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# FLINDERS UNIVERSITY ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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# MISSION

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



Students in the Hub at Bedford Park.



Students in community gardens.

# VISION

Changing lives and changing the world.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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### Disclaimer

Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this publication is accurate at the time of publication. You can find updated information on our website at [flinders.edu.au](http://flinders.edu.au)

### Cover

Angus and Julia Stone performing at Flinders University Bedford Park

CRICOS No. 00114A

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# CHANCELLOR'S REVIEW

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The proud history of Flinders University came into sharp focus when celebrating the 100,000th graduate in July 2018, underlining the significance of our vast global community of alumni who are changing the world.

The proud history of Flinders University came into sharp focus when celebrating the 100,000th graduate in July 2018, underlining the significance of our vast global community of alumni who are changing the world.

It is an especially gratifying moment for me – and the University Council – to reflect on this achievement, and to know that Flinders continues to flourish in its teaching delivery and innovative research. This underlines the strength of our engagement and collaborations with government, the private sector and stakeholders across the broader community.

Significant steps forward have been taken during 2018. Flinders University is the first South Australian university, and only the third in Australia, to receive accreditation from the prestigious Association of MBAs. This reflects the University's reinvigorated Master of Business Administration offering, placing the program in the upper echelon of business courses internationally.

Flinders is the first university nationally to adopt a fully integrated, online student candidature system, resulting in Australia's first digital doctorate that globalises Flinders PhDs and makes it possible to do a Flinders PhD with confidence anywhere in the world. It gives students real-time information about how their doctorate is progressing from the time they apply right through to completion and graduation, and significantly reduces the administrative burden – for example, a document that may previously have taken five hours to submit can now be lodged in 20 minutes. When multiplied across 1,000 students several times a year, the savings are enormous.

Some of the year's special achievements included establishing Órama, the Flinders University Institute for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Neuroscience, that will drive research for real-world outcomes to revolutionise how we understand, treat and prevent mental illness.

This illustrates Flinders' determination to help address the urgent needs of four million Australians requiring mental health treatment and provide new hope for the one in five people requiring mental health support annually.

In addition to strong outcomes for our students, our research innovation is producing strong outcomes for our state. I was delighted to launch our FLEX Driverless electric shuttle initiative at the Tonsley Innovation District, part of a five-year trial of autonomous vehicle technology taking place for the first time on public roads in South Australia. More than 1,000 members of the public have jumped aboard the opportunity to experience this emerging transport solution.

These accomplishments show that the Flinders community is achieving new goals while recognising fresh possibilities. As a consequence, the University is poised to reap great benefits.

Throughout the year, it has been pleasing to see how effectively our University Council has worked in unison with Vice-Chancellor Professor Colin Stirling and our University staff, so that our commitment to continually evolve and improve has taken flight.

The great navigator Captain Matthew Flinders set the course for the aims of this University when he said: 'I have too much ambition to rest in the unnoticed middle order of humankind, and since neither birth nor fortune have favoured me, my actions shall speak to the world! And so, we progress.'

**Stephen Gerlach AM**  
CHANCELLOR

# VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REVIEW

Mapping the clear pathway to a more dynamic and influential future, Flinders University embraced challenge and consolidated its performance in 2018. Strong foundations have been laid that ensure a secure structure is in place for the University to keep building towards a more prosperous and successful future.



The University has delivered a strong performance in 2018 and is making good progress towards our ambitious 2025 Agenda. The transition to our new College structure is now complete and represents a very solid base from which to build for the future. Our new structure provides a more agile and responsive environment and also encourages the development of interdisciplinary opportunities in both education and research that will be key to long-term success.

I am delighted that the University's reinforced commitment to research has forged stronger links with industries, developed stronger international relationships – particularly this year with leading French learning institutions and industries – and consolidated our reputation as a preferred destination of international students.

It's clear evidence that our strategic priorities, defined in *Making a Difference – The 2025 Agenda*, are propelling Flinders towards earning increased international recognition as a leading research institution, an innovator in contemporary education, and the source of this nation's most enterprising graduates.

Our successes reflect the calibre of our people, and pivotal appointments have equipped us with the leadership to increase our impact, performance and achievements. New leaders at the helm of our colleges are Professor Jonathan Craig (Vice-President & Executive Dean College of Medicine and Public Health), Professor Mike Kyrios (Vice-President & Executive Dean College of Education, Psychology and Social Work), Professor Vanessa Lemm (Vice-President & Executive Dean College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) and Professor Alistair Rendell (Vice-President & Executive Dean College of Science and Engineering).

Strong leadership is clearly identifying Flinders as a centre of progress and innovation, illustrated by the launch in February of the Tonsley Manufacturing Innovation (TMI) Hub, a world-class collaborative facility that provides access to cutting-edge technology. Facilitated by a \$490,000 investment from the State Government to purchase a state-of-the-art Festo i4.0 Cyber Physical Factory, the TMI Hub will support research and education around the Industry 4.0 agenda. This will provide practical training and real-world research opportunities for students, researchers and businesses wanting to embrace automation, advanced robotics and the Internet of Things.

Innovative thinking continues to be fostered by Flinders' New Venture Institute which was named best university incubator in the Asia-Pacific by the UBI World Benchmark Study, beating some 1,300 other business incubators from 53 countries. The accolade recognises the success of the New Venture Institute in incubating some 230 start-ups and educating more than 2,000 people in the

skills required for success in innovation and enterprise. Support grants from the federal government's Entrepreneur Program within the National Innovation and Science Agenda also enabled the establishment of the eNvision Limestone Coast incubator for south-eastern South Australia, with a focus on job creation and exports that will be supported by the Mount Gambier Council and the Government of South Australia.

Innovation and innovative technology permeates all that we do – and is embedded in Flinders' commitment to sustainability. Our Bedford Park campus is being transformed through the installation of one of Adelaide's largest rooftop solar arrays, comprising a solar car-port featuring 4,136 solar panels, and a further 1,681 solar panels across six campus buildings, generating some 20 per cent of Flinders' core campus electricity needs. The 1.8MW system will generate an estimated 2,700MWh per annum and is expected to pay for itself within five years. Flinders aims to reduce campus electricity demand by 30 per cent (from a 2015 baseline) through renewable energy generation and storage, in our quest to achieve zero net emissions from electricity by 2020.

The University's international reach is also expanding. In a ceremony witnessed by Prime Minister Turnbull and French President Macron, Flinders University signed important new research agreements with prestigious French Grandes Écoles Centrale Nantes and ENSTA Bretagne. Centrale Nantes researchers will work with the Flinders Centre for Nanoscale Science and Technology, and Centre for Maritime Engineering, Control and Imaging, on two key themes: additive manufacturing, and naval hydrodynamics and simulator development. In the other partnership, Flinders will partner with Thales Australia and ENSTA Bretagne on advanced sonar and marine robotics technologies.

Research strengths have also been recognised through almost \$7 million in grants from the Australian Government National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), to find much-needed solutions to chronic pain, bowel cancer, drug delivery and improved childhood vaccinations, among many other projects. Flinders researchers also were awarded more than \$9.5 million from the Australian Research Council to address student learning capacities, better gut health, and water resources management, through to improving health services in remote Indigenous communities. The highlight of the Australian Research Council support was the awarding of two prestigious Future Fellowships to high performing academics – Professor Karin Nordstrom and Professor Saulo Martelli.

Flinders digital psychiatry experts joined the national \$200 million Digital Health Cooperative Research Centre. It will deliver cutting-edge, high-tech solutions to improve health outcomes and

reduce pressure on Australia's \$170 billion-plus health budget, which faces dual burdens from an ageing population and chronic disease. Associate Professor Niranjana Bidargaddi from the College of Medicine and Public Health will work with tech companies such as RITEQ and goAct Pty Ltd to develop new software and mental health diagnostic tools.

The sum of this work has generated greater recognition for the University, underlined by our Times Higher Education ranking increasing from the 301-350 band into the 250-300 band. Flinders was ranked as a five-star university by the Good Universities Guide 2018 for student-teacher ratio, learning resources and skills development, placing us in the top tier of Australian universities in these crucial categories. Students rated their undergraduate experience at Flinders University above the national average on every measure in the 2018 Student Experience Survey, published on the federal government's Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching website. These positive results reflect the contributions of outstanding people at the core of this University.

It is also appropriate to applaud University staff who inspire our students, such as Professor Mark Shephard, who has created the largest point-of-care testing network for diabetes in Australia, and subsequently established an international centre that is helping people in 35 communities around the world. Gastroenterologist Professor Graeme Young won the Australian Johnson & Johnson Eureka Prize for Innovation in Medical Research for his innovative blood test for bowel cancer. Dr Sam Elliott won the inaugural Champion of Inclusion Award at the National Diversity and Inclusion in Sport Conference. Psychology Professor Tracey Wade has pioneered research that identifies genes and mechanisms for predicting and protecting against eating disorders. Professor Claire Smith was honoured with the 2018 Lucy Mair Medal by the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland for her research that has advanced the dignity of Indigenous people.

