

College of Science and Engineering

Cisco Research Chair in Defence Capability
and Security





Flinders University acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians 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 & Mallee region, Jawoyn, Kurna, Larrakia, Ngadjuri, Ngarrindjeri, Ramindjeri, Warumungu, Wardaman and Yolngu people. We honour their Elders past, present and emerging.

Today, nearly **450 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDENTS** are enrolled in courses at Flinders University.

Message from the Vice President and Executive Dean



Professor Michael Blumenstein
Vice-President and Executive Dean
College of Science and Engineering

At the College of Science and Engineering, we believe in the power of science and engineering to solve real-world problems and shape the future. Our researchers bring together expertise across science, engineering, computing, mathematics and the environment, working across disciplines and with industry and government to translate research and innovation into meaningful impact.

Our location at Tonsley places us at the heart of one of Australia's leading innovation ecosystems. Through the Flinders Factory of the Future and Innovation Central Adelaide, our researchers work alongside industry, government and technology partners to develop and translate emerging technologies in areas including advanced manufacturing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, autonomous systems and defence.

This strong foundation of research excellence, industry collaboration and national ambition provides an exceptional environment for the establishment of the **Cisco Research Chair in Defence Capability and Security**.

This is a significant opportunity to shape a new research agenda at the intersection of digital technology, defence and sovereign capability. Working with Cisco, the Australian Defence Force, the Department of Defence and Australia's sovereign defence industry, the Chair will have the opportunity to build a high-impact research program, develop partnerships and grow the next generation of research talent while contributing to priorities of national importance.

We are seeking an exceptional research leader, technology expert or senior defence practitioner who is ready to make a lasting contribution to Australia's future capability.

Professor Michael Blumenstein
Vice President and Executive Dean
College of Science and Engineering
Flinders University

Flinders University Agenda 2035

Impact. With Purpose.

Flinders University's purpose is to change lives and change the world, and this is translated into action by serving both the best interests of our students and the needs of our community. Our namesake, Captain Matthew Flinders, was a man determined to make an impact through his action. He was a fearless navigator whose courage and curiosity led him to the first circumnavigation of the continent he would name Australia.

Today we are driven by the same ambitious spirit.

Over the past decade, our Making a Difference strategy has provided not just a framework for delivering on that ambition, but a roadmap that has extended our capacity and capabilities to reach more people and deepen our impact.

This new strategic plan builds on those excellent foundations, looking towards 2035 with an increased focus on the nature and scale of the positive change we create through the life-changing power of the education we provide, and the reach and relevance of the research that we do.

Our Values anchor who we are and how we act. Integrity, Courage, Innovation and Excellence shape the standards we set for ourselves, and form the enduring foundation for our collective purpose and ambition for the decade ahead.

Our 2035 strategic plan describes how Flinders University will turn ambition into action as we work towards changing 10 million lives for the better by 2035. At its heart are three Strategic Drivers that will shape everything we do and enable meaningful, measurable impact. These strategic drivers include Students First, The University for Industry and Enterprise and Research that Matters.

