



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PLAN

2025–2030

Make it matter

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Griffith University is committed to providing accessible services to people from all culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. If you require assistance to understand this guide, please contact Marketing and Communications on marketing@griffith.edu.au to arrange an interpreter to effectively communicate the guide to you.

Cover image

John Ferguson (QCGU), Chris Stover (QCGU) and Peter Thiedeke (QCAD), *Big Trombone*, 2024, experimental multi-channel projected image and spatial soundscape.

An urban media art installation created by the Creative Arts Research Institute's Future Projections lab for the Gold Coast's Big City Lights Festival.



Sienna van Rossum, *Paraergon*, 2022, oil on ACM, 22 x 18 cm.

Sienna van Rossum created history in 2024, becoming Griffith University's inaugural winner of the prestigious Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Asia-Pacific Final with her presentation, *Making contact with images: a return to the art of looking*. A PhD candidate specialising in arts research at the Queensland College of Art and Design, Sienna is also the first Griffith representative to have reached the competition's final.

INTRODUCTION FROM THE DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH)

IGNITING DISCOVERY, EMPOWERING IMPACT: GRIFFITH'S VISION FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Research is the beating heart of every great university. It fuels discovery, deepens understanding, informs student experience and drives the innovations that shape a better world. At Griffith University, we are proud to be at the forefront of this global mission, making significant contributions to Queensland, Australia and the world through groundbreaking research and development and nurturing the next generation of visionary research leaders.

Our researchers don't just generate knowledge—they bring it to life in our classrooms. By embedding cutting-edge discoveries and emerging technologies into our teaching, we empower students to think boldly, act with purpose and make their learning truly matter. Through exposure to our research, our students will be well informed and strongly positioned to succeed in their chosen careers. Simultaneously, translation of research outputs into solutions to some of the most complex challenges is what will drive positive change to our wellbeing and that of the environment and the communities in which we live.

To fulfil our purpose of creating a brighter future for all, Griffith must continue to excel in research. Our success depends on it.

Launched during the COVID-19 pandemic, the previous Griffith Research and Innovation Plan focused on delivering meaningful impact through People, Platforms and Processes. In 2023, we reflected, recalibrated and reimagined our path forward, resulting in initiatives that laid a powerful foundation for transformative growth, scale and impact. This has already elevated our competitiveness and expanded the impact that our research delivers.

Now, we are rising to the challenge of navigating a world marked by geopolitical uncertainty, shifting funding models and intensifying global competition. This new Research and Innovation Plan is not a departure but an evolution. It builds on our momentum, embedding our successes while introducing bold new initiatives aligned with Griffith's ambitious research agenda.

Griffith's response to today's challenges has redefined how we support research. We are now poised to enter a new era—one where we scale our efforts, deepen our impact and lead with purpose. As we celebrate 50 years of progress, we look ahead with confidence, ready to amplify our achievements and shape the next chapter of our story.

This plan outlines how we will bring Griffith's Strategy 2025–2030 to life through research. If we are to deliver on the important values-informed challenges identified in the Griffith Strategy, we must continue our unwavering commitment to impactful interdisciplinary research and innovation, grow external partnerships, secure diverse funding streams and drive operational excellence.



We will harness the power of artificial intelligence to streamline systems, reduce administrative burden and empower our researchers to focus on what they do best: creating knowledge that transforms lives.

With world-class infrastructure, a culture of innovation and a community of passionate, high-performing researchers, Griffith is strongly positioned to lead through collaboration, creativity and courage. Together, we will deliver research that not only advances human understanding but changes the world.

Professor Lee Smith
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research)

We acknowledge that our Brisbane and Brisbane South campuses are situated on the land of the Yugarabul, Yuggera, Jagera and Turrbal peoples. Logan is situated on the land of the Yuggera, Turrbal, Yugarabul, Jagera and Yugambeh peoples. The Gold Coast is situated on the land of the Kombumerri peoples, part of the Yugambeh language region. We commit to a process of truth-telling with these communities and striving with them and other Indigenous peoples towards a reconciled Australia. This strategy points us towards a future of Indigenous flourishing and Griffith as a place where Indigenous staff, students and partners work with non-Indigenous colleagues to create new, powerful knowledges.

GRIFFITH RESEARCH IN 2030

ABOUT THIS PLAN

Griffith's Strategy 2025–2030 highlights four key areas:

Purpose, People, Partnership and **Place**. These pillars are the foundation of our Research and Innovation Plan 2025–2030, guiding activities and initiatives that support high-quality research and training. Our goal is to transform lives through knowledge creation, discovery and understanding.

Our purpose and values are clearly articulated in Griffith's Strategy. To achieve these, through the lens of research, we must build a sustainable ecosystem that supports our goals. We have therefore added a fifth "P"—**Platforms and Enablers**—to ensure we have the research ecosystem we need to achieve our purpose. The structures we build, the systems we implement and the culture we foster will all work together to realise our vision.

Achieving this vision is also only possible through supporting our people to succeed. We will invest in enhancing the capabilities and performance of our researchers, higher degree by research (HDR) candidates and professional staff. By supporting career development, promoting research excellence and delivering impactful research outcomes, we will create a brighter future for all.

