FLINDERS UNIVERSITY

VICE-PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DEAN COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES
INTRODUCTION

Flinders University enjoys a well-justified reputation for excellence in teaching and research. A globally focused, locally engaged institution, we have a long-standing commitment to enhancing educational opportunities for all.

Our strategic plan, Making a Difference – The 2025 Agenda, details our vision to become internationally recognised as a world leader in research, an innovator in contemporary education, and the source of Australia’s most enterprising graduates.

Following recent substantial investment in infrastructure and technology, Flinders has restructured its strategic priorities with the aim of elevating its performance to be a top ten Australian university, and amongst the top 1% in the world.

Our touchstone is that university life should be enjoyable and enriching for all students and the campus should be a stimulating place to work. Our respect and support for our students and staff has produced a learning and work space that is friendly, stimulating and satisfying.

Within our new six College structure, we are seeking a visionary individual with outstanding leadership skills that have resulted in high performance in research and teaching to lead our College of Science & Engineering.

The Vice-President and Executive Dean is a key member of the Vice-Chancellor’s Senior Executive Team and will report to the Vice-Chancellor. As a member of that team, the successful candidate will make a significant contribution to achieving the University’s strategic objectives and to promoting and enhancing the international and national profile of the University and of the College.

I invite you to join us on our mission to change lives and change the world, and am confident that you will find Flinders University an inspiring and vibrant place in which to work.

Professor Colin Stirling
President and Vice-Chancellor
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 VISION
Changing lives and changing the world.

OUR MISSION

FOUNDED ON FOUR PILLARS

PEOPLE AND CULTURE
- Integrity
- Courage
- Innovation
- Excellence

RESEARCH
EDUCATION
ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT

OUR VALUES AND ETHOS

2025.FLINDERS.EDU.AU
Flinders University is a globally focused, locally engaged institution where a focus on our people and culture, engagement and impact drives world-class education and research.

 Ranked among the top 2 per cent of the world’s universities, Flinders offers our students the opportunity to learn at a university recognised for an innovative approach to visionary research and education. Our research is contributing to discoveries in biomedical and clinical sciences, culture and society, health and human behaviour, molecular science and technology, and water and the environment.

 With 90 per cent of this research rated world-class or above by the Australian Government’s Excellence in Research for Australia, our students know they are exposed to internationally renowned academic expertise while enjoying a challenging and inspiring student experience.

 Ours is an innovative, creative and collaborative institution that works with government and industry partners to solve real-world problems.

 Flinders has some 27,000 students enrolled in more than 1,500 undergraduate and almost 300 postgraduate courses, as well as higher degree research supervision across all disciplines. Nearly 5,000 international students from almost 100 countries make up 13 per cent of our on-campus population; 1,500 are enrolled in our numerous offshore programs.

 Flinders is committed to equity and provides a range of special access schemes to encourage and support all students. Our focus on contemporary teaching is reflected in the many Flinders courses that provide students with best-practice technologies and teaching methods to suit their fields, lifestyles and study preferences. Virtual and digital technologies support face-to-face teaching and enable students to study when and how they prefer, whether they are full-time or part-time students, and whatever the demands of their professional and personal circumstances.

 Flinders University’s main campus is at Bedford Park in Adelaide’s inner south. With a lake at its centre and spread across 165 hectares, its beautiful natural bushland setting features thousands of trees and an array of wildlife, while the elevated site offers panoramic views of the city and coast.

 Our natural assets are complemented by an impressive new Student Hub and Plaza development at the very heart of the campus. The environmentally responsible building boasts the very latest in learning technologies, an array of study places, and vibrant social spaces. Outdoor features include a rooftop terrace, a 2,000-seat amphitheatre and superscreen for outdoor cinema. On-campus accommodation is available for 560 students.

 Beyond our main campus Flinders boasts a specialist Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics facility at nearby Tonsley, and our business-oriented presence on Victoria Square in the CBD. Our considerable footprint includes external teaching facilities in regional South Australia, south-west Victoria and the Northern Territory.

 Flinders University was opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the late Queen Mother, on 25 March 1966, as the Bedford Park campus of the University of Adelaide.

 Just 18 days earlier, however, the South Australian Parliament had passed legislation to create an independent institution. The state’s second university officially came into being on 1 July 1966.

 The Kaurna people are the traditional owners of the land on which Flinders was established. Its namesake is the British navigator Matthew Flinders, who explored and surveyed the South Australian coast in 1802. The University’s coat of arms includes an image of Flinders’ ship HMS Investigator and an extract from his book A Voyage to Terra Australis.

 In 1966 The University began with four schools, 90 staff and just over 400 students. Professor Peter Karmel was the inaugural Vice-Chancellor and Sir Mark Mitchell the first Chancellor.

 Within a decade a significant decision was made to build the Flinders Medical Centre on land adjacent to the campus and locate the University’s Medical School within – the first such integration in Australia. In 1990 the University experienced a growth spurt with the addition of three new buildings – Law and Commerce, Engineering, and Information Science and Technology.

 The following year Flinders merged with the adjacent Sturt campus of the former South Australian College of Advanced Education, and in 1992 a four-faculty, 14 school structure was adopted.

 During the 1990s, Flinders expanded into the Northern Territory. In the 2000s, our footprint extended into rural South Australia and south-west Victoria.

 In 2002, the Australian Science and Mathematics School was established at the foot of the Bedford Park campus, the first school in Australia to be fully integrated with a university.

 New School of Education and Health Sciences buildings were completed in 2010, the same year as a state-of-the-art Science Innovation Learning Centre was opened as a dedicated first-year teaching facility for science and engineering students.