Such achievements represent the highest standards that this University cherishes and strives to uphold. It is most pleasing that all members of the Flinders University community are devoting their talents and energies towards ever-improving outcomes, which are driving us further along the path towards being within the top 1% of universities in the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Stirling'.

**Professor Colin Stirling**  
PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR



# 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY

## Entrepreneurship

eNVision Limestone Coast, a new business incubator space, is launched in Mt Gambier by the New Venture Institute (NVI) at Flinders University. It supports entrepreneurship in South Australia's south-east region by connecting startup ventures to a robust support and innovation network, to help reach global markets.



**Pictured L to R:** Tony Pasin MP, Katie Fox (Little Pink Box), Ashlee Kalantarian (Ashlee Lauren Designs), Daryl Prunnell (Fish 4 Life) and Professor Clare Pollock (Flinders University) at the eNVision Limestone Coast launch.

## Advanced Manufacturing

Two innovative Australian Research Council Linkage projects attract more than \$1.4 million in funding over three years. They aim to develop better systems for advanced manufacturing in South Australia, and new programs for older adults to prosper through increased community engagement.

## Solar Cells

Researchers at the Centre for NanoScale Science and Technology help create more sustainable and efficient solar cells made from lightweight, flexible semiconducting plastics, being cost-efficient and easy to manufacture.



**Pictured:** Flinders University Professor John Spoehr at the launch of the Tonsley Manufacturing Innovation Hub.

## Digital Illustration

The University's reputation as the world's best digital illustration school is cemented after winning The Rookies #1 in the World for Digital Illustration title for the second year in a row. In partnership with CDW Studios, Flinders students triumphed over peers across 581 academic institutions worldwide.



**Pictured:** Ryan Mugan's digital illustration titled 'Lightborn'.

**Pictured:** Designed by Solgen Energy and built by Tonkin Schutz, the solar array was constructed around an existing tree. Recognising the intrinsic sustainability value of the tree is as important as the panels. Photo supplied by Solgen Energy.

## Launch of Órama

The launch of Órama, the Flinders University Institute for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Neuroscience, signals a new approach to tackling mental health by bringing together research in neuroscience, psychiatry, psychology, allied health, education, engineering, social science and public health.

## Clean Energy Commitment

Flinders demonstrates its clean energy commitment by announcing the installation of almost 6,000 solar panels, one of Adelaide's largest solar arrays, to provide one-fifth of the electricity needed to power the University's Bedford Park campus.



**Pictured:** Professor Jamie Craig, Chair and Academic Head of Ophthalmology at Flinders University.

## Research Excellence Award

Professor Jamie Craig receives an NHMRC Research Excellence Award for Top Ranked Program Grant at the annual Research Excellence Awards in Canberra. Professor Craig's research to find the cause and possible cure for glaucoma has attracted more than \$27 million in funding during the past 10 years.



## Nobel Peace Laureate

Nobel Peace Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus (pictured above) delivers a powerful public lecture, presented by Flinders University and the Don Dunstan Foundation, that challenges South Australia to eradicate poverty, unemployment and carbon emissions.



## Reinvigorated MBA

Flinders University becomes the first South Australian university, and only the third in Australia, to receive accreditation from the prestigious Association of MBAs, reflecting the University's reinvigorated Master of Business Administration offering.

## Mental Health Research

The Breakthrough Mental Health Research Foundation is launched, providing a new approach to solving critical and wide-reaching mental illness issues. Its first four projects explore research themes of Early Intervention, Precision Research, New Technologies and Next Generation Therapies.

## Future Factories

Tonsley Manufacturing Innovation Hub opens, making Adelaide home to one of the few Future Factories in the Southern Hemisphere. It showcases the latest automation, sensor, monitoring, robotic and cobotic technologies to provide world-class education and training in advanced manufacturing.

## BioMed City Project

Flinders is a key partner in the \$3.8 billion Adelaide BioMed City project, one of the Southern Hemisphere's largest health and life sciences clusters, bringing together research, education, clinical care and business development.

## Aboriginal Youth Health

In a boost to Aboriginal Youth health, Associate Professor James Ward receives a prestigious Viertel Senior Medical Fellowship, providing \$1.25 million over five years to research sexually transmitted disease and illicit drug use in Indigenous communities.

## 40 Years of Nursing

Flinders University celebrated 40 years of nursing graduates by bringing past students and teachers back to Sturt campus. Attendees include the campus' first head of nursing, Dr Joan Durdin AM, famed for spearheading changes to nursing at a transformative time.

DECEMBER

# KEY STATISTICS

## STUDENT AND STAFF NUMBERS – FIVE-YEAR FIGURES

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>STUDENT NUMBERS</b>					
Australian	20,476	20,185	20,533	20,768	<b>20,676</b>
International	4,251	4,579	4,666	4,799	<b>5,406</b>
Onshore	2,538	2,732	3,028	3,285	<b>3,774</b>
Offshore	1,713	1,847	1,638	1,514	<b>1,632</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,726</b>	<b>24,764</b>	<b>25,199</b>	<b>25,566</b>	<b>26,082</b>
<b>Gender</b>					
Female Students	15,577	15,643	16,046	16,459	<b>16,904</b>
Male Students	9,149	9,121	9,140	9,105	<b>9,170</b>
Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified			1	2	<b>8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,726</b>	<b>24,764</b>	<b>25,199</b>	<b>25,566</b>	<b>26,082</b>
<b>STAFF (FTE)</b>					
Academic	874	875	844	828	<b>880</b>
Non-Academic	1,198	1,207	1,115	1,091	<b>1,115</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,071</b>	<b>2,082</b>	<b>1,959</b>	<b>1,920</b>	<b>1,995</b>
<b>Student-staff ratio</b>	<b>18.30</b>	<b>18.31</b>	<b>18.57</b>	<b>18.59</b>	<b>18.45</b>
<b>HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH ENROLMENTS</b>					
Masters Research	117	107	95	72	<b>68</b>
PhD	1,072	1,096	1,098	1,037	<b>986</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,203</b>	<b>1,193</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>1,054</b>

### Notes on student-staff ratio calculation:

- (i) Includes all Flinders University FT/FFT and casual staff FTE but excludes all staff with a 'research only' work function.
- (ii) Student load based on all onshore and offshore load at all levels (including higher degree research).

## FINANCIAL – KEY FIVE-YEAR FIGURES

	2014 \$'000	2015 \$'000	2016 \$'000	2017 \$'000	2018 \$'000
<b>UNIVERSITY – CONSOLIDATED RESULTS</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
Teaching	292,343	314,875	333,825	348,400	<b>369,179</b>
Research	81,061	82,416	80,565	77,077	<b>79,890</b>
Other Government (Non-Research)	32,992	27,523	27,094	25,869	<b>27,838</b>
Investment	10,099	7,872	9,884	10,755	<b>9,439</b>
Other	25,624	33,623	38,827	35,440	<b>28,779</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>442,117</b>	<b>466,308</b>	<b>490,195</b>	<b>497,540</b>	<b>515,125</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>429,955</b>	<b>451,960</b>	<b>462,609</b>	<b>471,170</b>	<b>495,956</b>
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>12,162</b>	<b>14,348</b>	<b>27,586</b>	<b>26,370</b>	<b>19,169</b>
Operating Margin	2.8%	3.1%	5.6%	5.3%	<b>3.7%</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY – CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL POSITION</b>					
<b>Assets</b>					
Cash and Term Deposits	77,545	56,957	75,800	97,894	<b>92,548</b>
Investments	58,228	64,605	69,768	93,606	<b>113,741</b>
Property, Plant and Equipment	545,676	587,761	602,093	599,963	<b>607,224</b>
Other Assets	104,563	101,884	99,325	97,196	<b>111,112</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>786,012</b>	<b>811,207</b>	<b>846,986</b>	<b>888,659</b>	<b>924,625</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>146,400</b>	<b>152,586</b>	<b>148,995</b>	<b>158,164</b>	<b>165,857</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>639,612</b>	<b>658,621</b>	<b>697,991</b>	<b>730,495</b>	<b>758,768</b>
Current Ratio	1.9	1.2	1.4	1.4	<b>1.3</b>



# UNIVERSITY COUNCIL



From left to right: Mr Douglas Gautier, Mr George Freney, Professor Brenda Wilson, Professor John Roddick, Mr Stephen Hains, Mr Stephen Gerlach, Ms Elizabeth Perry, Ms Kathryn Gramp, Professor Colin Stirling, Ms Amanda Muller, Mr John Hood, Ms Natalie Hills. Note: Mr George Freney commenced as a Council member on 1 January 2019

Absent from 2018 membership: Mrs Leonie Clyne, Ms Olivia Hanna, Ms Ashley Sutherland, Mr Austin Taylor, A/Professor Nik Taylor, Ms Sally Wheldrake, Mrs Christine Zeitz  
Absent from 2019 membership: Ms Olivia Hanna, Ms Katt Hatzi, Ms Christine Zeitz



# SENIOR EXECUTIVE TEAM



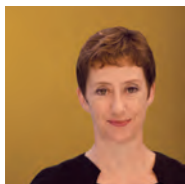
## President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Colin Stirling

Professor Colin Stirling has extensive experience in research, teaching and management. As Vice-Chancellor, he is responsible for ensuring the success and efficacy of the 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, WA.



## Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Robert Saint

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, he led research teams across Australia including at the Australian National University and the University of Melbourne.



## Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students) Professor Clare Pollock

Professor Clare Pollock leads educational strategy and student success, and has oversight of student-related and academic services. A graduate of Oxford University and the University of London, her distinguished research career has focused on the role of psychology to improve safety. She has a long history of leadership roles at Curtin University and has held many board positions, currently serving as a member of the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre board and the Universities Australia Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) group.



## 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, he has a strong track record in strategic business development, marketing, stakeholder collaboration and international relations. Mr Raneskold has held international leadership roles in Australia and Sweden, and currently leads the Innovative Research Universities International group, sits on the International Network of Universities Executive Council and is a Study Adelaide board member.



## Vice-President (Corporate Services) Mark Gregory

With a leadership background in Australia and the US, 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.



## Executive Director, Office of Communication and Engagement Callista Thillou

Callista Thillou is responsible for leadership of Flinders' marketing, media and communications, alumni, and external engagement functions. She has global experience in strategic higher education management, including leading the UK higher education sector's representation and engagement with the EU through senior roles at Universities UK. In Australia, Ms Thillou's previous roles include Director of Communications and Government Relations at the Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee. She holds a Bachelor of Business in Communications and a Masters degree in Marketing.



## 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 business strategy, finance and accounting. A University of South Australia graduate, he holds a Bachelor of Economics and an MBA, and is a Certified Practising Accountant. Mr Porter is charged with managing Flinders' finance functions including reporting, operations, procurement, tax and insurance.



## Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Business, Government and Law Professor Phyllis Tharenou

Professor Phyllis Tharenou has held several executive roles at Flinders, following earlier senior positions including Executive Director of Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences at the Australian Research Council and Dean Research at UniSA. Recognised for research in international careers, gender differences in managerial career advancement, and human resources especially of training, Professor Tharenou is a Fellow of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology in the United States, and the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management.



## Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Education, Psychology and Social Work Professor Mike Kyrios

Professor Mike Kyrios is a clinical psychologist who has held a range of academic, professional and administrative roles. His research covers the biopsychosocial spectrum and focuses on anxiety, depression, behavioural addictions and obsessive-compulsive disorders. An internationally sought-after speaker, he has been Scientific Chair for the International Congress of Applied Psychology and the World Congress of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies. Professor Kyrios holds adjunct positions at the University of Melbourne, Swinburne University and the Australian National University. He completed his postgraduate studies at LaTrobe University.



## Vice-President and Executive Dean, College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Professor Vanessa Lemm

Professor Vanessa Lemm has held executive academic appointments in Chile, Germany and the United States, including Head of the School of Humanities and Languages at the University of New South Wales, and Director of the Institute of Humanities at Diego Portales University in Chile. An internationally recognised expert on the philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche, she has published widely on Nietzsche, biopolitics and contemporary political philosophy, and co-founded an international research network on biopolitics. Professor Lemm is fluent in five languages.



## 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 past member of a World Health Organisation 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 Translation Advisory Committee and Synthesis and Translation of Research Evidence Advisory Group, and President of the Australia-New Zealand Society of Nephrology.



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

Professor Alison Kitson joined Flinders following her leadership of the University of Adelaide's nursing school. She has held executive roles at the Royal College of Nursing in the UK 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 the American Nurses Association, and is a board member of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care.



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

Professor Alistair Rendell joined Flinders following a 23-year career with the Australian National University, including recently as Director of the Research School of Computer Science where he oversaw a near doubling of its size. He has significant experience in both academic leadership and high-performance computing research. With an undergraduate degree in chemistry, he completed his PhD in theoretical and computational chemistry at the University of Sydney.





Flinders Express (or 'FLEX') begins its first passenger trip at the Tonsley Innovation District.

# RESEARCH SUCCESS

The reach and quality of research at Flinders University has been reinforced through significant achievements, breakthroughs and funding support across myriad areas during 2018.

## Mental Health

The development of new research institutes illustrates Flinders' progressive thinking in forging innovative collaborations to achieve fresh research outcomes. Órama, the Flinders University Institute for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Neuroscience, presents a bold new approach to tackling mental health solutions by bringing together expertise in neuroscience, psychiatry, psychology, allied health, education, engineering, social science and public health. Professor Mike Kyrios has helped to develop an online means of delivering effective obsessive-compulsive disorder treatment, addressing a condition that affects almost 1 in 30 Australians at some stage in their life. Flinders' commitment to mental health solutions also includes the co-creation of Breakthrough Mental Health Foundation — Australia's only dedicated mental health research charity — and driving a national rollout of the Healthy Minds program, a trial developed from psychology research conducted by Flinders' Dr Tom Nehmy to prevent and reduce the risk of depression, anxiety and eating disorders among high school students.

## Inner Health

The complexity of gut health research is being examined at Flinders from many angles, with multidisciplinary teams exploring the gastrointestinal tract's pivotal role in complex health and wellbeing issues. Professor Nick Spencer and Associate Professor Stuart Brierley have, for example, found that the gut acts independently of the brain — so independently that it is effectively a

Research is a fundamental cornerstone of the mission of the University. Through research and research-led teaching, we build and develop the knowledge and capabilities that improve lives and enhance society.

### Major research areas include:

- Autonomous vehicles
- Energetic materials
- Health and medical
- Labour and industry transformation
- Marine and maritime research
- Medical devices
- Nanotech and analytical chemistry
- Psychology and neuroscience
- Water and the environment

(Please note that the values provided are total project values for grants administered by Flinders. A portion of this funding will be transferred to partner organisations and therefore not be eligible for inclusion in HERDC as research income. Conversely, we also receive a portion of some grants administered by other universities that is included, so the attached HERDC amount may vary slightly. The exception is the NHMRC/MRFF statistic, which represents actual income to be reported in the upcoming HERDC submission post-audit).

**\$6.96m**  
NHMRC GRANTS  
(pending HERDC Audit)

**\$2.72m**  
DEFENCE RELATED FUNDING

**\$1.6m**  
MEDICAL DEVICE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FUNDING

**\$2.52m**  
PORT OF TOWNSVILLE GRANT  
'Inshore Dolphin Monitoring Program' (Guido Parra)

**\$9.56m**  
ARC GRANTS  
(where Flinders is the administering organisation)

**28.8%**  
SUCCESS RATE FOR ARC DISCOVERY PROJECTS  
(5th highest nationally)

**\$1.25m**  
SLYVIA AND CHARLES VIERTEL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION  
'Improving STI and BBV outcomes and associated drivers among Aboriginal people' (James Ward)

**\$2.01m**  
BEAT CANCER FUNDING

second brain. This knowledge could hold the key to understanding the effect our gut has on our emotions, and in particular its influence on our eating behaviours. Professor Spencer is also pioneering a new field called optogenetics, which uses light to control cells in living tissue. By targeting nerve cells in the intestines, he's working on a drug-free solution to painful chronic conditions such as irritable bowel syndrome and constipation.

Meanwhile, Professor Damien Keating has identified the gene responsible for obesity, creating the prospect of a drug which can switch off the gene and enable people to eat what they like without getting fat. His breakthrough discovery of the gut's role in producing serotonin — the feel-good hormone—could likewise offer a key to curing obesity.

Their work is among a raft of research projects that attracted almost \$8 million in grants to Flinders University from the Australian Research Council, comprising 15 Discovery Grants, two Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities grants, one Linkage Project grant, and a Discovery Early Career Researcher Award to Dr Tully Barnett.

## Research Collaboration

Australian-French research collaboration has taken a further step forward, with two projects involving Centrale Nantes, and with Defence giant Thales and ENSTA Bretagne — each representing important international opportunities for Flinders researchers and students. Similarly, a new alliance between BAE Systems Australia

and Flinders University will provide access to BAE Systems' digital shipbuilding tools, processes and methodologies. This will enable Flinders to train a workforce capable of building Australia's SEA 5000 Future Frigates and integrate the ships' complex operating systems. The Defence Innovation Partnership is also stimulating cutting-edge defence research projects, allocating \$695,000 in Collaborative Research Grants into progressing artificial intelligence for Australia's Future Submarines, and determining whole-of-health diagnosis for defence vehicles.