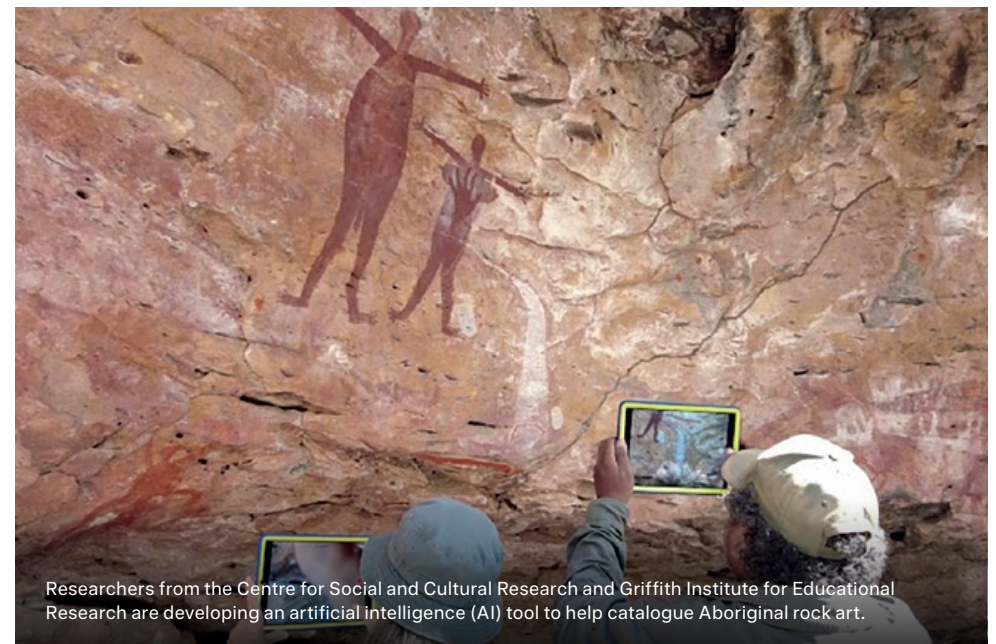
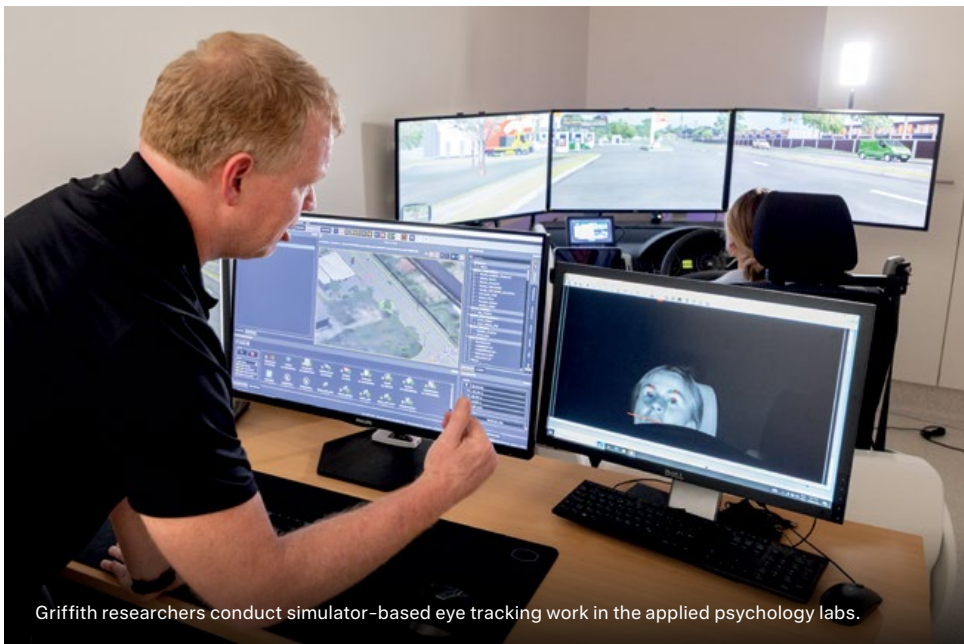
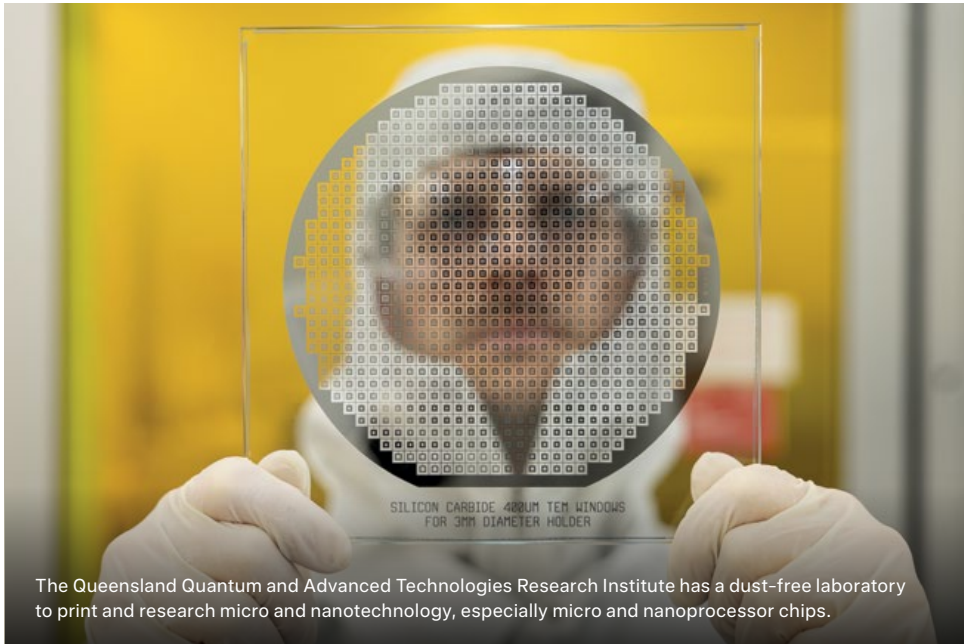
But we recognise that we cannot do this alone. We achieve more when we partner with others and so we will grow mutually beneficial partnerships at scale, moving beyond transactional relationships to build deeper, highly engaged and productive collaborations that deliver valued research outcomes.

