Our Mount Gambier Campus

Industry engaged and community focused
The University of South Australia is a globally connected and engaged university helping to solve the challenges of industry and the community.

Real solutions don’t happen without great partnerships, so we are focused on collaborating with local organisations and the community to drive advancements that contribute to a better society. At UniSA, we operate through a partnered approach, which informs our teaching and research, and our commitment to outstanding service to the community and long-term sustainability.

We have a strong physical presence in regional South Australia. Our campuses in Whyalla and Mount Gambier attract students throughout the Spencer Gulf, South East South Australia and South West Victoria. We also offer a growing suite of 100% online degrees, creating greater access to higher education.

Our institution is fundamental in building regional capacity and resilience, contributing to new knowledge and skills in the regions and creating more vibrant local communities.

**PROFESSOR DAVID LLOYD**

**VICE CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT**
An enterprising spirit

UniSA is the state’s largest university with over 31,000 students located across six campuses. Since inception, UniSA has been a true trailblazer in providing industry-focused education, producing world-class research, investing in new infrastructure and learning facilities, and providing greater opportunities for access to higher education. In fact, UniSA is ranked number one in South Australia for equitable student access into university (Student Equity Performance Data 2016 – Department of Education).

Our commitment to regional education, industry partnerships and community engagement is at our very core. Our Regional Engagement Framework steers our regional activities, which include community interactions, student recruitment initiatives, outreach programs, student placements, research collaborations and business partnerships.

Our presence aims to support the social, intellectual, economic and cultural development of the regions, along with the priorities of local communities.

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UniSA in Mount Gambier

UniSA established a regional campus in Mount Gambier in 2005. A decade later, we opened a new $12.5 million Learning Centre that increased the physical presence of the campus and provided state-of-the-art facilities for more students to access.

Our expansion also included the installation of 260 kilometres of fibre optic cable to connect the campus to the National Research and Education Network, making Mount Gambier one of the most connected regional cities in the country.

This impressive initiative was part of a $22 million Regional Connections project designed to transform the student learning experience and enhance access to higher education for rural and regional students.

We bring a modern approach to higher education for students across the Limestone Coast and the south-west of Victoria, and are also focused on connecting people and businesses to our resources and expertise.

We are committed to serving the south-east and its crucial role in supporting some of South Australia’s and South West Victoria’s most important industries – from wine and tourism to forestry – and its growing population.

The Mount Gambier Campus is home to Forest Research Mount Gambier, which is currently operating with funding under the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation (NIFPI) which is a partnership between the forest industry, South Australian and Tasmanian State Governments, and the Australian Government.

The Mount Gambier Campus is also a base for our Department of Rural Health which aims to support the local community through health education and ongoing research.

UniSA has become a pillar within the Mount Gambier community. We look forward to building our capacity and extending our presence and capabilities across the region including South Australia’s South East and into South West Victoria.

“Naracoorte Lucindale Council and UniSA continue to explore opportunities and progress partnerships across a variety of projects, ranging from Business School internships and graduate placements to the facilitation and research of private public partnerships in the health sector.

These opportunities have only been able to be pursued or realised through a high level of connectedness and awareness of regional needs, and positive relationships nurtured by UniSA Mount Gambier, Council, and other regional stakeholders.”

TREVOR SMART
CEO, NARACOORTE-LUCINDALE COUNCIL
As Regional Manager for UniSA, I’m often the first point of contact for people across the Limestone Coast and South West Victoria who are looking to engage with the University, our resources and facilities.

I am responsible for leading operations on campus, fostering a positive culture for staff and students, and cultivating strategic partnerships with local industry, government and community organisations.

I have spent more than 30 years serving regional and rural communities across four Australian states; working in the education sector in roles spanning early childhood to adult education. I have also worked across international education research projects, focusing on innovative education leadership in Europe and the United States.

Having worked in South West Victoria, I was aware of UniSA’s presence and impact across the Greater Green Triangle region before I moved to Mount Gambier. Since arriving, I’ve really come to understand the importance of the campus to the city and the surrounding areas.

The existence of our university campus in the Limestone Coast region makes education more accessible for students and university expertise more accessible for local businesses and organisations to help support the growth of the Limestone Coast and South West Victoria.

I welcome a conversation with industry or the community who would like to discuss how you might benefit from collaborating with UniSA. Haven’t visited our Campus? I’d be delighted to give you a tour of our state-of-the-art facilities.

IAN MCKAY
REGIONAL MANAGER: MOUNT GAMBIER
UniSA supports economic development and job creation in regional South Australia and South West Victoria by working directly with businesses and industry, and by producing graduates who will contribute to the economic, social and cultural priorities of the region.

We are continuously building positive relationships with the community, local government, boards, committees and advisory groups to deliver education programs, initiatives and research that is relevant to community needs.

