



Statement of Strategic Intent

Innovative Research Universities (IRU) is a coalition of seven comprehensive universities committed to innovation and inclusive excellence in teaching, learning and research in Australia.



The members' commitment and impact is both local and global with a focus on advancing communities through education, resources, opportunities, translational research and enterprise.

Through its members working collectively, the IRU seeks to be at the constructive centre of Australian university policy making, influencing political developments beyond individual university capacities to do so.

The IRU members' research focus is on the translation and commercialisation of research on issues of critical importance to the communities in which they are based and addressing problems of national and global scale. Over time our members have developed their own particular research strengths, with multiple areas of research at and well above world standard.

As an outward-looking network the IRU seeks to strengthen Australia's integration with the countries of Asia.

IRU member universities:

- offer students welcoming, supportive and dynamic teaching environments.
- welcome students from culturally and socially diverse backgrounds, recognising the strength in ensuring our institutions are equitable and distinct.
- strive to be universities of choice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and staff, promoting understanding of Indigenous knowledges in education, research and policy.
- respond to local communities and endeavour to redress state and national gaps in access to higher education.
- know their communities deeply and accompany them in current, emergent and future opportunities.
- advocate policy that supports and enhances innovation and excellence in teaching and learning with a local relevance and global application.
- are committed to optimising academic opportunities and experiences that lead to globally respected qualifications, sought after graduates and vocational success.

Innovative Research Universities in numbers



Students

- Over 209,000 students (14% of all students) including 45,000 international students
- Over 3900 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (22% of all such students)
- Over 29,000 students from a low socio-economic background (22% of all such students)
- Over 30,000 students from regional and remote communities (19% of all such students)
- 85% of employers expressed satisfaction with IRU graduates



Research

- Over 7900 postgraduate research students (12% of all such students)
- 82% of our research is world class or better, across 263 fields of research
- \$352 million in research income, spread across national competitive grants and support for industry driven research, representing 9% of all university research income