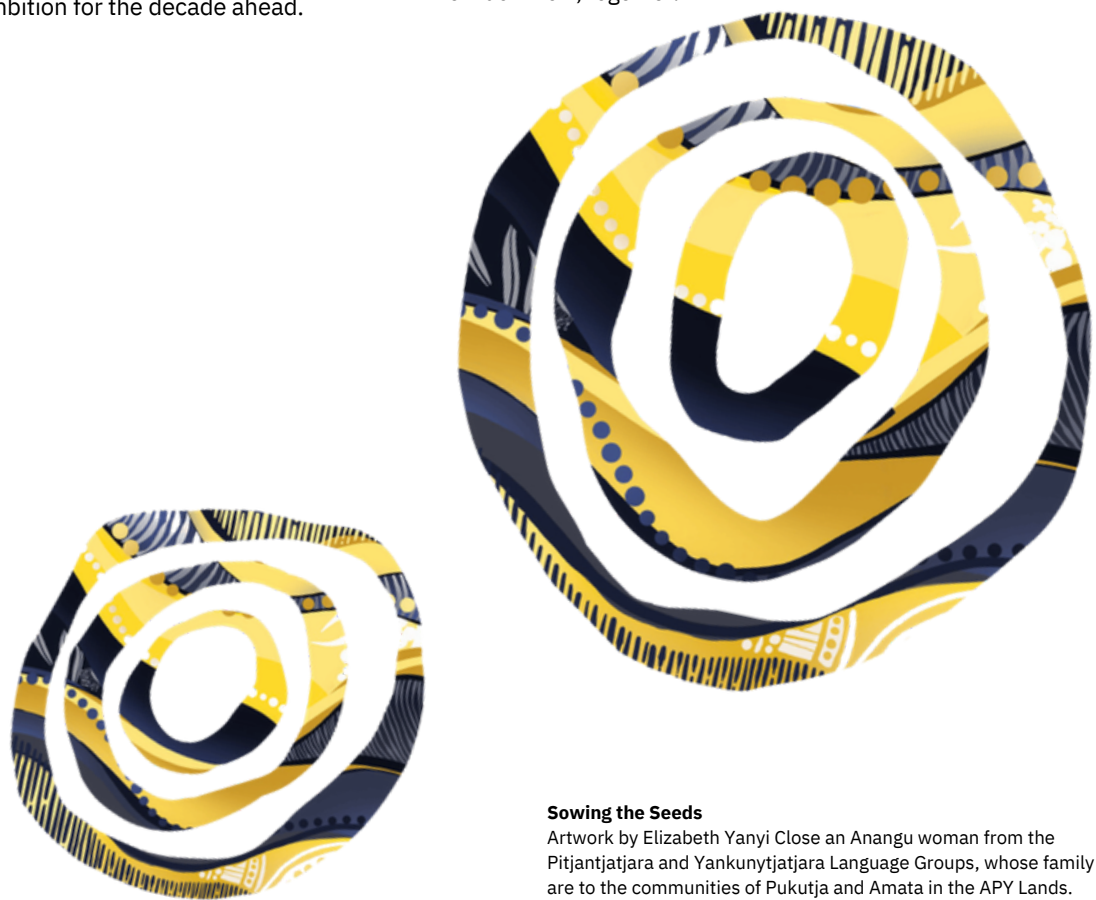
This ambition reflects our deep commitment to creating knowledge, opportunity, and innovation that improves lives, strengthens communities, and contributes to a fairer, more sustainable world.

As a public institution entrusted with public and stakeholder funding, we are accountable for delivering on our purpose.

We measure our success not by size or status, but by the real difference we make – through education that transforms lives, research that delivers solutions and solves problems, and partnerships that deliver enduring social and economic benefit.

Our three strategic drivers will guide our strategic decision-making and development of organisational strategy and business planning at Flinders University for the next decade.

Naarlu kumangka.
We'll do it now, together!



Sowing the Seeds

Artwork by Elizabeth Yanyi Close an Anangu woman from the Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara Language Groups, whose family links are to the communities of Pukatja and Amata in the APY Lands.

Research that Matters

Changing lives and changing the world.

Through bold, collaborative research, Flinders University crosses disciplinary boundaries to tackle complex challenges and drive new ways of thinking. Our commitment to evidence-driven impact ensures our discoveries benefit society and fuel economic growth for the nation.

We bring together government, industry, our community, people with lived experience and our researchers to co-design solutions that deliver real community value and sustainable economic growth. We do this across four key areas of impact; Health and Wellbeing, Sustainability, Society and Culture, and Defence and Productivity.



Research income soars 140% in five years**



Flinders have over 100 researchers in the World's Top 2% Scientists list by Stanford Elsevier*



In 2024, Flinders opened our \$280m purpose-built research facility, the Health and Medical Research Building (HMRB), dedicated to driving new knowledge through clinical trials and research.



\$6.9m in Australian Research Council (ARC) Industry Fellowships for 2024, one of the highest success rates in Australia*.



Flinders Researchers are highly acclaimed. SA Scientist of the Year* - Prof. Jamie Craig SA Young Tall Poppy of the Year* - Assoc Prof Amy Reynolds



8th in Australia for Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) and National Health Medical Research Council (NHMRC) awards amongst Australian Universities*

* As at 4 December 2024

** HERDC data 2017-2022 (rounded up from 138.02%)

Our College

The College of Science and Engineering comprises approximately 200 academic (continuing and fixed term) staff, supported by approximately 70 professional staff. There are approximately 4100 students associated with the College of which roughly 315 are higher degree research students. In 2025 the College reported over \$31M in research income. Organisationally the College is broken down into the four teaching programs and four companion research sections.

Our Teaching Programs

Engineering

With fully accredited Bachelor of Engineering degrees across Biomedical, Civil, Electrical and Electronic, Environmental, Maritime, Mechanical, Nuclear, Robotics and Software specialisations, we prepare students to solve problems and build solutions in areas such as climate change, autonomous vehicles, space exploration, healthcare and secure communications.

