



Research Plan

2023-2027

Research Strategic Statement

Bond University is dedicated to enriching student learning through world class research and insight. At the heart of our mission is the pursuit of new knowledge, addressing complex, interdisciplinary challenges, and fostering innovation and excellence within our inspiring and ambitious learning community.

Our research efforts are directed towards understanding and solving the practical problems that individuals and societies encounter. We strive to advance academic knowledge and have a positive impact on the world, preparing our students to lead and innovate in a rapidly changing future.

At Bond University our academics are encouraged to focus on high quality research that maintains our world class reputation in the disciplinary areas that support our teaching. We promote a comprehensive and balanced research approach, leading to outstanding educational outcomes.

The Bond University Research Plan 2023-2027 is underpinned by the four core principles of being Distinctive, Relevant, Connected, and Excellent, and is aligned with the three strategies of the Strategic Plan. This Plan sets forth our goals and actions for cultivating a vibrant research ecosystem, supported by a skilled and resilient workforce, early career researcher development, a unified research training framework, access to necessary infrastructure, and productive partnerships with industry committed to societal benefits.

By providing our researchers with essential skills, cutting-edge technology, and extensive support, we seek to attain a level of research excellence that has a significant impact worldwide.



Research Plan

The Bond University Research Plan 2023-2027 ensures the continuing improvement and support of our vibrant and world-class research environment. Overall, the plan outlines our initiatives to develop and foster a thriving research ecosystem with a strong workforce, a cohesive and productive research training environment, appropriate access to infrastructure, and meaningful industry partnerships. We encourage research that addresses environmental and societal challenges and seek collaborations with industry partners who share a commitment to sustainability. We measure the quality and impact of our research using a range of metrics and external peer review. The Research Plan is underpinned by the four core principles and aligned to the three strategies of the Strategic Plan.



Fostering an inspirational and aspirational learning community

The University provides an environment which supports world class research and creates interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary **opportunities for collaboration by prioritising support for centres of research excellence through budget allocation, focusing research activities within these centres, and promoting interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary collaboration. While research commercialisation is a relatively new endeavour for Bond, it is a key objective for three of our research centres; the Institute of Evidence Based Healthcare, the Clem Jones Centre for Regenerative Medicine, and the Centre for Data Analytics.**

This will be achieved through the following:

Ensuring that the University supports world class research through our centres of research excellence and by nurturing interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research ideation, collaboration, development, and culture across the University			
How will this be delivered	What will be delivered	When will it be delivered	Who will be responsible
Ensure that physical spaces are created to support ideation, collaboration, and establish a vibrant research culture across the University	Creation of specialist research collaboration spaces that support the research culture	Include concept of specialist research collaboration spaces in the Master planning exercise	VP Operations
Clarify expectations of research activity for academics and incorporate in individual academic PDRs, including specific measures of output	Clearly identify research outputs that are determined as 'excellence' and embedded in each T&R and RO function academic staff member PDR	For 2024 PDR process	Provost and Executive Deans
Use evidence basis for tracking and assuring of research performance as world class	Undertake regular Research Quality Assurance reviews that include independent input	Research Quality Assurance exercise to be conducted in 2023	Provost
Elevate Bond University standing in the research community by hosting international academic conferences	Aim for at least one international academic conference of standing	At least one a year	Provost and Executive Deans
Continue to prioritise centres of research excellence in the budget and associated resource allocation process	Allocating research funds (block grant and University funding) to research centres of excellence based on a transparent methodology that rewards performance outcomes	Each budget, reviewed annually against spend and agreed performance outcomes that the centres of research excellence agreed to deliver	Provost

KEY MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- World standard research supports at least 80% of the Broad Fields of Education in which we teach
- All research areas appropriately resourced

Expanding reach and making a greater impact

Bond University focuses on HDR student outcomes by creating a research training environment that produces world class researchers who are well prepared for work in industry and/or academia. This involves expanding the pool of qualified supervisors, encouraging team supervision, and offering diverse degrees aligned with industry needs, including internships. Support services for higher degree research (HDR) students and supervisors are streamlined for efficiency, and a strong focus is placed on achieving high retention rates.

We are focused on delivering impactful engagement with industry through a portfolio approach to partnerships. We foster international collaboration by encouraging researchers to engage with global partners, participate in international conferences, and collaborate on research projects. We support our academics to explore commercialisation opportunities, patent applications, and startup ventures stemming from their research. The plan includes the development and expansion of HDR internship programs and bringing industry partners onto campus to deepen their integration into the research program.

This will be achieved through the following:

Delivering impactful engagement with industry through high quality domestic and international research and commercialisation partnerships			
How will this be delivered	What will be delivered	When will it be delivered	Who will be responsible
Develop a research and innovation partnership plan that will identify key actions that identify, nurture and benefit from research partnerships with industry	A University wide planning document which stipulates the actions, timeframes and responsibilities for research and innovation partnerships	Completed by mid-2024	VP Engagement and Provost
Financially supported research activity collaborates with industry partners who share a commitment to sustainability	A seed funding initiative that supports sustainability research innovation and partnership	Each budget cycle	Provost
Educate researchers to explore commercialisation opportunities, patent applications, and startup ventures stemming from their research	Series of training and skills development for academic staff on commercialisation	In place by 2024	Provost
Identify key partners that potentially bring a range of benefits including internships, student placements, funding, and connections to other partners	Clear identification of partnerships and associated agreements	By mid-2024	VP Engagement
Encouraging researchers to engage with global partners, participate in international conferences, and collaborate on research projects	Clear plans and expectations for academic researchers embedded within the PDR process	2024	Provost and Executive Deans
Streamline contracting and legal processes to formalise relationships with industry	Create templates for university collaboration	Mid-2024	General Counsel

