

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA CAPABILITY STATEMENT 2011

History

- The University was named after Sir Samuel Walker Griffith, a former Queensland Premier, Chief Justice of Queensland and the Chief Justice of Australia. Since its beginnings Griffith's vision has been nurtured by its Chancellors, Sir Theodor Bray, Sir Alan Sewell, Chief Justice John Macrossan and now Ms Leneen Forde. The University's legacy also includes Queensland's oldest art academy—the Queensland College of Art (QCA) founded in 1881, and Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University (QCGU) Australia's largest music school, established in 1957.
- The University was formally established by an act of Parliament in 1971 and opened its doors in 1975 to 451 students in four schools: Australian Environmental Studies, Humanities, Modern Asian Studies and Science. From these small but enthusiastic beginnings, Griffith University has grown to its present size (43,000 students across five campuses) and status with an enviable national and international reputation. No institution can remain static and Griffith has been fortunate that the seeds planted by the University's founders did so well in anticipating and planning for the likely higher education needs of Griffith's present day community and beyond.

Credentials, rankings and research

- Griffith was the first Australian university to offer undergraduate degree studies in Environmental Science, as well as International Business and Asian Studies.
- Griffith is a top 10 Australian research university, according to the latest analysis of the *Excellence in Research for Australia National Report 2010** (ERA) results. Griffith's research is world-standard or better in 45 fields of research* with 90 percent of our academic staff working in these fields (*Based on fields of research at the 4-digit level in the Excellence in Research for Australia 2010 National Report).
- In addition, the prestigious *2010 Nature Publishing Index for Asia-Pacific* now ranks Griffith 7th in Australia, and 30th in the Asia Pacific (ranked according to the number of primary research articles they publish in the Nature family of journals in a one-year period).
- Griffith has enjoyed sustained success in national teaching and learning awards and grant schemes from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) in recognition of Griffith's innovative and engaging teachers. In 2011, Griffith's teaching excellence was recognised with the receipt of seven ALTC grants; two Australian Awards for University Teaching and seven ALTC citations for outstanding contributions to student learning totalling \$1.5M. In 2010, Griffith received four ALTC grants; two ALTC Teaching Excellence Awards, 8 ALTC citations for outstanding contributions to student learning and one ALTC National Fellowship totalling over \$1.3M. These achievements join a long tradition of acknowledgement for Griffith's excellence in teaching by the ALTC in 2009, 2008 and 2007.
- Griffith is a research intensive university with an international reputation and world-leading expertise in eight areas of strategic investment that are of fundamental significance to the global community:
 1. Asian politics, security and development

2. Climate change adaptation
 3. Criminology and crime prevention
 4. Drug discovery and infectious diseases
 5. Health and chronic diseases
 6. Music, the Arts and the Asia Pacific
 7. Sustainable Tourism
 8. Water Science
- Griffith University has appeared in 2011 for the first time in the world's most prestigious university rankings, the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) - known as the Shanghai Jiao Tong Top 500.
 - Griffith is ranked in the top 400 of world universities according to the 2011 QS World University Rankings (#346) and Times HE World University rankings (#201-400). This places Griffith in the top 3% of world institutions of higher education.
 - Griffith is also ranked 167 in the world and number 7 in Australia for Social Sciences research (Scimago Social Sciences ranking 2010).
 - Griffith University won five awards at the 2010 Queensland Education and Training International (QETI) Awards for Excellence including: Excellence in Outward Mobility 2010; Best Practice in International Collaboration 2010 (Higher Education); Outstanding International Student Support 2010 (Higher Education); International Alumnus of the Year 2010 (Higher Education); and Queensland Student Ambassador of the Year 2010. In addition, Griffith won the *Premier of Queensland's Export Awards in 2010* (for the third consecutive year) - for outstanding innovation and export achievement in the field of education and training services, expertise and curriculum.
 - The University also received 11 commendations from the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) audit conducted in 2008. AUQA is the principal national quality assurance agency in higher education. AUQA commended the University for: its 2015 strategy, which has a well-founded focus on internationalisation; engagement with our local communities; and for the development of our Gold Coast campus — Australia's fastest growing comprehensive tertiary campus.
 - Highlights of the University's success in attracting research funding in the past three years include:
 - \$10 million over five years for the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility
 - More than \$15 million for the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security
 - \$22 million for the National Centre for Adult Stem Cell Research
 - \$14 million to support research in the Smart Water Research Facility
 - \$16 million Tropical Rivers and Coastal Knowledge Research Hub
 - \$150 million Griffith Health Centre representing the University's largest investment in a single building in its 40-year history
 - \$3 million Queensland Microtechnology Facility
 - \$1.3 million from the Queensland Government for the Eskitis Institute for Cell and Molecular Therapies
 - Griffith University is also a member of the "IRU Australia", a group of 7 Innovative Research Universities in Australia which is linked with the Innovative Research Universities European Union (IUEU) Centre, providing a national platform for increased collaboration between Australian and EU Researchers. The Research Experts website is the complete directory of Griffith researchers: Visit URL: <http://app.griffith.edu.au/01/griffithprofiles/info.php>