Physics and Molecular Sciences

We offer fascinating and rapidly evolving theories of physical and molecular science while tackling previously unsolved real-world problems. Under the guidance of expert staff, our students learn about the world around us and the world beyond us.

Natural Sciences

We are enhancing understanding of the natural world and providing a range of in-depth study choices to support graduates as advocates for our planet. Study options includes specialisations in animal behaviour, marine biology, water conservation, palaeontology and more. Stepping out of the classroom through lab work, fieldwork and placements are integral to our natural science courses.

Computing and Mathematics Sciences

We offer fully accredited Bachelor degrees in Computer Science and Information Technology, with specialisations in artificial intelligence, mathematics, data analytics, game development, cybersecurity and more.

Our Research Sections

Engineered Systems

By combining fundamental research with the application of state-of-the-art engineering principles, we are developing new technologies and making new breakthroughs in Biomedical, Civil & Environmental, Electrical & Electronic, Control, Mechatronics & Robotics, Materials, Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering. Based at Tonsley, Australia’s first Innovation District, our research incorporates strong collaborations with industry, across Australia and internationally.

Molecular Science and Technology

Our research in physics, chemistry, molecular biology, and plant science is world-leading. Our chemistry and physics discoveries have led to new nanotechnology for environmental remediation, energy production and storage, and advanced materials. Our biochemical research has made an impact on how we view and treat disease. Our forensic science research has provided innovative solutions for fighting crime. Our plant science research has made advances to support the future of food production.

Ecology, Evolution and Environment

We do world-leading research in several areas of biodiversity and environmental sciences, including palaeontology, evolutionary biology, global ecology, molecular ecology, animal behaviour, groundwater and coastal geomorphology. Our research section consists of around 180 academics, postdocs and research students housed in the leafy surrounds of the Flinders University Bedford Park campus.

Data and Information Science

We focus on the integration of cybersecurity, machine learning and advanced data analytics to solving important and wide-reaching industry, government, and defence problems. We are conducting world-leading research in artificial Intelligence, knowledge discovery, medical image processing, neuroscience, and cybersecurity. Our experts in digital health are making significant contribution to healthcare service delivery world-wide, creating new systems for data security, virtual care and digital infrastructure.

College Vision

Engagement and Impact

We will be internationally recognised for our collaboration with industry, government, and community to seek global solutions for a sustainable, secure, and healthy future.

Education

We will provide internationally recognised science and engineering education programs that are accessible, student centred, innovative and impactful.

Research

We will be globally recognised for our work to advance fundamental and applied science and for creating new technologies that make our world more connected, secure, healthy, and sustainable.

People and Resources

We will foster a collaborative environment that is inspiring, respectful, fulfilling, and productive, underpinned by clear and open communication

College Purpose

Engagement and Impact

To engage in partnerships that impact education, industry, environment and community.

Education

To inspire our students and equip them with the knowledge, skills and experience relevant to their future challenges.

Research

To undertake quality, high impact and collaborative research in science and engineering that advances knowledge and addresses real world challenges for the betterment of humanity.

People and Resources

To create an environment that enables staff and students to excel in education, research, and community engagement.



Institutes, Centres, Hubs



Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology

The Institute for Nanoscale Science & Technology is a hub of nanotechnology research and education. We work across energy, health and other biological processes, environment, and security—and not just for the peer-reviewed publications. Our team works with business and industry, connecting real-world problems with research-driven solutions.



Medical Device Research Institute

The Medical Device Research Institute are world leaders in the development of innovative medical devices and assistive technologies. We stand out for our uniquely collaborative approach – with experts from engineering, healthcare, design, and industry. Our strong focus on commercialisation and real-world impact, helps transform groundbreaking research into solutions that improve lives globally.



Flinders Digital Health Research Centre

The Centre provides expertise, innovation and leadership to ensure that Flinders University achieves national and international recognition as a premier institution for digital health systems and technologies research. It fosters digital health university-industry alliance relationships benefiting South Australia and the nation.



Centre for Defence Engineering Research and Training

The mission within the Centre for Defence Engineering Research and Training (CDERT) is to bring our research strengths to bear, to develop world-leading academic knowledge and capability in key disciplines that make up defence engineering and technology. Working together with our partners in the defence industry, both in Australia and in allied nations, CDERT is focused on the provision of research, training and consultancy excellence



Factory of the Future

Flinders Factory of the Future is a transdisciplinary advanced manufacturing research hub, accelerating industry growth through practical, evidence-based solutions to industry problems. We help organisations adopt new technologies, develop new products, build workforce capability and translate research into real-world impact. By connecting industry, researchers, students and government, we create practical pathways that accelerate innovation, strengthen competitiveness and support Australia's manufacturing future.