## Innovation in Manufacturing

The launch of the Tonsley Manufacturing Innovation (TMI) Hub will be a catalyst for manufacturing growth by supporting small and medium enterprises, through to the big defence primes, to access the latest in industry 4.0 technologies. This state-of-the-art facility enables cutting-edge research and education on automation and advanced robotics, and goes hand in hand with our new Innovative Manufacturing Accelerator Program, which is supporting manufacturing-based companies to fast-forward product development and commercialisation processes.

It emphasises the strength of Flinders' presence within the hive of activity at the Tonsley Innovation District, being the home of Flinders' Medical Device Research Institute, the New Venture Institute, and the test site for the FLEX Driverless public electric shuttle at the centre of a five-year trial of autonomous vehicle technology in South Australia.





Tall Poppy Science Award winners from left to right: A/Prof Emma Thomas, Dr Ryan Balzan, Dr Harriet Whiley, Dr Rodrigo Praino, Dr Catherine Attard.



Banduk Marika with Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Saint, April 2018, Flinders University. Photographer: Eddie Major.

# OUR PEOPLE

## Distinguished Alumni

In recognising and respecting the people who make a powerful difference in our society, Flinders University paid special tribute to the life and sacrifice of Loxton-born nurse Kirsty Boden, who was killed in the 2017 London Bridge terrorist attack. Her memory has been honoured through a posthumous Distinguished Alumni Award, and the awarding of a scholarship in her name for rural nurses, supported by a grant from the Government of South Australia.

## Research Excellence

Professor Jamie Craig received a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Research Excellence Award for Top Ranked Program Grant at the annual Research Excellence Awards in Canberra. The Flinders clinician and scientist has been involved in research that has attracted more than \$27 million in funding through the past 10 years, including a major \$9.46 million NHMRC Program Grant to find genetic solutions for glaucoma.

## Tall Poppy Science Awards

Flinders University scooped five of South Australia's 2018 Tall Poppy Science Awards, recognising outstanding research by young scientists and science communicators. The winners were molecular ecologist Dr Catherine Attard for assessing DNA to help conservation of native freshwater fish and endangered blue whales; social psychologist Associate Professor Emma Thomas studying how people and societies change; environmental microbiologist Dr Harriet Whiley studying water quality and food safety; psychologist Dr Ryan Balzan studying the symptoms of delusional beliefs; and politics lecturer Dr Rodrigo Praino studying what drives social policy decisions.

## Green Chemistry

Breakthrough discoveries to advance green chemistry resulted in Professor Colin Raston AO being elected as a Fellow of the

Australian Academy of Science. Professor Raston applied innovative principals to achieve such seemingly impossible scientific outcomes as changing protein structures that partly 'unboil' an egg. His leadership inspired further significant research achievements within the Institute for Nanoscale Science & Technology, with Dr Justin Chalker leading a team that developed an absorbent polymer made from waste products, with the ability to clean up petroleum spills and mercury pollution. His work has attracted several awards – ChemSocRev Emerging Investigator, Dream Chemistry Award Finalist, David Solomon Award in the RACI Sharp Academic Sharp Brain Competition and Green Chemistry Emerging Investigator – while PhD candidate Lisa Alcock earned an Endeavour Postgraduate Scholarship to study at the University of Cambridge's Department of Chemistry.

## Our 100,000th Graduate

Sarah Wright was Flinders University's 100,000th graduate, receiving her Bachelor of Education and Bachelor of Health Sciences in a milestone ceremony where she was joined on the stage for the conferral of her double degree by Flinders' very first graduate, Professor Alan Easton.

## Honorary Doctorates

Banduk Marika, the first Yolngu printmaker from northeast Arnhem Land, received an Honorary Doctorate from Flinders in recognition of her remarkable contributions as a First Nations artist and powerful cultural advocate for the Yolngu people. Raised on Yirrkala mission in northeast Arnhem Land in the 1950s, Banduk was initially tutored in traditional bark painting by her artist father Mawalan Marika, who encouraged her and her sisters to paint the ancestral creation stories of their clan, an activity typically reserved only for Yolngu men.

Marjorie Jackson-Nelson AC CVO MBE received an Honorary Doctorate from Flinders for her twin commitments to Australian sport and health research. Among her revered sporting

achievements, she was the first Australian female runner to break a world record and the first Australian woman to win an Olympic gold medal in athletics.

## Winnovation Winners

Dr Mary-Louise Rogers was named one of South Australia's 2018 Winnovation winners. As leader of South Australia's only dedicated Motor Neurone Disease-focused laboratory, she was recognised in the Technology category for her development of a novel urine test to determine if drugs are working in clinical trials of MND treatment.

## Research Opportunity

Chair of History at Flinders, Professor Melanie Oppenheimer, was appointed the 2018-19 Visiting Professor in Australian Studies at the Centre for Pacific and American Studies (CPAS) at the University of Tokyo. This prestigious chair will afford her an unparalleled research opportunity, in particular exploring the fascinating history of the Japanese Red Cross.

## 10-Year-Old Mathematician

Extraordinary 10-year-old Adelaide mathematician Levi Pesin started a degree in mathematics at Flinders University. He added two tertiary-level math subjects to his advanced skills in high school Specialist Mathematics before competing in an international math tournament in Eastern Europe.

## Remote Aid

Equipment and medical supplies from the former Royal Adelaide Hospital were redirected to remote communities in the Papua New Guinea highlands that were most affected by a violent earthquake in March, thanks to the efforts of Flinders public health and international development graduate and current PhD student, Shila Yukuli Paia.



In memory and special tribute of Kirsty Boden.



# TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Flinders named the world's best digital illustration school – again



Remarkable digital landscape by student Dean Ilango

Talented Flinders University students grasped the hotly contested The Rookies #1 in the world for Digital Illustration title for the second year in a row. In partnership with CDW Studios, Flinders students triumphed over peers across 581 academic institutions worldwide to win the 2018 award. The win backs up the University's reputation as the world's best digital illustration school.

Flinders' teaching excellence was highlighted with three citations in the federal government's 2018 Australian Awards for University Teaching. Dr Amanda Muller of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences was recognised for her innovative language teaching; Dr Jane Jarvis, Ms Anna Noble and Dr Carol Le Lant of the College of Education, Psychology and Social Work were noted for their work supporting preservice teachers; and Associate Professor Vivienne Brand and Dr Sulette Lombard of the College of Business, Government and Law were recognised for their dynamic corporate law curricula.

The crucial role that quality teaching has on influencing student achievements was recognised with the 2018 Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching. Awards were presented to Dr Deb Agnew and Associate Professor Shane Pill (College of Education, Psychology and Social Work), Dr Karen Lower (College of Medicine and Public Health) and Dr Masha Smallhorn (College of Science and Engineering). At the same ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor's Innovation in Teaching Awards went to Dr Russell Brewer, Associate Professor David Bright and Dr Rodrigo Praino (College of Business, Government and Law), Dr Dylan Irvine (College of Science and Engineering), Dr Tom Young and Dr Matt Hawkins (College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences), and Liz McNeill (College of Nursing and Health Sciences).

Flinders University's annual Learning and Teaching Week focused on the theme of engaging and retaining students at university, generating and sharing dynamic ideas through a robust five-day program of workshops and presentations. Outcomes are implemented through the Centre for Innovation and Learning in Teaching, led by Professor Deborah West.

Emeritus Professor John Halsey issued an important national report into regional, rural and remote education after investigating the difference in educational outcomes between country and city students. He made a series of recommendations to address the alarming divide and the continuing disadvantages facing regional students.

Flinders became the first university in Australia to offer a digital doctorate by adopting SkillsForge's fully integrated student candidature system. The streamlined process that globalises Flinders PhDs connects multiple systems for a quicker and more seamless process for PhD students.

Professor John Halsey, the new Independent Reviewer of Regional, Rural and Remote Education in Australia.

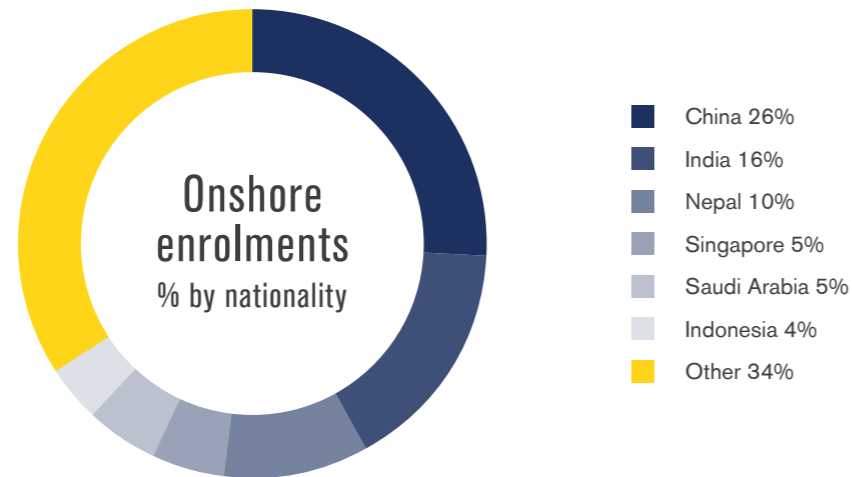


2018 Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching recipient Associate Professor Shane Pill



# INTERNATIONALLY ENGAGED

In 2018, Flinders achieved a 17 per cent increase in onshore international commencing enrolments over the full year, compared to 2017.