 In 2015, the University’s vision for a science and technology hub at Tonsley was realised when the $120 million School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics opened its doors. The site is also home to the Flinders New Venture Institute, the Medical Device Research Institute and the Centre for NanoScale Science and Technology, all of which are generating alliances and business opportunities with other education providers and national and global companies.

 Flinders’ commitment to student-centred growth continued in 2016 with the unveiling of a $63 million Student Hub and Plaza at the heart of the Bedford Park campus. Drawing on the latest research into best educational practice, the Hub’s intelligent design encourages collaborative learning and social interaction.

 In 2017 Flinders implement a simplified six College model to encourage interdisciplinary research and teaching.

 Looking forward, Flinders is set to benefit from an extension of the Tonsley rail line to the Bedford Park campus which will link the Flinders health and education precincts to the Tonsley campus and the city when construction is complete in early 2019.

 Matthew Flinders maquette
The appeal of Adelaide has been a well-kept secret but it is now, according to Lonely Planet, officially one of the top ten cities in the world. As the authoritative travel guide put it: “Adelaide is effortlessly chic – and like a perfectly cellared red, it’s ready to be uncorked and sampled”.

Adelaide was the only Australian city to feature in Lonely Planet’s Best in Travel 2014 book, sharing its top ten accolade with the likes of Paris, Trinidad and Cape Town.

Adelaide is a cosmopolitan, modern and affordable city in which to live, work and study, Adelaide has all the hallmarks of a major urban centre with modern and classical architecture, a bustling retail hub and a multicultural population. World class wine, gourmet food and natural attractions are all close at hand and the city offers entertainment and arts festivals that attract performers and visitors from across the globe.

With a Mediterranean climate that is conducive to exploring the natural environment and enjoying the finest foods and wines, Adelaide and South Australia offer unrivalled opportunities to achieve a highly satisfying work-life balance.

Adelaide is a significant university city with a well regarded reputation for sophisticated, international calibre education. The city is home to three Australian universities – Flinders, the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia.

The city also hosts branches of Carnegie Mellon University, University College London, Torrens Institute and the Royal Institution of Australia – the only satellite of the Royal Institution of the UK.

Adelaide’s primary and secondary schools – both government and private – also boast a reputation for excellence and pastoral care. No longer a secret, Adelaide is a highly attractive city in which to live life to the fullest.
FLINDERS UNIVERSITY:

A key member of the Vice-Chancellor's Senior Executive Team, the position will contribute to the strategic leadership and management of the University, and to the achievement of the strategic objectives of the University and College.

Reporting to the Vice-Chancellor and working alongside the Deputy Vice-Chancellors, the Vice-President and Executive Dean plays a critical role in implementing the University's new simplified College structure. This structure is designed to create interdisciplinary collaborations in teaching and research and to provide resources and a platform for more strategic investment opportunities.

Supported by three Deans (People and Resources, Education, Research) the Vice-President and Executive Dean will set the direction for the College's future sustainability and success, its research and teaching strategies as well as its engagement with industry, government, alumni and international partners.

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES

All staff at Flinders are responsible for understanding their obligations and responsibilities as set out in the University’s code of conduct and are expected to:

- demonstrate commitment to the University’s values of Integrity, Courage, Innovation, Excellence and the underlying ethos of being Student Centred.
- contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team in order to meet the University’s objectives. This includes demonstrating appropriate and professional workplace behaviours, providing assistance to team members if required and undertaking other key responsibilities or activities as directed by their supervisor.
- perform their responsibilities in a manner which reflects and responds to continuous improvement.
- familiarise themselves and comply with the University's Work Health and Safety, the Return to Work Act 2014, University WHS and Injury Management policies and Equal Opportunity policies; and
- maintain a current Child Related Employment Screening which is satisfactory to the University in accordance with the Children’s Protection Act 1993 (SA).

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Contribute to the strategic leadership and management of the University as a member of the Vice-Chancellor's Senior Executive Team.
- Be accountable for the establishment and achievement of College strategic initiatives that support the achievement of the 2025 Agenda.
- Provide academic leadership of the College in research and education for each of its disciplines and the delivery of the outcomes required to achieve the ambition described in the 2025 Agenda.
- Foster the culture and values of the College through modelling excellence in leadership behaviours and provide effective administrative management of the College, including managing performance, resource planning, recognition, and providing development opportunities for the leadership team and staff in the College.
- Be accountable for the budget of the College including revenue generation and allocation, and ensure required financial outcomes.
- Develop productive partnerships with other high calibre institutions and industries that will enhance our educational and research objectives.
- Be accountable for the College's internal and external engagement and impact, including representing the College and the University with external stakeholders to promote and enhance Flinders' reputation for excellence.
- Ensure an effective work and study climate within the College by promoting engagement, consultation and interaction within the College, modelling and promoting collegial working relationships amongst staff and students, applying sound human resources practices, and promoting the general welfare of staff and students.
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the role as assigned by the President and Vice-Chancellor.

HOW TO APPLY

For a confidential discussion, contact Bill Kett at Heidrick & Struggles on +61 3 9012 3043. To obtain an information pack or apply please email flindersvped@heidrick.com by Friday, 11 May 2018.

Applications should consist of a full curriculum vitae detailing academic and professional qualifications, full employment history and relevant achievements. CVs should be accompanied by a covering letter describing briefly how candidates meet the criteria outlined in the selection criteria, why the appointment is of interest and what they believe they can bring to the role.

For more information about working at Flinders University, visit the flinders.edu.au/joinflinders website.

Information about Flinders University can be found at: flinders.edu.au.

Additional information about South Australia can be found at: southaustralia.com.