Our Mount Gambier Campus is a gateway for accessing university-wide knowledge and resources, and we seek to develop lasting partnerships based on four basic principles:

> Working collaboratively to scope your challenges
> Identifying subject experts and thought leaders that can bring the right knowledge and skills
> Fostering relationships and encouraging open communication
> Providing on-going support

"Our strategic partnership is a vitally important one. The accessibility to discuss opportunities that benefit the business community is highly valued. UniSA’s proactive approach to bring stakeholders together has enabled and encouraged brave and progressive thinking."

**BIDDIE SHEARING**
INTERIM PRESIDENT, MOUNT GAMBIER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Grape expectations

Home to Australia’s best Cabernet Sauvignon, the Coonawarra attracts big numbers of domestic and international visitors. A consortium led by UniSA and the Limestone Coast Grape and Wine Council is investigating tourism demand in the popular wine region, examining how to convert in-transit and day-tripping travellers into longer-term visitors.

Co-funded through a research partnership between UniSA, the South Australian Tourism Industry Council (SATIC) and industry, the findings will provide valuable insights into visitor expectations, and will be used to inform local operators on destination marketing, infrastructure, and service and experience quality.

“The University collaborates with industry, government and the professions, bringing new opportunities to develop its teaching and research, while providing value to regional business, industry and non-profit organisations.”

UNISA: REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
Partnering with UniSA

We welcome industry engagement in many ways, including:

> **research and development (R&D)** to fuel business growth and boost competitive advantage;

> **business growth and collaborations** to strengthen business performance and enhance the capabilities of business leaders; and,

> opportunities to **host a student placement** to identify future talent, and bring new ideas and skill sets into the organisation.

**Research and development**

**Future Industries Institute (FII)**

FII’s mission is to transform the industries of today and seed the industries of tomorrow. FII is UniSA’s largest single investment in research and is distinctive in its approach through the delivery of high quality research in partnership with industry.

FII’s approach to solving research challenges with their partners is collaborative and solutions-driven, bringing together world-class strengths in advanced manufacturing, nanomedicine, minerals and resource engineering, and environmental science.

With more than $65 million in supporting research infrastructure, FII continues to forge national and international research partnerships in new industries and technologies that address real-world issues. FII’s goal is to help develop a sustainable ecosystem in which innovative, complex, and growth focused industries thrive in South Australia.

[unisa.edu.au/FII](http://unisa.edu.au/FII)

**Future Industries Accelerator (FIA)**

FIA is a $75 million investment by the State Government, focused on accelerating economic growth by assisting South Australian businesses to build their R&D capacity and create jobs. FIA provides access to UniSA infrastructure and expertise through the Future Industries Institute (FII) and funding schemes including the Infrastructure Access Scheme, R&D Voucher Scheme and the Mobility Grants Scheme.

These schemes allow businesses access to specialised equipment, laboratory space and infrastructure, with advice and analysis from technical staff, at no direct cost. Businesses can utilise FIA to test product ideas, enhancements or to help overcome technical challenges.

Funding is available for projects up to $100,000, or staff placements of up to 12 months. FIA has become the destination of choice for new innovations and breakthroughs.

[unisa.edu.au/FIA](http://unisa.edu.au/FIA)
Partnering with UniSA

Through the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation (NIFPI) funding, UniSA is undertaking a broad range of industry identified and joint-funded projects.

These projects represent a total value of close to $5 million in industry, South Australian State and Australian Government funding. Projects are supported financially and in-kind by more than 20 forest growing and processing companies. UniSA is also working in collaboration with other universities and providers to deliver the implementable outcomes.

nifpi.org.au

Forest Research Mount Gambier

Forest Research Mount Gambier is located on campus and is at the forefront of collaboration and innovation with the Greater Green Triangle forest products industry. Its purpose is to help shape projects and outcomes, and drive jobs growth in the region.

"Like most industries, forestry is looking for the best ways to adapt and integrate modern thinking. The industry knows what research support it needs, but the process of putting together a successful proposal and bringing in the skills to make it happen is a different thing. But that’s exactly what UniSA can do,” says Dr Jim O’Hehir, UniSA’s General Manager Forest Research.

With research outcomes from the Green Triangle likely to have national implications across other plantation areas, the potential for growth is enormous.

Forestry innovations

“As Australia’s University of Enterprise, we are engaged with the world and responsive to its needs. UniSA is a globally connected university, with staff and students from over 140 countries and more than 2,500 industry and professional relationships supporting student internships, research and community engagement.”

PROFESSOR SIMON BEECHAM
DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR: RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
Business growth

Executive education
UniSA’s executive education programs are designed for early career professionals through to CEOs, and for organisations in the start-up phase through to maturity.