## LEARNING WITHOUT BORDERS

In 2018, Flinders University's Learn Without Borders Program supported 612 students in undertaking international experiences. These ranged from short-term intensive cultural experiences to international research internships, traditional semester exchanges with our partner universities across the world and international field-trip opportunities unique to Flinders University.

Flinders University also participated in the 2018 round of the Nicolas Baudin Travel Grant 'Internships in France Initiative'

facilitated by the Embassy of France in Australia. Flinders was the equal highest performing university in Australia, being awarded five full laureate scholars and an additional five partial scholars.

2018 also saw Hannah Brimstone become the first Flinders University New Colombo Plan Scholar. Hannah is a Flinders Law and Behavioural Science student who will utilise the scholarship to build her Indonesian experience by undertaking a six-month internship in Indonesia.

### Hannah Brimstone, Law & Behavioural Science

Law and behavioural science student Hannah Brimstone will study law and international relations at the University of Papua New Guinea for a semester in 2019, and also complete a six-month internship in Indonesia. She is pictured here with Vice-President and Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) Sebastian Raneskold at the Canberra ceremony.

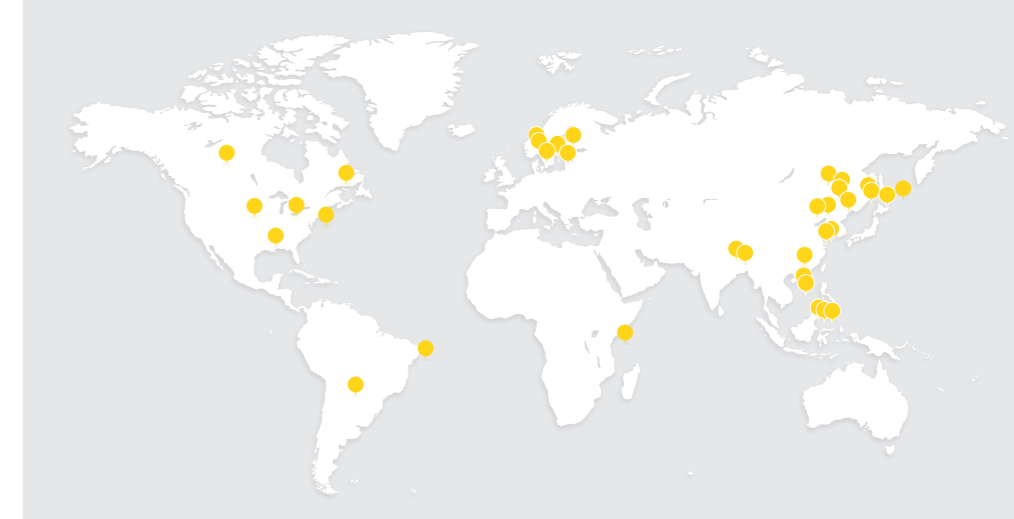
In its fifth year, the New Colombo Plan scholarships are an Australian Government initiative run by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. They are designed to help undergraduates develop a deep understanding of the Indo-Pacific region and equip them with valuable cross-cultural skills.

### Maddie Thiele, Work Integrated Learning (WIL), Science & Engineering

As part of a New Colombo Plan scholarship, marine biology student Maddie Thiele, who graduated with first class honours in 2018, seized the opportunity to enrich her student experience by undertaking a Work Integrated Learning placement in the Micronesian republic of Palau in the western Pacific.

'I visited Palau for two and a half weeks, and was lucky enough to go diving in the Palau Shark Sanctuary, explore an expanse of pristine coral reef ecosystems, dive on WWII shipwrecks, kayak through marine lakes and hike in tropical mountains. The course provided me with considerable field experience – sought after in many job opportunities.'

2018 saw the formation of 127 new education and research partnerships across 35 countries



### France: Nicolas Baudin Internship in France Student Mobility Program

May 2018: Flinders University became a signatory with other members of the Innovative Research Universities (IRU) network to the initiative offered by the Embassy of France in Australia. Internships are for between 3-6 months and involve industry focused research projects in areas such as marine technology, advanced manufacturing, structure and material engineering. Flinders University students claimed five of 23 available scholarships in 2018, the equal highest number of scholarships of participating Australian universities.

### Marine Technology Research

May 2018: French President Emmanuel Macron and Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull witness an agreement signing between Flinders University and Centrale Nantes (French graduate and postgraduate engineering school) that will support collaboration on research projects exploring additive manufacturing, naval hydrodynamics and simulator development. Researchers from Flinders' Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology and Centre for Maritime Engineering, Control and Imaging will join Centrale Nantes' world-leading researchers for two key projects involving marine propellers and 3D printing of metal-polymer composite materials.

### Naval Robotics Research

May 2018: An agreement between Flinders University and Thales (France and Australia) and ENSTA Bretagne (French graduate and postgraduate engineering school) is also witnessed by French President Emmanuel Macron and Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull. It will enable collaboration in naval robotics including opportunities to share testing facilities, operate exchange programs and facilitate joint research projects.

### South Australia-Brittany Sister State/Region Relationship Strengthened

June 2018: Six Flinders researchers are awarded state government funding to strengthen research relationships with Brittany laboratories, universities and industries in the areas of culture, smart tech, education, defence and primary industries.

Nov 2018: Flinders enters into a partnership with the Western Alliance for Scientific Outcomes in Australia, a cluster of higher education institutions in the Brittany region, France. The partnership results in Flinders' engineering students being selected to participate in summer school in Brest, Brittany.

### China: South Australia-Shandong Sister State/Province Relationship Strengthened

July 2018: The Honourable David Ridgway, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, officially launches the Shandong Academy of Sciences (SDAS) and Flinders University joint International Laboratory for Health Technologies in Jinan, Shandong. The primary focus of the joint laboratory is to deliver health technologies with global impact. The SDAS-Flinders relationship is further strengthened with an agreement that will see SDAS PhD candidates undertake research at Flinders in the joint International Laboratory for Health Technologies and the China-Australia Joint Laboratory for Native Bioresource Industry.

### Indonesia: Start-up Ecosystems Entrepreneurial Short Course

Nov 2018: The University's New Venture Institute is awarded Australia Awards in Indonesia (DFAT) funding to create and deliver a course to build skills of 26 Indonesian entrepreneurs and introduce them to Australia's start-up ecosystem.

## TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION

Flinders delivers eight courses to 1,654 students in collaboration with international partners in three countries: China (including Hong Kong SAR), Malaysia and Singapore.

Flinders Transnational Education (TNE) programs include Masters and Bachelor courses in psychology, education, creative arts, international relations and health administration.

In 2018, more than 660 Flinders students celebrated their graduation from postgraduate degrees in China, taking the University's TNE alumni in China (including Hong Kong SAR), Malaysia and Singapore to 7,309.



# FLINDERS CENTRAL CORRIDOR

Flinders' Northern Territory facilities are crucial elements in a knowledge network that extends from south of Adelaide to beyond Darwin, creating a central learning corridor that is unmatched in the nation.

Aboriginal women working and studying with Flinders University in the Northern Territory are transforming health services for communities across northern and central Australia, and have become the focus of an important community promotional campaign.

They provide the focal point for a new publication released to celebrate NAIDOC Week 2018, illustrating powerful examples of the impact that Aboriginal women are having across Flinders' seven NT sites.

Using the NAIDOC theme *Because of Her, We Can*, Flinders NT staff and graduates explain their remarkable journeys in the publication, highlighting their efforts to improve health services for all Territorians, with a particular focus on Aboriginal people.

The driving force behind this new publication is Flinders NT Manager Monica Barolits-McCabe and Dr Belinda Washington.