This plan is also about our identity and aspirations. As we define our place in the world for our second half-century, we will value diverse knowledge systems, be inclusive in our research and develop deeper partnerships with industry, government, philanthropy and our communities.

The value of research lies in generating new knowledge and translating it into tangible benefits. We remain committed to making a difference through all our research endeavours. Together, we will make it matter.



In partnership with the Sea World Foundation, Griffith researchers from the School of Environment and Science work to protect the coastline's incredible ecosystem.



PURPOSE AND VALUES

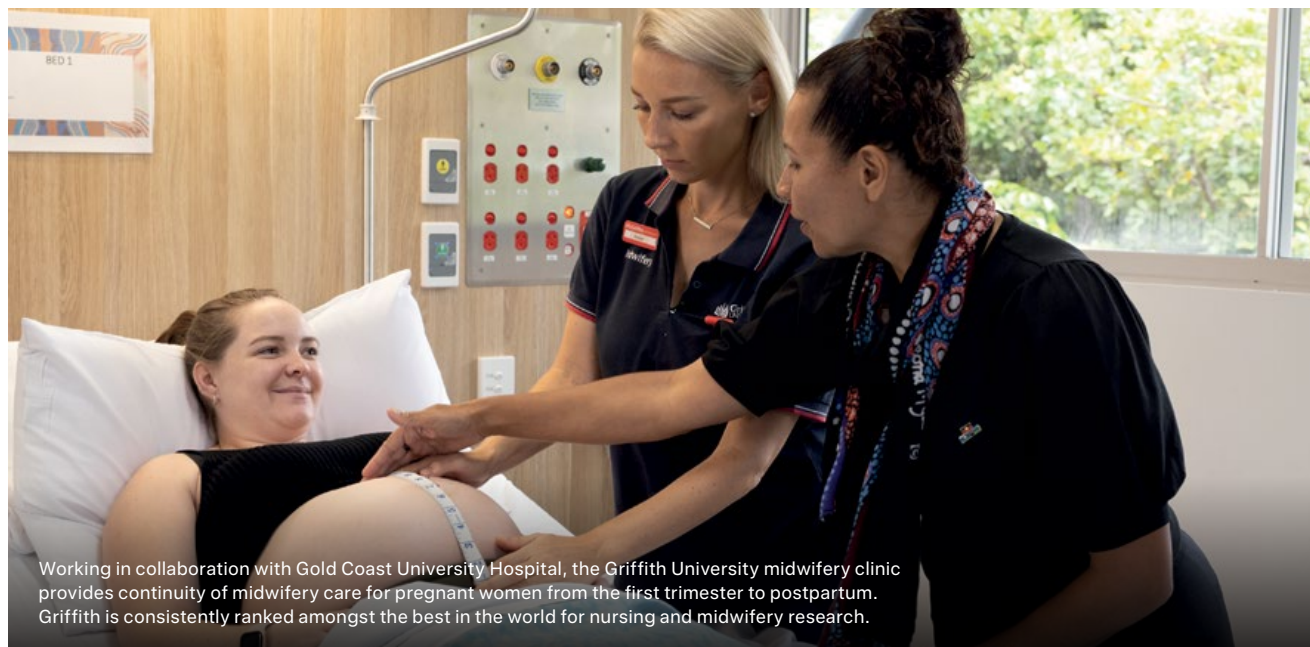
Griffith's Strategy 2025–2030 defines our purpose as being to create a brighter future for all through high-quality education and research which transforms lives and adds to knowledge, discovery and understanding.

Griffith researchers are driven by this purpose and we take immense pride that we live our integrated values. In alignment with our university strategy, we will fully embed Griffith's attributes of excellence, reciprocity, inclusion, integrity and innovation as the basis of our research culture and the mechanisms through which we will deliver impactful research.

We are committed to conducting research that makes a positive impact on the world, enhancing the health of our planet and the lives of its inhabitants. Whether addressing critical local issues or significant global challenges, our research will benchmark to the highest international standards of excellence. This plan reimagines the Griffith research ecosystem to ensure our work truly does make it matter in each of the **five values-informed challenges** identified in our Strategy:

- Indigenous flourishing
- A more sustainable world
- Better health and wellbeing
- Inclusive, diverse and cohesive societies
- Technology that improves lives

These values-informed challenges will guide our research, allowing us to deepen our expertise and draw on the collective knowledge and experience of researchers from diverse disciplines and backgrounds. By deploying current and emerging research strengths and working across disciplinary boundaries, Griffith will continue to demonstrate impacts in each of these areas throughout the life of our strategy.



Working in collaboration with Gold Coast University Hospital, the Griffith University midwifery clinic provides continuity of midwifery care for pregnant women from the first trimester to postpartum. Griffith is consistently ranked amongst the best in the world for nursing and midwifery research.

We will invest in research that addresses local problems and enhances the lives of people in our communities while also extending our impact to national and global levels. Griffith's commitment to interdisciplinarity has been a hallmark of the University since its inception 50 years ago. Our high-performing research centres and institutes, which draw membership from across the University, will continue this tradition of interdisciplinarity to deliver research of the highest quality, focused on our five values-informed challenges. As public-facing expressions of the knowledge, skills and values that we offer, these entities will enable us to elevate research activities and research infrastructure and foster collaboration and partnerships, contributing solutions to the most complex of challenges and delivering significant environmental and societal impact.