Our programs are focused on leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship and transformation. We can help to develop your people, create resilient and agile operations, grow your business, improve service delivery, grow your brand, expand your customer base, improve processes, increase productivity or develop internal leadership capabilities.

We offer flexible delivery and the unique ability to customise learning and outcomes based on your organisational or individual needs.

unisabusinessschool.edu.au/executive-education

Australian Centre for Business Growth (AUCBG)
The AUCBG delivers world-class business growth programs that provide executives with the knowledge and skills they need to develop as leaders, accelerate company growth and compete in a global marketplace. The programs teach CEOs, Managing Directors and executives how to lead and manage growth via diagnostics, expert presentations, facilitated group discussions, peer-to-peer learning and action planning.

Business Growth Clinics have been delivered in Mount Gambier, providing opportunities for local organisations to learn how to grow.

centreforbusinessgrowth.com

Student engagement

Student placements
We are South Australia’s number one university for graduate careers and are proud of the contribution our students make to the economy. We are committed to ensuring our graduates are capable professionals able to adapt and respond to the changing needs of industry.

We place a large emphasis on ensuring our graduates are work-ready, so we partner with a large network of organisations to help facilitate student placements, internships and project opportunities.

Hosting a student placement is a unique and cost-effective way for your organisation to explore new ideas and projects, while providing an enriching learning experience for upcoming professionals. It’s the power to innovate in an extremely competitive economy.

You can also engage with our students through the following opportunities:
> Mentorships
> Employment
> Sponsorship of awards and scholarships
> Guest lecturing, sessional support and project work

“Business Growth Clinic has had a huge impact on our company. Our mission and our values have been revised with the help and involvement of all staff, and we have implemented some directional changes with leadership. We are very excited to grow our company and see what the future will bring.”

KELLY NICHOLSON
MARKETING MANAGER, BEACHPORT LIQUID MINERALS
“Portland District Health values the partnership it has with UniSA. We nurture their nursing students and in return UniSA provides us with expertise and professional education opportunities that our staff embrace.”

ROS ALEXANDER
DIRECTOR OF NURSING, PORTLAND DISTRICT HEALTH
We are committed to fostering participation in higher education and successful outcomes for people from all walks of life. Our aim is to nurture and support the development of knowledge, skills and the capacity to meet the needs of the broader community in a rapidly changing world.

We coordinate a range of regional school visits each year to talk directly to students about their study and career options.

In Mount Gambier, we offer degrees that meet local priorities such as nursing, midwifery, social work and education. Our students benefit from flexible learning options and quality teaching with small class sizes, practical learning opportunities, tailored support services, and a strong community connection for transition to employment.

Around 400 students study in Mount Gambier each year, with others taking the opportunity to study online with the ability to access to campus resources and support when needed.

We have invested heavily in our infrastructure to provide modern, purpose-built facilities including simulated learning spaces modelled on the new Royal Adelaide Hospital in Adelaide and the local Mount Gambier hospital, and a Social Work Studio enabling students to work in a replica real-world setting.

We prepare graduates for real careers by providing a highly practical approach to teaching and learning with real-world projects and placements embedded into programs.

**Enabling participation**

At UniSA, we work closely with Indigenous communities to develop a clear study journey from high school through to postgraduate engagement. Our innovative Aboriginal Pathway Program, delivered through UniSA College, is offered locally at the Mount Gambier Campus. This 18-month program is designed specifically for Aboriginal students and is focused on developing the skills required to confidently complete university study.

For non-Aboriginal students, UniSA College offers a one-year Foundation Studies Program, with a similar structure and intent, suitable for those with no previous qualifications. Enrolled as university students, they develop the knowledge and skills needed to successfully transition into a bachelor’s degree.

These pathways programs have helped over 1,800 students into their desired degree at UniSA.

**Supporting teaching excellence**

**Investing in education**

UniSA works closely with secondary schools across the region to enhance school programs and educational offerings. Through our partnership with Emmanuel College in Warrnambool, we offer postgraduate studies for teachers through a Master of Education program, along with an academic-in-residence program and professional development activities for staff. In Portland, we have a partnership with Bayview College that includes developing an academic-in-residence program to further embed Japanese language into the curriculum. Partnerships also exist with many schools across the region for preservice teacher placements.

**Inspiring STEM participation**

“The STEM Learning Series provided invaluable input to early childhood educators in the Blue Lake Partnership. The series provided educators with contemporary pedagogical and practical knowledge, and an understanding that helped to build collaborative partnerships and continuity of learning between pre-school and school settings. Of particular value was learning from local UniSA experts.”