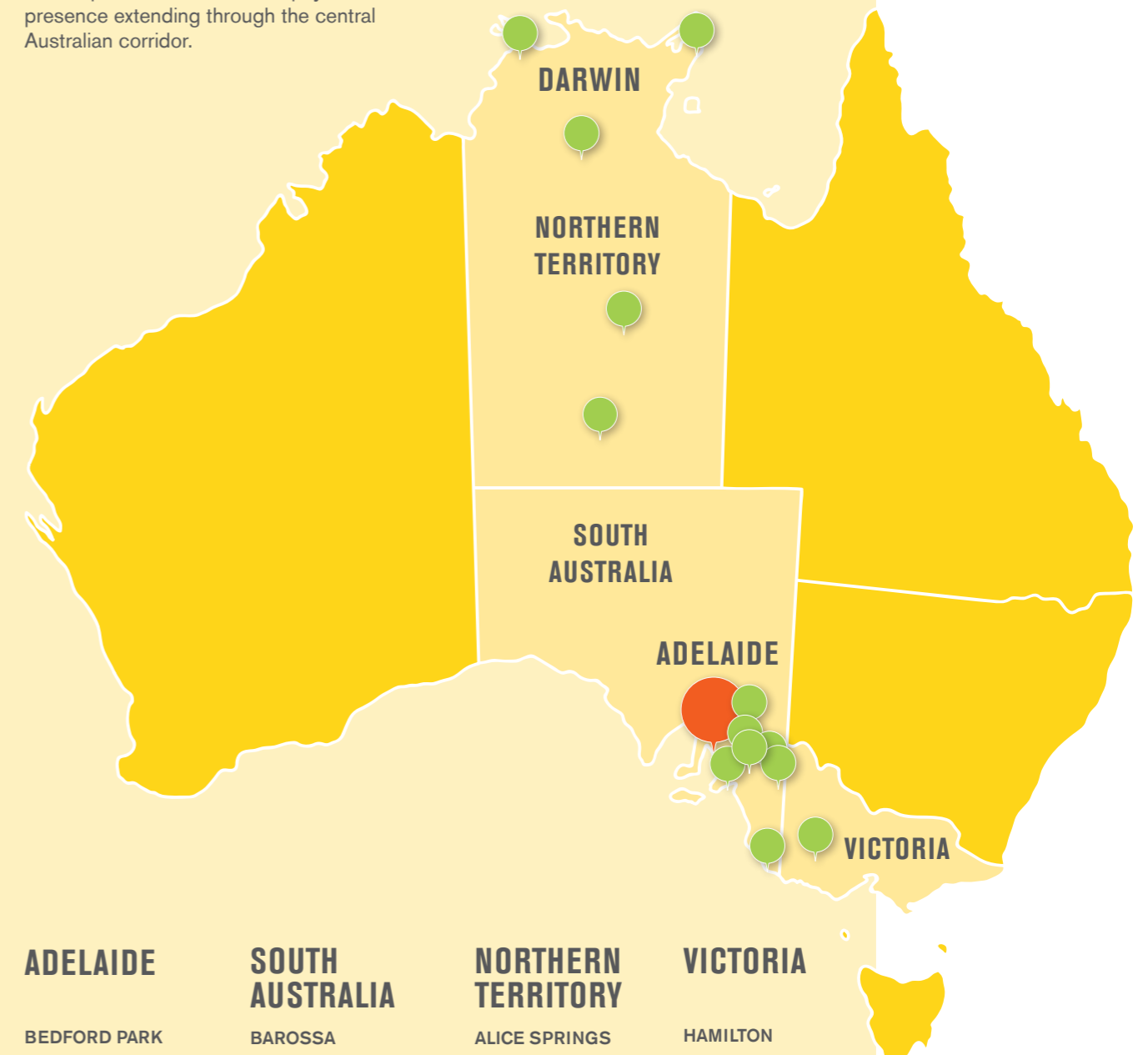
Other inspiring women featured in the *Because of Her, We Can* publication are Indigenous Health lecturers Kathleen Martin and Colleen Hayes, Kelly-Anne Browne, Maddy Bower, Tanja Hiroven, Barbara Richards, Veronica McClintic, Lorna Murakami-Gold, Maree Meridith and Shanaya Swan-Castine.

*Because of Her, We Can* publication



## GEOGRAPHIC FOOTPRINT

Headquartered in Adelaide, South Australia, we offer exceptional teaching on campus and online, with a physical presence extending through the central Australian corridor.





Angus and Julia Stone performing in the Plaza at their sold-out concert on their national tour.



### SpringFest 2018

Thousands of young explorers came to campus for SpringFest 2018, a far-reaching family day that highlights the fun in learning and how the University is central to this journey of discovery. Activities presented in conjunction with Nature Play SA included a delicious meld of education and entertainment through such activities as constructing cubby houses and creating seasonal seed bombs to SA Museum dig pits. On the back of the inaugural SpringFest 2017 being declared Public Event of the Year at Meeting and Events Australia's SA Awards night, SpringFest has cemented its reputation as a premiere community event.

### Flinders University Stadium

Flinders University's partnership with the South Adelaide Football Club escalated, with Flinders becoming its new stadium naming-rights partner. In an important positioning statement placing the University at the heart of the southern suburbs, the home of the Panthers is now known as Flinders University Stadium, after Joint Major Partners Flinders University signed a five-year naming rights partnership with the Club.

### Flinders Express

FLEX Driverless public electric shuttles began operating around the Tonsley Innovation District. Also known as the Flinders Express, FLEX provides shuttle services between the nearby Clovelly Park Train Station and Tonsley's Main Assembly Building, then connects to bus stops on South Road and businesses within the Tonsley precinct.

### PEACE Pack

Primary schools across South Australia began trialling a new anti-bullying program developed at Flinders University. The new primary school version of the PEACE Pack, supported by the Breakthrough Mental Health Research Foundation, complements a secondary school resource that has successfully reduced bullying in high schools for more than a decade.

### Protecting Senior Citizens

Protecting senior citizens in residential aged care from the risk of antibiotic resistant bacteria is the aim of new research being undertaken at Flinders. The Tackling Antimicrobial Resistance program of the Australian Government Medical Research Future Fund aims to increase understanding of how antimicrobial resistance is transmitted and spread in residential aged care facilities. Another Australian Government Australian Research Council Linkage project being undertaken at Flinders will research new ideas for older adults to flourish and benefit from community engagement.

### Hub and Plaza Concerts

The return of major concerts to Flinders University's Hub and Plaza brought more people from outside the student community onto campus and introduced them to our impressive upgraded facilities and buildings. Angus and Julia Stone attracted a full house for the only SA date of their national tour. More major gigs are planned for the future.

### Be a Better Human Campaign

Strong student initiatives are contributing to positive campus culture. Flinders University Student Association was recognised by Universities Australia with a high commendation for Best Proactive Communications for its innovative *Be a Better Human* campaign. Created in collaboration with students, the campaign was developed to address sexual assault and harassment, reflecting the University's resolve to promote appropriate understanding of consent, respect and empathy.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Brighton Secondary School counsellor Tony Mahar, who sees the positive effect of running the PEACE pack every year, with some Year 8 and Year 12 students. Photography: Craig CJ Taylor.



New Alchemists,  
February 2018,  
Flinders University  
City Gallery.  
Photographer:  
CJ Taylor.



Object-based learning, Flinders University Art Museum.  
Photograph: Flinders University Art Museum.

**Established in 1966 for education and research, the Flinders University Art Museum (FUAM) collections comprise more than 8,000 works. These span the 15th–21st centuries and represent various currents in Western art history as well as diverse Indigenous visual art practices including by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. Together, the works in FUAM’s care constitute the most extensive public holding of art in South Australia after the state gallery, and represent one of the largest and most idiosyncratic university art collections in the nation.**

The greatest achievement of 2018 was the much anticipated launch of the Art Museum’s Online Collections Catalogue enabling greater access to and use of the Museum’s valuable collection items. The culmination of eight years’ work, the project entailed digitisation of more than 40,000 fields of data and involved hundreds of hours of photography. As a result, FUAM’s collections are now on hand for students and staff from their desktops and searchable across diverse fields for the first time ever. As a living repository, FUAM aims to extend the catalogue with input from colleagues across the University and wider cultural collections sector.

South Australia, Murray Bridge Regional Gallery, and the Migration Museum.

In fostering internal relations, FUAM presented an exhibition commemorating the award of Honorary Degree – Doctor of Letters for Yolgnu artist Banduk Marika, partnered with College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences to host Indonesian artist-in-residence Moelyono, and co-presented the annual Megaw Lecture in Archaeology and Art with guest speaker Professor Thomas Stöllner from Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany.

In a move toward an exciting new future, FUAM bid farewell to its City Gallery at the State Library of South Australia on North Terrace to consolidate operations at the Bedford Park campus. New infrastructure to support FUAM’s exhibitions and programs is currently in design and will ensure we continue to address social, cultural and educational objectives and deliver a fresh and exciting space in which our many communities can gather, exchange ideas and meaningfully engage with art.

FUAM’s closing City Gallery exhibition *HEAD-TO-HEAD: Shifting perspectives in Australian portraiture* showcased 65 works from the collection and was a fitting tribute to the City Gallery’s 21 years, first in Grote Street (1997–2002) and then in the more prominent location at the State Library of South Australia (2003–2018). Over this period, FUAM presented 125 exhibitions and welcomed over half a million visitors.

We thank our friends for their expressions of praise, gratitude and support following the City Gallery closure and for ongoing support since then. We were particularly thrilled to reach a new record in our Annual Appeal which enabled FUAM to acquire new works for the collection by the highly acclaimed multi-disciplinary artist Dr Christian Thompson AO, one of the first two Aboriginal Australians to be admitted into the University of Oxford to study for a doctorate.