- The Griffith Business School (GBS) MBA is ranked #27 in the world, which is the highest Australian ranking in the 2009-2010 Aspen Institute's, *Beyond Grey Pinstripes Global Top 100*. The ranking of the MBA is in recognition of its leadership in integrating social, environmental and ethical issues into its programs.
- Griffith is the only university in Australia to receive a 5-star rating for both its MBA and International MBA programs from The Graduate Management Association of Australia (GMAA) in 2011.
- Griffith University was also the first Australian University to sign the United Nations Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME).
- GBS researchers in tourism are ranked third in the World for publications in the three best tourism research journals (2004-2008): the *Annals of Tourism Research*; *Journal of Travel Research*; and *Tourism Management*.
- In 2010, Griffith won the Queensland Tourism Award for Excellence in Industry Education for the 10th time and has won the Award more frequently than any other provider.
- In addition, Griffith University won the No. 1 award for Tourism, Education and Training at the Qantas Australian Tourism Awards 2010, the industry's biggest and most prestigious event of the year.
- In 2009, the Griffith Business School was also granted AACSB accreditation (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business), only the 5th Australian Business School to be accredited by AACSB International.

Internationalisation and partnerships

- Internationalisation at Griffith University is framed not only within the context of the University's Mission Statement but is also deeply embedded with its Strategic, Academic and Research plans which support a culture here that is deeply committed to integrating international, intercultural or global dimensions into the purpose, function and delivery of post secondary education.
- The University has taken steps to diversify its student composition. In 2010, more than 11,000 international students made up almost 25% of the total student population across the five Griffith campuses, representing over 119 countries. This making Griffith the No 1. University in Queensland in terms of onshore enrolments; the number one Australian University destination of choice for students from 34 countries, including Canada, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, United Arab Emirates and Brazil.
- 30 per cent of the University's publications are now also co-authored with international collaborators and over 40 per cent of Griffith academic staff members are also from a wide range of overseas countries and bring to their work an international perspective, personal experience, knowledge and culture that enriches the environment within which our students learn.
- Griffith University also teaches students outside Australia and values the experience staff gain working at international partner organisations.
- Like the Griffith academics we believe our students also need the skills to 'go where the action is' in order to follow their chosen career paths – even if it means crossing national borders to do so. Griffith's international standing is built not only on its renowned overseas partnerships but also in the calibre of its graduates. We have gone to great lengths to make international career development, community engagement, volunteer programs and work-integrated learning another integral part of the University's internationalisation.

- In the final steps toward success at Griffith upon graduation, we also recognise that employers around the world today look for graduates with stronger English language skills than ever before. We provide our international students with access to a number of unique English enhancement programs that will improve their career prospects and employability.
- Griffith is also a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact - a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with [ten universally accepted principles](#) in the areas of [human rights](#), [labour](#), [environment](#) and [anti-corruption](#) to help ensure that markets, commerce, technology and finance advance in ways that benefit economies and societies everywhere.
- Griffith's internationalisation achievements are in no small part due to the 400 cooperative agreements we have with our international partner institutions. Of these, at least 60 are listed in the Top 200 QS World University Rankings.
- International collaborations at Griffith include, but are not limited to, a very successful student and staff exchange program which is supported with funding of AU\$1 million given annually by the Vice Chancellor to encourage all students to participate and to access our network of more than 230 overseas exchange partner institutions. Other collaborative models include memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with government bodies and NGO's, articulation arrangements, off-shore teaching projects, visiting faculty and research symposia, joint-research centres and ventures.

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