	210	342	208
Other financial assets	50,000	-	50,000	-
Other non-financial assets	13,693	13,410	13,626	13,331
Total current assets	337,425	237,272	333,694	232,800
NON-CURRENT ASSETS				
Receivables	33,678	40,203	33,678	40,203
Other financial assets	127,079	163,016	128,303	163,633
Property, plant and equipment	797,758	662,555	796,382	661,293
Investment properties	12,125	10,296	12,125	10,296
Intangible assets	33,703	31,688	33,625	31,610
Other non-financial assets	1,374	1,821	1,374	1,821
Total non-current assets	1,005,717	909,579	1,005,487	908,856
Total assets	1,343,142	1,146,851	1,339,181	1,141,656
LIABILITIES				
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade and other payables	52,109	61,796	49,071	58,804
Borrowings	2,767	2,134	2,767	2,134
Provisions	27,202	23,473	26,788	23,110
Other liabilities	1,044	1,301	1,622	1,693
Contract liabilities	76,818	49,961	76,677	49,820
Total current liabilities	159,940	138,665	156,925	135,561
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade and other payables	8,436	9,106	8,436	9,106
Borrowings	124,290	11,346	124,290	11,346
Provisions	59,378	66,413	59,378	66,413
Contract liabilities	35,298	25,799	35,298	25,799
Total non-current liabilities	227,402	112,664	227,402	112,664
Total liabilities	387,342	251,329	384,327	248,225
Net assets	955,800	895,522	954,854	893,431
EQUITY				
University interest				
Reserves	246,199	219,491	249,952	223,244
Retained earnings	708,715	675,245	704,902	670,187
University interest	954,914	894,736	954,854	893,431
Non-controlling interest	886	786	-	-
Total equity	955,800	895,522	954,854	893,431

Full audited financial statements are available online at [Flinders.edu.au](https://www.flinders.edu.au)



# Changes in equity

## CHANGES IN EQUITY STATEMENT – FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Reserves	Retained Earnings	University Interest	Non Controlling Interest	TOTAL
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>CONSOLIDATED</b>					
<b>Balance as at 1 January 2021</b>	205,423	616,109	821,532	448	<b>821,980</b>
Net result	-	36,377	36,377	338	<b>36,715</b>
Gain/(loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	36,827	-	36,827	-	<b>36,827</b>
Gain/(loss) on investment transfer between reserves	(22,759)	22,759	-	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>14,068</b>	<b>59,136</b>	<b>73,204</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>73,542</b>
Recognition of non-controlling interest	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2021</b>	219,491	675,245	894,736	786	<b>895,522</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2022</b>	219,491	675,245	894,736	786	<b>895,522</b>
Net Result	-	16,166	16,166	100	<b>16,266</b>
Gain on revaluation of land, buildings, infrastructure, library and artwork	56,590	-	56,590	-	<b>56,590</b>
Gain/(loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	(12,578)	-	(12,578)	-	<b>(12,578)</b>
Gain/(loss) on investment transfer between reserves	(17,304)	17,304	-	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>26,708</b>	<b>33,470</b>	<b>60,178</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60,278</b>
Recognition of non-controlling interest	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	246,199	708,715	954,914	886	<b>955,800</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY</b>					
<b>Balance as at 1 January 2021</b>	209,176	611,801			<b>820,977</b>
Net result	-	35,627			<b>35,627</b>
Gain/(loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	36,827	-			<b>36,827</b>
Gain/(loss) on investment transfer between reserves	(22,759)	22,759			-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>14,068</b>	<b>58,386</b>			<b>72,454</b>
Recognition of non-controlling interest	-	-			-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2021</b>	223,244	670,187			<b>893,431</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2022</b>	223,244	670,187			<b>893,431</b>
Net Result	-	17,411			<b>17,411</b>
Gain on revaluation of land, buildings, infrastructure, library and artwork	56,590	-			<b>56,590</b>
Gain/(loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	(12,578)	-			<b>(12,578)</b>
Gain/(loss) on investment transfer between reserves	(17,304)	17,304			-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>26,708</b>	<b>34,715</b>			<b>61,423</b>
Recognition of non-controlling interest	-	-			-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	249,952	704,902			<b>954,854</b>

Full audited financial statements are available online at [Flinders.edu.au](https://www.flinders.edu.au)

# Cash flows

## CASH FLOWS STATEMENT – FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Australian Government Grants	369,659	373,278	369,659	373,278
OS-HELP (net)	(4,283)	7	(4,283)	7
Superannuation Supplementation	2,534	2,035	2,534	2,035
State Government Grants	11,459	6,238	11,459	6,238
Local Government Grants received	182	119	182	119
HECS-HELP - Student payments	6,024	6,201	6,024	6,201
Receipts from student fees and other customers	215,092	182,458	210,102	177,543
Dividends received	1,805	6,251	1,805	6,251
Interest received	4,054	921	4,054	921
Other investment income	3,230	5,885	3,230	5,885
GST recovered/paid	3,673	8,895	3,673	8,895
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)	(531,110)	(480,972)	(526,260)	(477,192)
Interest and other costs of finance	(498)	(501)	(498)	(501)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>81,821</b>	<b>110,815</b>	<b>81,681</b>	<b>109,680</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>				
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment, intangibles and other long term assets	186	423	186	423
Proceeds from sale of investment	17,997	2,558	17,399	2,558
Other investing outflows	(257)	1,110	(70)	1,064
Purchase of property, plant and equipment, intangibles and other long term assets	(107,109)	(51,170)	(106,904)	(51,148)
Payments for financial assets	(53,191)	(8,037)	(53,191)	(8,037)
Loans to related parties	(1,309)	-	(1,309)	-
Repayments of loans by related parties	260	248	260	248
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(143,423)</b>	<b>(54,868)</b>	<b>(143,629)</b>	<b>(54,892)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>				
Proceeds from borrowings	115,805	-	115,805	-
Repayment of lease liabilities	(6,979)	(1,304)	(6,979)	(1,304)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities</b>	<b>108,826</b>	<b>(1,304)</b>	<b>108,826</b>	<b>(1,304)</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>47,224</b>	<b>54,643</b>	<b>46,878</b>	<b>53,484</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	179,556	124,913	176,755	123,271
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>226,780</b>	<b>179,556</b>	<b>223,633</b>	<b>176,755</b>
Financing arrangements				
Non-cash financing and investing activities				

Full audited financial statements are available online at [Flinders.edu.au](https://www.flinders.edu.au)



# Independent Auditor's report

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



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Auditor-General's Department

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To the Chancellor  
Flinders University

### Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Flinders University and the consolidated entity comprising Flinders University and its controlled entities for the financial year ended 31 December 2022.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, the *Australian Charities and Non-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 Flinders University and its controlled entities as at 31 December 2022, its performance and its cash flows for the year then ended
- b) complying with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 December 2022
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2022
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 31 December 2022
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2022
- notes, comprising material accounting policies and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and 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 financial report' section of my report. I am independent of Flinders University 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 President and Vice-Chancellor and the Council for the financial report

The President and Vice-Chancellor is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, the *Australian Charities and Non-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* and 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 that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Council is responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* I have audited the financial report of Flinders University and its controlled entities for the financial year ended 31 December 2022.

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



# Independent Auditor’s *report*

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 Flinders University’s internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the President and Vice-Chancellor
- 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.

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 President and Vice-Chancellor and 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 Richardson  
**Auditor-General**

16 May 2023

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University**

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