FUAM was also successful in its application to the National Library of Australia Community Heritage Grant Scheme for continued work on its collection of early Papunya Boards. Working with Artlab Australia, priority needs for the preservation and care of these important works have now been identified and plans put in place to address concerns in 2019.

A continuing priority in the area of education saw the roll-out of new initiatives in object-based learning and a growing interest in FUAM as a site of cross-disciplinary research and education. In this regard FUAM delivered a total of 85 education-based programs for students across the academic year. These represented engagements with 24 unique topics including from the Colleges of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences; Education, Psychology and Social Work; and Medicine and Public Health. In addition, FUAM responded to 57 research enquiries.

FUAM is committed to continuing key partnerships and developing new connections with local, national and international artists and organisations. In 2018 this included working with Papunya Tjupi Arts for the *Significance Assessment Report on the FUAM Papunya Painting Collection*; Guildhouse for The Collections Project; Iwantja Arts for National Reconciliation Week; Country Arts SA to present *Art in Translation* public forum and *Arts Writing Hot House* in addition to *Island to Inland* touring exhibition, which attracted more than 3,000 visitors through



*HEAD-TO-HEAD:*  
*shifting perspectives*  
*in Australian*  
*portraiture* exhibition  
launch, May 2018,  
Flinders University  
City Gallery.  
Photographer:  
Tash McCammon.



# Thank you

To our donors and friends who partnered with us in  
2017 and 2018 to make a difference

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Gerrie Stafford  
The family of the late Lena Karmel and the late Emeritus Professor Peter Karmel AC CBE

# GOVERNANCE & RISK

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

## Council Responsibilities

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
- 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 of 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 two or four 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 two or four years determined by Council)

- one member of the academic staff elected by the academic staff (the term of office is two years)
- one member of the professional staff elected by the professional staff (the term of office is two years)
- two students of 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 two years).

## Committees of the University Council

To assist with its responsibilities, Council has established standing committees which contribute to the effective governance of the University.

The standing committees of the University Council are:

- Executive Committee
- Academic Senate
- Audit & Risk Committee
- Finance & Investment Committee
- Remuneration Committee.

Thank you also to our many donors who wish to remain anonymous.

\*The Donor Honour Roll recognises those who donated to Flinders University between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018.



Each of the standing committees provides expert advice to Council in its key area of responsibility and is chaired by a member of Council, ensuring effective communication with, and accountability to, Council.

The Council refers matters to its standing committees in accordance with their terms of reference.

Committee terms are generally for two years with members being eligible for re-election at the end of their term.

## Executive Committee

Composition	Key Responsibilities
Chancellor <i>ex officio</i> (Chairperson) Six (6) Chancellor-appointed members, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vice-Chancellor <i>ex officio</i></li> <li>2 x Deputy Chancellors <i>ex officio</i></li> <li>Chair, Academic Senate <i>ex officio</i></li> <li>2 x external members of Council</li> </ul>	The Executive Committee is responsible for advising and assisting the 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 the Council on the University's strategic plan, emerging risks and opportunities.

## Academic Senate

Composition	Key Responsibilities
Appointed members (13): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairperson (a member of the academic staff appointed by the Vice-Chancellor)</li> <li>Twelve (12) senior academic staff, namely, two (2) from each College, with skills and experience appropriate to the Academic Senate's terms of reference, appointed by each Vice-President and Executive Dean giving due consideration to gender balance.</li> </ul> Ex officio members (14): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vice-Chancellor</li> <li>Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)</li> <li>Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students)</li> <li>Vice-President and Pro Vice-Chancellor (International)</li> <li>Six (6) x Vice-President and Executive Deans of College</li> <li>Dean, Indigenous Strategy and Engagement</li> <li>Dean of Graduate Research.</li> </ul>	Academic Senate is responsible for ensuring the academic quality and integrity of the University's academic operations.

## Audit & Risk Committee

Composition	Key Responsibilities
The Committee is appointed by the Council and comprises at least three members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair will normally be selected from amongst the external membership of Council.</li> <li>All members will be persons external to the University.</li> <li>All members must have an understanding of the content of financial statements and the key financial issues facing the University. At least one member must be qualified and experienced in accounting or finance.</li> <li>The Chancellor will not be a member of the Committee.</li> </ul>	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

Composition	Key Responsibilities
The Committee comprises the following members appointed by the Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair will be an external member of Council, other than the Chancellor, with financial and/or commercial expertise.</li> <li>Up to five persons external to the University with relevant expertise, subject to the resulting composition having an equal or greater number of Council members compared to other persons</li> <li>Vice-Chancellor (<i>ex officio</i>).</li> </ul>	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

Composition	Key Responsibilities
The membership will comprise the members of the Executive Committee except that the Vice-Chancellor will not be a member of the 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.

Member Attendance	FA	C	ARC	AS	EC	FIG
*Mr Stephen Gerlach AM <i>Chancellor (ex officio)</i>	1/03/10	5	5		6	6
*Professor Colin Stirling <i>Vice-Chancellor (ex officio)</i>	1/01/15	5	5	5	4	6
*Professor John Roddick <i>Chair of the University's Academic Senate (ex officio)</i>	1/07/17	5	5	5	5	6
Mrs Leonie J Clyne OAM <i>Appointed member of Council</i>	10/10/02	5	4			
*Mr Douglas Gautier AM <i>Appointed member of Council</i>	19/04/12	5	5			
*Ms Kathryn Gramp <i>Appointed member of Council</i>	1/01/15	5	4	5	5	
*Mr Stephen Hains <i>Appointed member of Council</i>	1/01/11	5	5		6	5
*Ms Elizabeth Perry <i>Appointed member of Council</i>	8/08/13	5	3		6	6
*Mr John Hood <i>Co-opted member of Council</i>	9/03/17	5	4	5	5	4
*Mr Austin R M Taylor <i>Appointed member of Council</i>	1/01/07	5	5		6	5
*Professor Brenda Wilson <i>Appointed member of Council</i>	1/10/15	5	3		6	4
*Mrs Christine Zeitz <i>Appointed member of Council</i>	15/03/12	5	2			4
^*Dr Amanda Muller <i>Academic Staff member elected by Academic Staff</i>	13/07/18	3	3			
^A/Professor Nik Taylor <i>Academic Staff Member elected by Academic Staff</i>	1/01/17	2	1			
*Ms Natalie Hills <i>Professional Staff member elected by Professional Staff</i>	1/01/17	5	4			
Ms Sally Wheldrake <i>Professional Staff member elected by Professional Staff</i>	1/01/17	5	4			
Ms Ashley Sutherland <i>PG Student member</i>	1/01/18	5	1			
Ms Olivia Hanna <i>Elected Student member</i>	1/01/18	5	4			

- Number of meetings held
- Number of meetings attended
- FA First appointed
- C Council
- ARC Audit & Risk Committee#
- AS Academic Senate\*
- EC Executive Committee\*
- FIG Finance & Investment Committee#

This table reflects attendance at formal meetings only.

#Data for Council Members only \* Membership continuing ^ Reflects attendance at meetings while the person was eligible to attend as a member



# FINANCIALS



Students at Bedford Park campus



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To be read in consultation with the full financial statement.



# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
<b>INCOME STATEMENT</b>				
Total income from continuing operations	515,125	497,540	506,456	483,043
Total expenses from continuing operations	495,956	471,170	485,385	458,280
Operating result	19,169	26,370	21,071	24,763
Operating margin	3.7%	5.3%	4.2%	5.1%
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>				
Net assets	758,768	730,495	756,728	725,190
Current ratio	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3

The 2018 Flinders University consolidated operating surplus of \$19.2m demonstrates continued improvement and progress towards *The 2025 Agenda*. This is a solid result given a number of challenges addressed throughout the year, including the Higher Education funding reforms, and the Academic workforce restructure actioned in 2018.

The introduction of the funding cap on Commonwealth Government Supported Places for domestic students that came into effect in January 2018 has affected revenue: despite this revenue growth for the year was again above target, underpinned primarily by incremental teaching revenue.

In 2018 the focus continued on directing operating expenditure into areas of highest priority as part of the University's commitment to improve operational efficiencies. This was in addition to delivering targeted strategic operational and capital investments, essential to enhance the student experience offered by the University and a planned expanded research capability.

The successful financial result for the year further strengthens the University's balance sheet with total net assets of \$758.8m (2017: \$730.5m). Importantly it increases the University's financial capacity to support planned significant strategic investment projects in future years.

# INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
<b>INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>				
Australian Government financial assistance				
Australian Government grants	232,618	228,019	232,618	228,019
HELP – Australian Government payments	104,378	101,502	104,378	101,502
State and local government financial assistance	7,743	7,637	7,826	7,637
HECS-HELP – Student payments	7,278	6,901	7,278	6,901
Fees and charges	120,725	102,641	120,583	102,601
Investment revenue	8,283	7,082	8,148	6,934
Royalties, trademarks and licenses	645	727	644	790
Consultancy and contracts	15,628	14,748	14,020	13,296
Other revenue	16,381	25,084	10,733	11,536
Gains/(losses) on disposal of assets	290	(60)	228	59
Share of profit or loss on investments accounted for using the equity method	1,156	(509)	–	–
Other investment gains	–	3,768	–	3,768
<b>Total income from continuing operations</b>	<b>515,125</b>	<b>497,540</b>	<b>506,456</b>	<b>483,043</b>
<b>EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>				
Employee-related expenses	322,173	309,958	317,220	300,143
Depreciation and amortisation	38,124	35,244	37,940	34,951
Repairs and maintenance	12,947	11,834	12,837	11,637
Borrowing costs	69	176	69	176
Impairment of assets	4,227	3,022	398	4,490
Other investment losses	3,483	97	3,483	97
Other expenses	114,933	110,839	113,438	106,786
<b>Total expenses from continuing operations</b>	<b>495,956</b>	<b>471,170</b>	<b>485,385</b>	<b>458,280</b>
<b>Net result from continuing operations</b>	<b>19,169</b>	<b>26,370</b>	<b>21,071</b>	<b>24,763</b>
Net result attributable to University	19,532	26,370	21,071	24,763
Net result attributable to non-controlling interest	(363)	–	–	–
<b>Total net result from continuing operations</b>	<b>19,169</b>	<b>26,370</b>	<b>21,071</b>	<b>24,763</b>



# COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

## COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT – FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Net result for the period	19,169	26,370	21,071	24,763
<b>ITEMS THAT WILL BE RECLASSIFIED TO PROFIT OR LOSS</b>				
Gain/(loss) on financial assets designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	8,621	5,143	9,984	4,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,621</b>	<b>5,143</b>	<b>9,984</b>	<b>4,200</b>
<b>ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE RECLASSIFIED TO PROFIT OR LOSS</b>				
Gain/(loss) on revaluations	483	–	483	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>	<b>9,104</b>	<b>5,143</b>	<b>10,467</b>	<b>4,200</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>28,273</b>	<b>31,513</b>	<b>31,538</b>	<b>28,963</b>
Total comprehensive income attributable to University	28,636	31,513	31,538	28,963
Total comprehensive income attributable to non-controlling interest	(363)	–	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,273</b>	<b>31,513</b>	<b>31,538</b>	<b>28,963</b>

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

# FINANCIAL POSITION

## FINANCIAL POSITION STATEMENT – AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	39,456	42,998	38,462	42,040
Receivables	17,253	15,946	14,925	14,122
Inventories	196	198	194	195
Other financial assets	53,092	54,896	53,092	54,896
Other non-financial assets	5,786	4,933	5,719	4,860
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>115,783</b>	<b>118,971</b>	<b>112,392</b>	<b>116,113</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Receivables	46,778	45,855	46,778	45,855
Investments accounted for using the equity method	1,919	2,402	–	–
Other financial assets	105,337	84,903	106,905	84,885
Property, plant and equipment	607,224	599,963	605,720	598,390
Investment properties	8,404	8,703	8,404	8,703
Intangible assets	36,016	24,250	35,852	23,978
Other non-financial assets	3,164	3,612	3,164	3,612
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>808,842</b>	<b>769,688</b>	<b>806,823</b>	<b>765,423</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>924,625</b>	<b>888,659</b>	<b>919,215</b>	<b>881,536</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Trade and other payables	52,035	44,360	48,777	42,784
Borrowings	1,239	1,850	1,239	1,850
Provisions	22,789	22,482	22,412	22,114
Other liabilities	14,014	17,223	14,279	17,349
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>90,077</b>	<b>85,915</b>	<b>86,707</b>	<b>84,097</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Trade and other payables	3,334	3,324	3,334	3,324
Borrowings	2,400	–	2,400	–
Provisions	70,046	68,925	70,046	68,925
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>75,780</b>	<b>72,249</b>	<b>75,780</b>	<b>72,249</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>165,857</b>	<b>158,164</b>	<b>162,487</b>	<b>156,346</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>758,768</b>	<b>730,495</b>	<b>756,728</b>	<b>725,190</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>				
<b>University interest</b>				
Reserves	177,027	167,923	180,780	170,313
Retained earnings	581,267	561,957	575,948	554,877
<b>University interest</b>	<b>758,294</b>	<b>729,880</b>	<b>756,728</b>	<b>725,190</b>
<b>Non-controlling interest</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>758,768</b>	<b>730,495</b>	<b>756,728</b>	<b>725,190</b>



# CHANGES IN EQUITY

## CHANGES IN EQUITY STATEMENT – FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	RESERVES	RETAINED EARNINGS	UNIVERSITY INTEREST	NON CONTROLLING INTEREST	TOTAL
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>CONSOLIDATED</b>					
Balance as at 1 January 2017	162,780	535,144	697,924	67	697,991
Net result	–	26,370	26,370	–	26,370
Gain/(loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	5,143	–	5,143	–	5,143
Prior period adjustment	–	443	443	–	443
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>5,143</b>	<b>26,813</b>	<b>31,956</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>31,956</b>
Recognition of non-controlling interest	–	–	–	548	548
Balance as at 31 December 2017	167,923	561,957	729,880	615	730,495
Balance as at 1 January 2018	167,923	561,957	729,880	615	730,495
Net result	–	19,532	19,532	(363)	19,169
Gain on revaluation	483	–	483	–	483
Gain/(loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	8,621	–	8,621	–	8,621
Prior period adjustment	–	(222)	(222)	222	–
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>9,104</b>	<b>19,310</b>	<b>28,414</b>	<b>(141)</b>	<b>28,273</b>
Balance as at 31 December 2018	177,027	581,267	758,294	474	758,768
<b>UNIVERSITY</b>					
Balance as at 1 January 2017	166,113	530,114			696,227
Net result	–	24,763			24,763
Gain/(loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	4,200	–			4,200
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>24,763</b>			<b>28,963</b>
Balance as at 31 December 2017	170,313	554,877			725,190
Balance as at 1 January 2018	170,313	554,877			725,190
Net result	–	21,071			21,071
Gain on revaluation	483	–			483
Gain/(loss) on equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	9,984	–			9,984
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>10,467</b>	<b>21,071</b>			<b>31,538</b>
Balance as at 31 December 2018	180,780	575,948			756,728

# CASH FLOWS

## CASH FLOWS STATEMENT – FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	CONSOLIDATED		UNIVERSITY	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Australian Government Grants	336,517	329,981	336,517	329,981
OS-HELP (net)	1,083	842	1,083	842
Superannuation Supplementation	4,061	2,701	4,061	2,701
State Government Grants	7,652	7,557	7,652	7,557
Local Government Grants received	173	80	173	80
HECS-HELP – Student payments	7,278	6,901	7,278	6,901
Receipts from student fees and other customers	149,540	150,898	143,286	134,123
Dividends received	2,069	1,246	2,069	1,125
Interest received	3,542	2,760	3,542	2,733
Other investment income	2,537	3,076	2,537	3,076
GST recovered/paid	8,691	6,530	8,691	6,530
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)	(461,673)	(435,738)	(455,508)	(419,979)
Interest and other costs of finance	(69)	(176)	(69)	(176)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>61,401</b>	<b>76,658</b>	<b>61,312</b>	<b>75,494</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Proceeds of sale of property, plant and equipment	493	975	493	975
Proceeds from sale of investment	4,370	3,607	4,370	3,607
Other investing outflows	(310)	(614)	(310)	(614)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(49,724)	(35,731)	(49,671)	(35,999)
Payments for financial assets	(17,922)	(55,696)	(17,922)	(54,683)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(63,093)</b>	<b>(87,459)</b>	<b>(63,040)</b>	<b>(86,714)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Proceeds from borrowing	–	(600)	–	–
Payment of finance lease liabilities	(1,850)	(1,743)	(1,850)	(1,743)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>(1,850)</b>	<b>(2,343)</b>	<b>(1,850)</b>	<b>(1,743)</b>
<b>Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(3,542)</b>	<b>(13,144)</b>	<b>(3,578)</b>	<b>(12,963)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	42,998	56,142	42,040	55,003
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>39,456</b>	<b>42,998</b>	<b>38,462</b>	<b>42,040</b>
Financing arrangements				
Non-cash financing and investing activities				

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



# CHANCELLOR'S LETTER OF TRANSMISSION



Hon John Gardner  
Minister for Education  
Level 9, 31 Flinders Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report and audited financial statements for the period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018 in compliance with the Flinders University Act 1966, Section 27, and in accordance with a resolution of the members of Council at its meeting on 23 May 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Gerlach".

Stephen Gerlach AM  
Chancellor



Students at Flinders' campus at Tonsley





Flinders  
UNIVERSITY