National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training

The National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training is a partnership between 13 University and 19 Government and Industry organisations to advance knowledge and management of groundwater resources. It is headquartered at Flinders University Adelaide, South Australia.

Success Stories

Recent research successes include an ARC Laureate Fellowship, four ARC Discovery Early Career Research Awards (DECRA), five ARC Discovery Projects and an ARC Linkage Project, together securing more than \$10 million in ARC funding. The College also attracts significant government and industry investment through major initiatives including the Additive Manufacturing CRC, collaborations with SARDI, Defence Science and Technology Group funding, and the National Industry PhD Program, in which we rank number one nationally. Research excellence and impact have also been recognised through prestigious national awards, including two Australian Museum Eureka Prizes for Excellence in Forensic Science and Innovation in Citizen Science, as well as the 2025 South Australian Environment Awards Innovation Award.

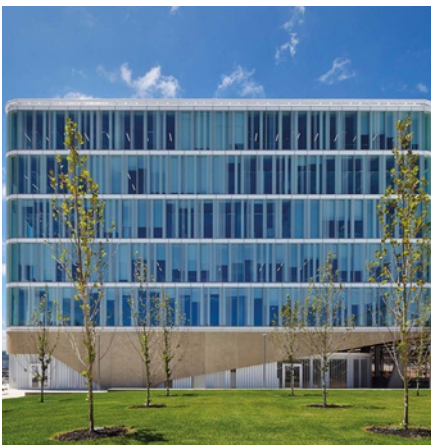
In education, for three years in a row (2024-2026) we have been named 'Best Future Skills Provider' in the national Defence and National Security Workforce Awards for our track record of working with industry. Our undergraduate courses rank #1 in South Australia from Good Universities Guide 2026 in most categories across all of our programs (Engineering, Computing and IT and Science) including for overall student experience, teaching quality, student support, learner resources, learner engagement, skill development, graduate salary and full time employment.

Flinders Adelaide Campuses



Bedford Park

Flinders University's Bedford Park campus, located south of the city of Adelaide, is our main teaching and research campus. The Student Hub offers 24/7 study spaces and access to all student services in one convenient location.



Tonsley

Flinders at Tonsley is an innovation hub for teaching, research and businesses in computer science, IT, engineering and mathematics. Tonsley also hosts the Flinders New Venture Institute start-up incubator.



Flinders City Campus

Flinders University has created a cutting edge, vertical campus that offers a new way of learning in the heart of Adelaide's CBD. Collaborative, state-of-the-art learning areas and open-plan event spaces deliver the optimal learning experience.

Living in Adelaide

Adelaide is South Australia's capital and home to almost 1.5 million people. Once again recognised among the world's most liveable cities, Adelaide ranked 8th out of 173 cities globally in the Economist Intelligence Unit's 2026 Global Liveability Index, with an exceptional score of 95.9 out of 100. Adelaide ranked ahead of Vancouver and Tokyo, reflecting its strong performance across stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education and infrastructure. Adelaide was also ranked the fourth safest city globally by Forbes Advisor in 2024.

With a Mediterranean climate, stunning beaches, the Adelaide Hills and world-renowned wine regions all within easy reach, Adelaide makes it possible to enjoy an exceptional quality of life alongside a rewarding career. The city is known for its vibrant arts and festival scene, outstanding food and wine, and welcoming multicultural community.

Adelaide is also a city of opportunity. South Australia is at the forefront of Australia's defence, advanced manufacturing, technology and renewable energy sectors, with significant investment creating new opportunities for researchers, innovators and industry leaders. For those working in defence and emerging technologies, Adelaide offers the opportunity to work at the heart of Australia's sovereign capability and innovation agenda.

Flinders University's Bedford Park and Tonsley campuses are ideally positioned within this ecosystem. Located close to Adelaide's southern beaches and foothills, and alongside a growing community of industry and technology partners at Tonsley, our campuses offer an inspiring environment in which to live, work and innovate.

For international academics and professionals, Adelaide offers the opportunity to build a global career while enjoying a lifestyle that is difficult to match. It is a city where you can make a significant contribution, connect with an ambitious research and industry community, and enjoy more time to experience everything South Australia has to offer.

For more information, visit
<https://www.flinders.edu.au/employment/why-work-at-flinders/living-in-adelaide>



Riverbank Precinct, Adelaide