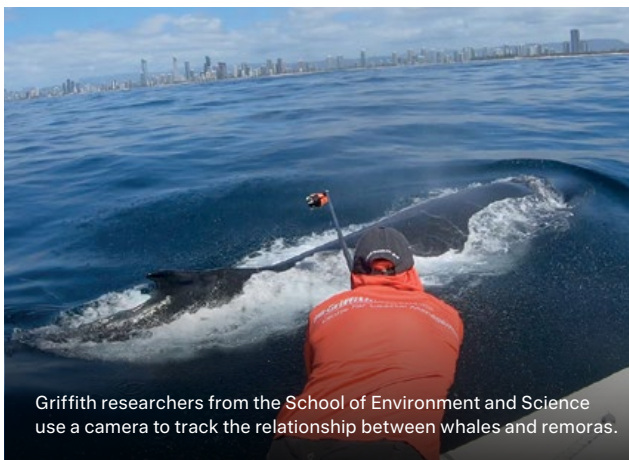
Griffith's schools will also be further activated as interdisciplinary research vehicles, supporting the development of staff and higher degree by research candidates. Through this focused effort, we will increase our external funding to deliver values-driven impactful research at scale, aligned to our five values-informed challenges.

Our researchers do more than create new knowledge—they actively embed it in our teaching. By incorporating the latest discoveries and emerging technologies into our curriculum, we will inspire students to think creatively, act decisively and ensure their learning has real impact. Engaging with our research equips our students with the insight and confidence needed to excel in their future careers.

To make a real difference for those who need it most, we must deliver our research in a way that meets global standards of excellence. We will grow our research profile and reputation and be recognised for our research excellence in international subject and university rankings. These rankings capture a holistic measure of performance across many metrics and are crucial for attracting students, researchers and research partners to Griffith and to our region. Through attracting the best people and partners, we will change the world for the better.

KEY COMMITMENTS:

- We will invest to further grow research excellence through our people, schools, research centres, institutes and research facilities to deliver greater research impact at scale, aligned to our values-informed challenges.
- We will increase the number of externally funded prestigious fellowships, externally funded programs of research and research centres that leverage external funding, to deliver values-driven impactful research at scale.
- We will strengthen our Indigenous research through further integrating our research ecosystem, deploying the breadth of our research resources to actively support and advance Indigenous flourishing.
- We will embed our cutting-edge research in our educational offerings to ensure our students are at the forefront of knowledge generation and career readiness.
- We will be a university of choice for students, researchers and research partners by demonstrating our place in the world as an excellent research-intensive university.



Griffith researchers from the School of Environment and Science use a camera to track the relationship between whales and remoras.



Griffith researchers from the Clem Jones Centre for Neurobiology and Stem Cell Research are working on a life-changing treatment for spinal cord injury.

KEY OUTCOMES:

By 2030, we will have:

- maintained top-50 status in increasingly competitive international impact rankings for ten Sustainable Development Goals aligned to our values-informed challenges
- used Griffith's reputation for research excellence to secure \$200M in annual external research income, amplifying our ability to deliver impact through our values-informed challenges
- increased our scale and success in Indigenous research, through a university-wide uplift in capability that engages with communities, delivers impactful research outcomes, supports the career success of Indigenous researchers and is evidenced by growth in Indigenous-focused grants, publications and community-embedded research
- an uplift in student experience and graduate outcome measures—by exposing Griffith students to our research to help them succeed in their chosen careers
- our overall excellence recognised by a top-200 ranking in the QS World University Rankings.

PEOPLE

At Griffith, our people are our greatest asset. Our unwavering commitment to delivering on our research purpose is powered by a dedicated focus on empowering our people and fostering leadership at every level. We will continue to advance the many beneficial outcomes arising from our research by investing in our researcher development, celebrating their success and cultivating the next generation of researchers through world-class training.

This plan has a clear focus on supporting our people to grow and extend their reach by undertaking innovative, influential research that has a global impact, advancing human knowledge and understanding and delivering research outcomes that make it matter. We will work to increase the competitiveness of our people, enhancing their careers along with the success of the University and we will train our graduates to become influential and sought-after future research leaders.

Innovation, by our people, of our research processes, research training, research management practices and research facility operating models will be critical to our success. The research landscape is undergoing rapid transformation, driven by AI and other digital technologies that are dramatically accelerating research processes and enabling discoveries at a fraction of the traditional cost. These advancements present a significant opportunity for Griffith to apply its research expertise in support of partners navigating their own digital transformations. At the same time, Griffith will lead with purpose, offering expert perspectives in the ethical and responsible use of AI and digital tools and upholding a values-based standard for innovation in research.

To support our researchers to thrive at all stages of their career, we will curate a suite of capability development opportunities focused on building and enhancing the core skills every researcher needs to succeed. This includes understanding emerging technologies and methodologies, research ethics and integrity, ethical data stewardship,

resource management, media engagement and translation and commercialisation for impact. We will support our researchers to gain a competitive EDGE (Empower, Develop, Grow, Excel) through:

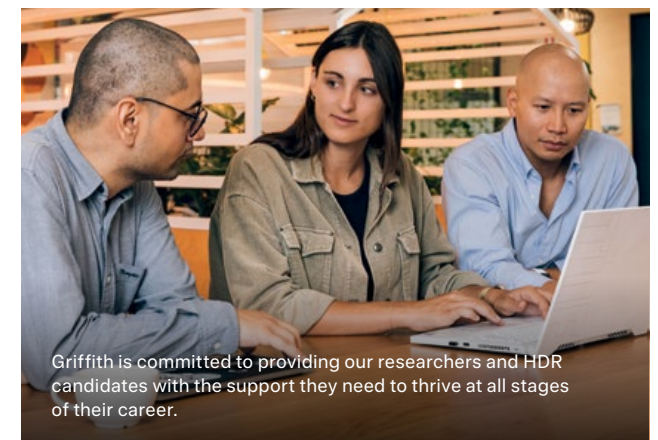
- streamlined access to optional, fit-for-purpose **training and guidance**—both formal and informal—to extend researcher skills and know-how for multiple experience levels and at any career stage
- expanded **experiential learning** opportunities, such as through seed investments, fellowship accelerators, conference hosting resources and major bids support
- connections into broader research communities, networks and partnerships to extend **social learning** opportunities as well as horizons, reach and impact.

