

The way Griffith will advance its Research Impact agenda

Creating a future for all: Strategic Plan 2020-2025 sets out an ambitious program to secure our future as a university of influence. Research is one of the key platforms through which this can be achieved, by creating and mobilising new knowledge that may offer solutions to the world's greatest challenges. Building on a long track record of providing high-quality, stakeholder-focussed outcomes, our research has capacity to have impact on all aspects of life: societally, economically, culturally, technologically and environmentally.

The *Research and Innovation Plan 2021-2025* (R&I Plan) highlights our commitment to further developing and embedding an impact culture at Griffith.

Pathways to Impact Program

A key pillar of the R&I Plan, the Pathways to Impact Program serves as the overarching, unifying umbrella for actions that will help to ensure that Griffith's research impact continues to grow, is visible, well evidenced, globally promoted and recognised.

The Program is designed to help realise Strategic Plan goals: enhancing our reputation and rankings; improving grant success, income streams and research outcomes; fostering an inclusive and thriving research culture; and ensuring meaningful, productive engagement with our communities and partners.

The Program provides a solid framework for the University to continue embedding impact into the research excellence landscape, as well as in Griffith's branding and promotion to external audiences.

The program is structured into **three interrelated phases**, described in in the appended Framework

1. Defining and understanding Impact, 2. Evidencing Impact and 3. Embedding an Impact Culture

Through these phases, to be developed concurrently from 2021, we will -

- support and guide researchers on how to plan for, value and recognise impact in its many forms; and
- improve the University's ability to identify existing breakthrough research and to tell impact stories.

Four key areas are targeted for action in 2021, the latter two being enablers for the whole Program:

- **Enhancing Visibility, Relevance and Pitching (profiling, proposals, external comms)**
 - by focusing on enriching researchers' external profiles (Griffith Experts)
 - by achieving best quality impact statements (academic and non-academic) in support of external funding opportunities in connection with OR, D&A, GE and GI.
- **Telling Griffith's Research Impact Stories**
 - by identifying Griffith's influential research, we will prepare for the ARC Engagement and Impact 2024 submission and as part of the Rankings and Communication plan, develop a pipeline of impact stories. Special emphasis will be placed in alignment with UNSDGs.
- **Supporting evaluation of Research Impact (academic and non-academic)**
 - by defining discipline-specific guidelines for benchmarking and evaluation of high quality, influential research at individual, field and institutional levels. This is guided by existing international resources.
 - by exploring how impactful outcomes may be recognised in the Academics of the Future program.
- **Building evidence of non-academic impact**
 - by providing toolkits and systems to document engagement with research end-users and evidence of impact in its different forms.