**KATH SALMON**

BLUE LAKE LITERACY MENTOR / ABORIGINAL FAMILY LITERACY STRATEGY TEACHER
All that jazz

UniSA has established a unique partnership with the world-renowned James Morrison Academy of Music located in Mount Gambier. Together, we offer innovative music programs solely focused on the art of jazz music. Students can learn from some of the finest jazz musicians and educators, including the highly-acclaimed James Morrison. Mount Gambier is the perfect backdrop as it establishes itself as one of the country’s innovative music hubs, and is host to the annual Generations in Jazz event attracting more than 5,000 of Australia’s most talented musicians and global artists.

Scholarships

Each year, more than 2,500 students benefit from UniSA scholarships and grants worth millions of dollars. There are a wide range of scholarships available for students across multiple categories, including financial assistance specifically for rural and regional students.

The Cowan Regional Grants and Cowan Regional Placement Grants assist students with the costs of studying full-time in Mount Gambier or undertaking a placement as part of their studies. We also acknowledge the support of the City of Mount Gambier, Wattle Range Council and Grant District Council for their contribution to local scholarships and grants.

“The University fosters educational participation and successful outcomes for people from low SES, remote and regional and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds, to support the development of community capacity and resilience.”

“The University engages with secondary schools and the community to inspire further study and educational attainment in the regions.”

UNISA: REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
Connecting with the community is a significant part of what we do. It is our intention to be at the heart of regional development and at the forefront of meeting the ongoing challenges facing rural and regional South Australia and South West Victoria.

We engage with local communities through public learning activities and use our expertise and partnerships to build consultancy, conduct research, and lead collaborative projects. We also offer skills development programs that meet workforce requirements, volunteering programs for staff and students, and venue hire for local groups and events.

We are proud to be involved with the community at the grassroots level, including sponsorship of the Pioneers Basketball Club, Western Border Football League, Blue Lake Fun Run, Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce, Limestone Coast Regional Academy of Sport, and Women in Business and Regional Development.

We sponsor various academic awards at 24 secondary schools in the region and have been actively involved in the HPV Super Series, along with initiatives such as Brand South Australia, Science Alive and the Science & Engineering Challenge.

**Showcasing South Australia**

UniSA is proud to sponsor the highly successful Regional Showcase Program launched by Brand South Australia, which shines a spotlight on individuals, groups and businesses in the regions that have made significant contributions to the community. It is about celebrating stories of success and telling them to local, national and international audiences giving regional South Australia a global platform.

**Footy fever**

Our sponsorship of the Western Border Football League is helping to raise awareness with young people in the region that may be considering higher education opportunities. Football is very much part of the culture in regional areas and we are proud to be part of that community spirit.

**Elite sports training**

The Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy is an exciting new initiative bringing elite-level sports training and education to the region, including accessing UniSA’s High Performance Sport Centre. The Academy delivers an intensive strength, conditioning and education program for young athletes with the support of UniSA’s sport science experts. The Academy provides essential support for promising local athletes to take their training to the next level.

**A healthy workforce**

Our School of Nursing and Midwifery has a strong commitment educating the future nursing and midwifery professionals in regional South Australia and South West Victoria. Our approach to teaching is highly practical and we partner with industry to ensure our graduates are career ready. We have clinical agreements with all local health networks, major hospitals, private health providers, rural health networks, aged care services and mental health services across the region.

**Healthy futures**

UniSA has partnered with St John Ambulance Service SA to deliver first aid training to more than 900 primary school students across the Limestone Coast. UniSA has also partnered with the South East Regional Community Health Service (SERCHS) to provide local nursing students with first-hand experience in a range of services including blood pressure and blood sugar checks, under the supervision of local registered nurses.

“The University contributes at all levels to the social, intellectual and cultural development of regional communities.”

**UNISA: REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**
Our regional footprint

Our regional engagement programs and activities span across the state and into South West Victoria. In addition to our two regional campuses, we also have a network of six learning hubs and study centres in key areas to help us connect with local communities and deliver unique educational opportunities.

We offer a range of programs and facilities at each location. This includes the Department of Rural Health, which supports rural placements for students; the Aboriginal Pathways Program, giving Indigenous students the opportunity to enter university; and Wirringka Student Services, facilitating Aboriginal student engagement and support services.

Contact us

We welcome the opportunity to speak with you about possible partnerships or, for more information about what UniSA offers in the Limestone Coast and South West Victoria regions, contact:

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Regional Manager: Mount Gambier
(08) 8721 8910 or 0427 200 198
ian.mckay@unisa.edu.au

Chris Ronan
Regional Engagement Officer: Mount Gambier
(08) 8302 8916
chris.ronan@unisa.edu.au
Acknowledgement of Country

UniSA respects the traditional custodians of the land and their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the diversity of Aboriginal peoples, past and present.

Find out more about the University’s commitment to reconciliation at unisa.edu.au/RAP