We believe in supporting our emerging and high-achieving researcher trainees to achieve their very best and for the impacts from their research to be recognised locally, nationally and globally. Accordingly, we will develop and implement a world-class Doctoral Training Program aligned to our values-informed challenges and unifying our HDR candidates into cohorts by year of study and level of experience. Parallel to their discipline-specific program, our HDR candidates will have access to broader professional research development skills to jump off into careers both inside and outside of academia, including in traditional demand areas such as health or education and in areas of the new economy such as energy transition, AI or quantum computing.

Within the Doctoral Training Program, we will grow our engagement with partners to co-design research training programs, co-fund scholarships and for career mentoring of HDR candidates. The Program will be underpinned by excellence in supervision, embedding candidates in impactful research teams and aligning them with valued industry and career-relevant connections, where they will gain from innovative and creative thinking and access to cutting-edge technologies and infrastructure.

We will create environments where Indigenous staff and students are not only able to reach their full potential but are also positioned to drive positive change and shape the future of our university and beyond. We will build greater consciousness and confidence for our non-Indigenous researchers to cultivate productive and mutually beneficial collaborations with Indigenous staff, students and communities.

Focusing upon Griffith's attribute of excellence, we will empower researchers to monitor their research achievements and contextualise their contributions to the University's strategic goals through improved access to clear and consistent information. In conjunction with the Education and Engagement portfolios, we will implement the new Academic Performance Framework to guide and support individuals' academic ambitions and success. A new dashboard drawing from publicly available data will enable staff to reflect on their relative competitiveness within their fields of research and inform personal development and research planning. We will become a university of choice for researchers and research students who know they will excel with us and are placed well to make a significant and positive impact.



Griffith is committed to providing our researchers and HDR candidates with the support they need to thrive at all stages of their career.

KEY COMMITMENTS:

- We will launch the Griffith Researcher EDGE program to provide enhanced researcher career development and promote research excellence.
- We will empower our staff and research candidates to excel in an increasingly digital and AI-enabled world.
- We will establish a Doctoral Training Program aligned to our values-informed challenges, with a cohort model based on year of study and level of experience that provides our postgraduate researchers with the resources and skills they need to deliver impactful research and strongly positions them for career success.
- We will deliver and embed an Indigenous research framework that promotes Indigenous flourishing through a university-wide capability uplift and supports the career success of Indigenous researchers.
- We will shape the new Academic Performance Framework to support and recognise researcher achievements and excellence.



Griffith student in the Ecology Lab, Brisbane South (Nathan).



Griffith Film School alumnus Lachlan Pendragon secured an Academy Award nomination for his highly creative and hilarious film, *An Ostrich Told Me the World Is Fake and I Think I Believe It*. The film was created during his PhD studies at Griffith and has generated acclaim from around the world.

KEY OUTCOMES:

By 2030, we will have:

- highly valued resources that support research excellence at every stage of a researcher's career, and through this we will deliver a demonstrable uplift in competitiveness and career success
- staff and research students using AI tools ethically, responsibly and routinely to maximise their efficiency, productivity and impact, as indicated by uptake of training and adoption metrics
- a HDR graduate alumni cohort who have leveraged the skills gained within the Doctoral Training Program to step into significant roles within careers of choice
- more than doubled the number of Griffith researchers who are engaged in Indigenous-related research, increased beneficial research outcomes in partnership with Indigenous communities and supported a demonstrable uplift in career progression and success of Indigenous researchers
- delivered a substantial improvement in measures of research excellence, as defined in the Academic Performance Framework.

PARTNERSHIP AND IMPACT

At Griffith, our Strategy recommit to the profound importance of partnership and impact—two deeply intertwined objectives that drive our mission forward. Partnerships, both domestic and global, will be the cornerstone of our high-quality research, ensuring it creates an enduring impact. Recognising that strategic partnerships are important for delivering Griffith's research, innovation and commercialisation ambitions, we will cultivate industry, government and other translational partnerships at scale, transcending transactional relationships to build deeper, highly engaged and productive collaborations that embody our attribute of reciprocity. We also recognise that delivering impact for our local communities requires research partnerships across a range of scales. Together, these approaches will deliver relevant, strong and impactful research outcomes and training opportunities for our research students. We will seek co-location opportunities with industry and leverage our research facilities, infrastructure and campus space to strengthen these partnerships.

We hold our alumni in the highest regard, recognising their unique skill sets and relationship opportunities. We aim to grow deep and reciprocal relationships with them, collaboratively driving our research and innovation mission forward.

Our influence will expand in support of the University's mission. This requires us to extend beyond our current reach, embracing global perspectives to drive reciprocal benefits. Research is a global endeavour, and we will further grow our secure international engagement, building partnerships at individual, academic group and University levels (including through the Worldwide Universities Network and via internationally funded HDR candidates) to deliver positive social, economic and cultural outcomes globally that align to our values-informed challenges and resonate around the world.

Through this Plan, we will deliver a triumvirate of research impact approaches:

- **Impact through discovery**, recognising that major breakthroughs often begin with curiosity-driven research of the highest quality that is adopted and advanced well beyond Griffith
- **Impact through translation**, where research rapidly converts ideas into tangible positive outcomes that benefit our communities and partners
- **Impact through commercialisation**, partnering with industry to further develop and scale our findings, taking them to the market, or through the support of our own commercialisation ventures

This will increase the likelihood of partnering for successful outcomes, delivering impactful research that not only changes lives but significantly fosters innovation, contributes to economic growth and boosts the success of industries and partners.

We will establish a new Research Impact Hub, aligned to our values-informed challenges, that will draw together and build on initiatives that support academics to develop an entrepreneurial mindset, expanding knowledge, expertise, capability and intellectual property to translate their research into demonstrable impact.

