



## A message from the Deputy Vice Chancellor: Research & Innovation

As the University of Enterprise, it is a core priority for the University of South Australia (UniSA) to support the creation and translation of world-class research into outcomes that promise to deliver considerable social and economic benefit.

Intellectual Property (IP) plays a key role in the effective transfer of research outcomes into the hands of those that are committed and resourced to deliver new products and services to market through commercialisation.

Universities are often criticised for being difficult to work with, risk adverse and demanding of IP ownership. UniSA does not subscribe to this stereotype.

The University's *Research and Innovation Strategic Plan 2016-2020, Inspired Partnered Excellence*, makes clear the University's commitment to productive partnerships with industry where our industry collaborators are welcome to own the resultant IP and drive the commercialisation process. We are supportive of students and staff to be entrepreneurial and to take the lead in new start-up and spinout companies. Importantly, we are dedicated to implementing a transparent and clearly communicated framework to support our students and staff to be successful in these endeavours. The aspiration is for entrepreneurial staff and students to feel supported rather than be hindered by UniSA's approach to IP.

Importantly, we encourage and support researchers to engage in translating the knowledge they have generated and we acknowledge that the pathway to translation and commercialisation may be unique in each case. For example, a researcher may choose to work with an end-user to transfer their knowledge by way of IP license to that partner. Alternatively they may play an active role in a new company and hold an equity share. For both of these examples there may ultimately be a transfer in ownership of the IP to the partner or spinout company. While each case is unique and regardless of the pathway, the inventors of the IP being commercialised will be recognised and will share in commercial returns.

This framework of support is outlined in the following set of documents:

1. The University's IP Policy; the policy position for ownership, management and commercialisation of IP;
2. The University's IP Guidelines; operationalising the IP policy. This document outlines the role of UniSA Ventures and the University's position in supporting entrepreneurship for staff that want to play an active role in the commercialisation process; and
3. The UniSA IP Principles; the University's public declaration and pledge for how we will support the effective transfer of IP and collaborations with end-users.