The Hub will intersect with Researcher EDGE, including capability-building for academics and HDR candidates in areas such as understanding commercialisation, working with partners, translating ideas in the public realm, influencing policy, partnering with not-for-profits and engaging the community.

The Hub will be responsible for recording and communicating the impact of Griffith research and building community awareness, understanding and trust, helping us to amplify and demonstrate the benefits of research to partners and community. Working with Griffith International, the Hub

will support researchers to maximise and showcase their impact through global partnerships. We will assist colleagues in commercialising intellectual property from their research, moving it along the technology readiness levels (TRLs), and supporting outcomes from IP licensing to the creation of spin-out companies to further develop Griffith IP. We will invest and seek co-investment to support greater commercialisation outcomes, including through assessing participation as a partner in a commercialisation fund.

The Hub-aligned Doctoral Training Program, with significant co-design and co-enabled input from our partners, will deliver the next generation of highly employable researchers and research leaders.

We will also prioritise collaborations that support the growth of Indigenous research capability and facilitate global knowledge exchange, ensuring that Indigenous communities' contributions are not just included but central to our collective success. By fostering Indigenous-led innovation and building strong, strategic partnerships, we will ensure that Indigenous knowledge is integral to our targeted efforts in addressing our values-informed challenges.

Through these partnerships and research impact approaches, we will further enhance Griffith's reputation as a university partner of choice both nationally and internationally. We will raise our visibility and grow our reputation and influence as one of Australia's most innovative and impactful research universities.

Griffith's commitment to its values-informed challenges is reflected in its world-leading position in international impact rankings. We will reinforce our dedication to these values through the promotion of the impact of our research and the benefits it delivers and, through this, continue to demonstrate our high research credibility through strong positioning in international impact rankings.

KEY COMMITMENTS:

- We will establish new large-scale partnerships and alliances that further Griffith's core purpose.
- We will be a preferred partner for industry and other external partners in training the next generation of research leaders.
- We will expand the visibility and reputation of Griffith research on the world stage by growing international engagement.
- We will increase the impact of our research and innovation, facilitated by a new Research Impact Hub.
- We will be recognised as one of Australia's most innovative and impactful research universities in areas aligned to our values-informed challenges.



As co-host of the 2025 National Electricity Market Development Conference, Griffith brought together leaders from Australia's energy sector to network, collaborate and innovate.



Led by Griffith University, the Bloomfield River cod research project is supported by the Australian Government through the National Environmental Science Program (Resilient Landscapes Hub) in partnership with Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation.

KEY OUTCOMES:

By 2030, we will have:

- established at least five new partnerships valued at more than \$5M and 20 additional new partnerships valued at more than \$2M each
- at least 35 per cent of our HDR candidates embedded in externally partnered research programs
- increased the number of productive international research collaborations, as evidenced by at least a 30 per cent increase in outputs with international co-authorship and international research funding
- doubled the number of translational outcomes delivering impactful benefits to our communities and more than doubled our income from commercialisation activities
- sustained our top-50 status in increasingly competitive international impact rankings.

PLACE AND COMMUNITY

As we define our place in the world for our second half-century, we will embrace the value of diverse knowledge systems, inclusivity in our research and deeper partnerships with our community. Griffith's research has always excelled in disciplines particularly relevant to our campus locations. We will continue to make a significant impact in our region, nationally and most importantly, in our local communities, while also expanding our international research and engaging our alumni community.

As integral members of our communities, we have a responsibility to enhance wellbeing and prosperity by providing evidence-informed perspectives on relevant issues. We will increase our visibility in the community by expanding our contributions in the media, collaborating with consumers and communities, and embedding their perspectives in our research. Griffith aims to empower communities to navigate societal transitions and is well placed to attract institutional philanthropy focussed on social impact. By working with local partners, we will directly translate our research into tangible benefits for our neighbours, thereby increasing the value we provide to our communities.



Griffith researchers and students exploring the Bush Tucker Garden at the Logan campus.

We are also part of broader communities throughout Queensland and engage with them in the spirit of reciprocity. We will build research alliances that leverage the combined capabilities and resources of partner universities and industries, amplifying outcomes that benefit all.

Recognising the substantial advantages our locations offer, we will invest in new infrastructure, such as the new Brisbane CBD campus that opens new pathways for engagement and research in law, ICT and business, and provides opportunities for other disciplines to grow community partnerships. The Health and Advanced Technologies Research and Innovation Centre (HATRIC) in the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct will also expand our capabilities and accelerate our translational capacities in advanced manufacturing, biomedical research and clinical trials. Our discoveries will not only benefit our local communities but also reach far beyond, creating a brighter future for some of the most disenfranchised people around the world.

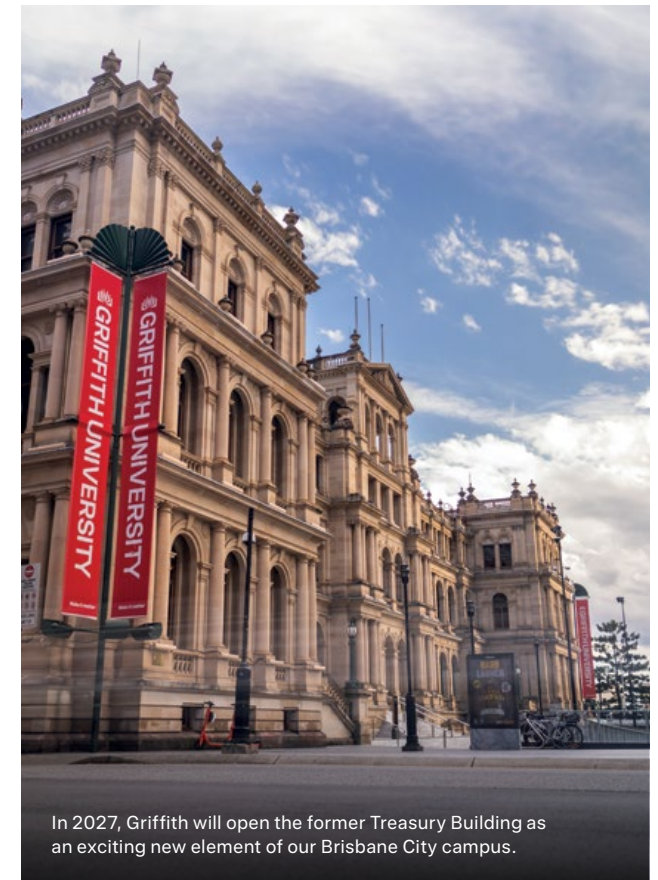
We will activate our campuses for community and industry, fostering collaboration in joint research endeavours and providing access to university facilities and equipment. Our campuses will become hubs of world-class research infrastructure supporting the goals of local partners and generating new income streams for further research investment.

As Queensland prepares for the world's focus on Brisbane in 2032, we will seize this opportunity to grow our capabilities and deploy our expertise. It is imperative that we utilise major events such as the Olympic and Paralympic Games as catalysts for engagement with our communities and to contribute to policy innovations and partnerships that endure, to address societal issues aligned with Griffith's values-informed challenges.

On the road to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, we will enable research partnerships that advance human potential on and off the sporting field and deliver enduring legacies including social, economic, environmental

and cultural benefits, thereby amplifying Griffith's contribution to Queensland's innovation ecosystem and community wellbeing.

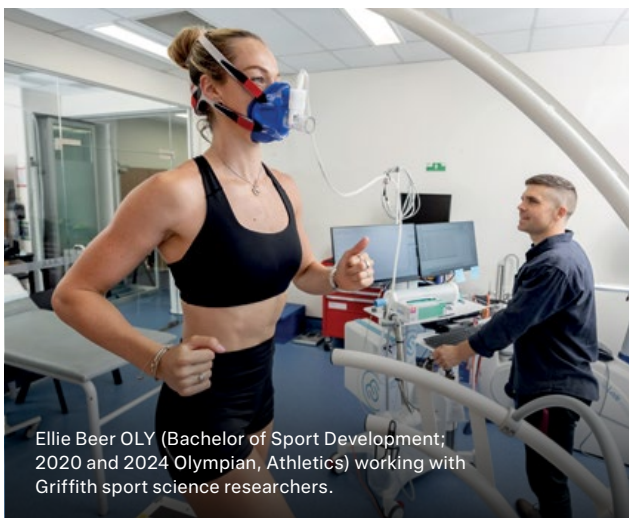
Embedding partnership frameworks that enable co-location, shared infrastructure and reciprocal community benefit will ensure Griffith's research presence is deeply connected to place and purpose.



In 2027, Griffith will open the former Treasury Building as an exciting new element of our Brisbane City campus.

KEY COMMITMENTS:

- We will contribute to the success of our community through the provision of expertise that shares knowledge and supports increased wellbeing and prosperity.
- We will further grow our partnerships in community-responsive and Indigenous co-designed research agendas.
- We will activate our campuses and research programs to promote reciprocal engagement with communities and industry partners, supporting the delivery of high-impact research that changes lives.
- We will deliver career-ready research graduates that demonstrably benefit local, national and international communities.
- We will leverage the university's research expertise and partnership networks to grow capability that will support the success and legacy of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.



KEY OUTCOMES:

By 2030, we will have:

- increased our number of researchers active in the media by 20 per cent and increased research media presence overall by 30 per cent, strengthening our position as a university with trusted expert contributors that keep our community informed
- increased understanding of place-based community needs and will have demonstrated community impact through co-developed research initiatives that improve wellbeing, education, and local resilience
- an enhanced reputation as a leading partner with community and industry through growing productive research alliances in South East Queensland (and beyond) and activating our research facilities, infrastructure and our campuses
- delivered 1,500 HDR graduates that provide highly skilled expertise into recipient industries and the global community
- deployed our wide-ranging research expertise—including elite sport and human performance, sports technology, tourism and visitor experiences, sustainability, health and wellbeing, arts and culture, infrastructure and regional diplomacy—to strongly position the University as a key partner and contributor towards the delivery and legacy of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

PLATFORMS AND ENABLERS

To achieve our purpose, we will create an optimal research environment that empowers our researchers to be their most innovative and responsive to external opportunities and challenges. We will invest in world-class research infrastructure and enhance the systems and tools that support researchers in delivering excellence, ensuring the success we aspire to.

To accelerate the productivity of our researchers, we will develop a fully integrated model of embedded and comprehensive research support. This includes transparent funding schemes, streamlined systems, processes and policy enhancements, all supported by the introduction of a new research information management system that promotes ethical research data stewardship aligned to the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) data principles and, where possible, enabled by AI.

In an increasingly challenging research environment, maximising our competitiveness is essential. We will address this by driving and supporting the competitiveness of our research teams and delivering efficiencies to maximise our resource availability. This will enable our researchers to succeed in externally partnered research. We will introduce measures to support the further growth of external funding for our research. Through constant refinement, we will deliver a sustainable funding model that maximises the efficiency and effectiveness of university investment.

KEY COMMITMENTS:

- We will establish a new model for core physical and digital research facilities that supports reinvestment in world-class infrastructure, sustainably underpins our research success and grows our engagement with external industry partners.
- We will rapidly deliver impactful research outcomes by enhancing our systems and processes, including through AI integration.
- We will drive long-term research success and delivery of Griffith's Strategy 2025–2030 by embedding a sustainable funding model.



Griffith student in the Big Data Lab, Gold Coast campus.



Griffith student and technical officer in the Engineering Lab, Brisbane South (Nathan).

KEY OUTCOMES:

By 2030, we will have:

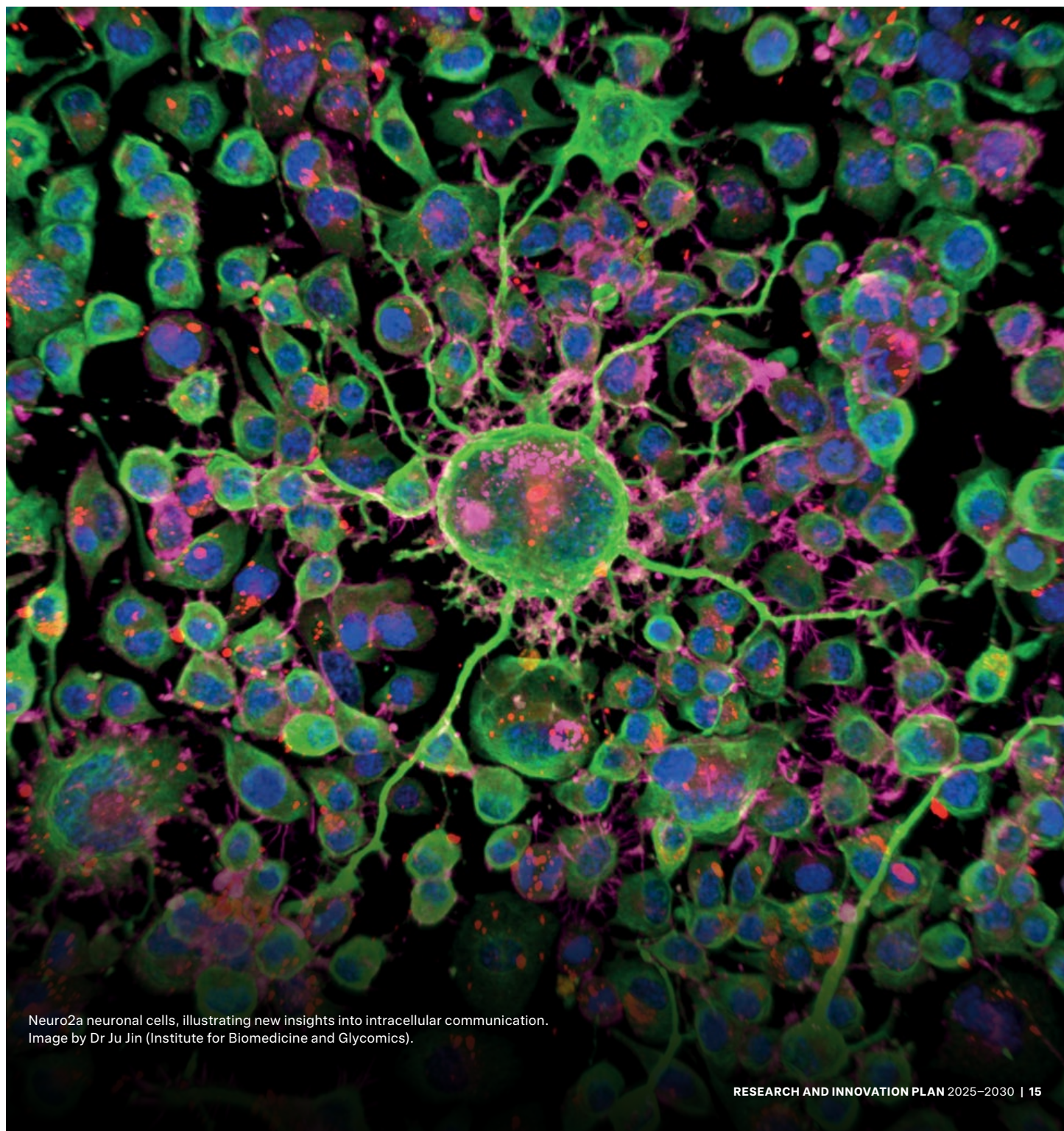
- an integrated digital and physical research ecosystem that promotes excellence through access to high-quality research infrastructure, facilities and systems, making these available to Griffith researchers and industry partners
- streamlined our systems and processes, leveraging advancements in AI to enhance and augment our expert research support
- a sustainable research resourcing model and clear investment principles that grow external research income and impact while efficiently using institutional resources to maximise the delivery of excellent research.

ACHIEVING OUR GOALS BY 2030

As we operationalise this Research and Innovation Plan for 2025–2030, it is essential to reflect on Griffith's commitment to excellence, reciprocity, inclusion, integrity and innovation as being the foundation of our research endeavours. Shaping our journey, these values will drive us to pursue impactful interdisciplinary research that demonstrably delivers on the values-informed challenges outlined in Griffith's Strategy.

Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission. All elements of the University will contribute to achieving our research goals. Together, through collaboration, creativity and courage, we will deliver research and innovation that advances human understanding and changes the world for the better.

In closing, we reaffirm our commitment to make it matter through our research endeavours, igniting discovery and empowering impact. Whether addressing critical local issues or significant global challenges, Griffith will continue to lead with purpose. As we celebrate our achievements over the last 50 years and plan for the future, we are confident that our collective efforts will shape a successful next chapter of our story and contribute to a brighter future for all.



Neuro2a neuronal cells, illustrating new insights into intracellular communication.
Image by Dr Ju Jin (Institute for Biomedicine and Glycomics).

griffith.edu.au

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Statement on AI usage: This Research and Innovation Plan was conceived and written by the DVC (Research), reflecting input from university leaders and in response to the wide-ranging consultation with Griffith University staff and HDR candidates. Once written, Microsoft Copilot (Enterprise version) was used to suggest enhancements to readability and clarity.