KEY MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- 100% research staff completed commercialisation training by 2027
- Industry based external research applications and income (Category 2, 3, 4) to continue to increase year on year
- All research partners satisfied with their Bond collaboration

Provide a high-quality research training environment that produces graduates who are world class researchers and job-ready

How will this be delivered	What will be delivered	When will it be delivered	Who will be responsible
Expand the capability and capacity for HDR supervision across the University	All early career researchers qualified as supervisors through the Principal Supervisor Accreditations program within two years of PhD graduation	By 2025	Provost and Executive Deans
	Ensure supervisors work in teams, where appropriate, in areas of critical mass to promote innovation and strengthen accountability and career development	By 2025	Provost and Executive Deans
	All supervisors undertake regular research integrity training	By 2025	Provost and Executive Deans
	Monitor HDR retention rates at key candidature points to maintain above 90% HDR completion rate	By 2024	Chair of Graduate Research
Maintain high quality student experience for HDR candidates	High quality on-boarding, communication, training and supervision of HDR candidates as evidenced by high student satisfaction in HDR Student Experience Survey	By 2024	Chair of Graduate Research
Expand the HDR internship program by working with industry to secure increased opportunities	Office on Industry Engagement to find more placements	Increase the number of HDR internships to 20% of total	Provost
Offer competitive scholarships and opportunities for paid teaching for high-quality HDR candidates to increase number of HDR	Increase the value of Stipend for HDR students Increase number of HDR students from 140 to 154	By end 2027	Provost and VP Operations
Prioritise the recruitment of high-quality First Nations HDR candidates through Indigenous scholarships, and where appropriate, teaching opportunities for Indigenous PhD students	All PhD candidates offered an internship opportunity	By 2027	Provost

KEY MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- All research enabled academics are qualified as HDR supervisors by 2025
- HDR on-time completion to be maintained at over 90%
- Increase the proportion of students involved in a formal industry-based program to 20%
- Increase the number of Indigenous HDR students to 1% of the cohort

STRATEGY THREE

Advancing our unique identity

Our plan recognises the need to build and maintain a world-class workforce, by recruiting selectively, retaining top researchers, and providing support through initiatives such as a salary continuance scheme for fellowship holders. Additionally, investing in competency and leadership development through targeted workshops, mentoring, and stakeholder engagement is core to developing our early-and mid-career academics.

Finally, we aim to enhance access to world-class research infrastructure by directing targeted investments and maintaining access agreements with other institutions and participating in national initiatives. As a small university, this needs to be carefully aligned to need, yet responsive.

This will be achieved through the following:

Building and maintaining a world-class research workforce focused on excellence and high quality outputs			
How will this be delivered	What actually will be delivered	When will it be delivered	Who will be responsible
Recruit, retain, recognise and reward research staff	All priority research areas are supported by the Professorial Fellow scheme to develop our research capacity and provide mentorship	Full budget support from 2023	VP Operations
	Focus on research capacity through selective recruitment that complements and builds research priority areas to ensure that world standard research supports at least 80% of broad fields of education in which we teach	By 2024	Provost and Executive Deans
	Ensure that external research fellowship holders are supported through a 'near-miss' salary continuance scheme for 12 months to provide them with a bridge while they seek further external research funding	By 2023	VP Operations
	Recruitment and retention of First Nations researchers with at least one new appointment each year	By 2024	Provost and Executive Deans
Build the capacity of staff involved in research through initiatives that promote research competency, leadership and collaboration	Comprehensive portfolio of targeted up-skilling workshops and interventions targeting early- and mid-career researchers, including grant writing programs, HDR supervision, research integrity training and publication writing workshops	From 2023	Provost
	Expand the Researcher Development and Mentoring Scheme to provide every academic with the opportunity to benefit from support and guidance through mentoring	Each year until 2027, reviewed each year	Provost
Develop the capabilities of researchers to prevent, detect and rectify research quality and integrity issues	All researchers attend research integrity training every five years to enable staff to maximise the impact of their research with focus areas of data privacy, responsible conduct of research, and ethical considerations in collaboration with industry partners, foreign interference, and foreign influence	By 2025	Provost and Executive Deans

KEY MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- Faculty External research funds targets met
- All Research Enabled Staff who do not meet Research Activity targets have a research development plan in place
- All research enabled staff have attended research integrity training in the last five years
- World standard research supports at least 80% of the broad Fields of Education in which we teach

Enhance and enable access to world-class research infrastructure

How will this be delivered	What will be delivered	When will it be delivered	Who will be responsible
Develop and maintain access agreements with other institutions in relation to animal, clinical, sporting and large infrastructure to enable our researchers access to world-class facilities	Contracts for access updated to support Bond research requirements	On renewal date	Provost and General Counsel
Participate in national initiatives that provide technological platforms to enhance and support researchers in generating, sharing, analysing, storing and retrieving information	Sharing agreement via QCIF to access data necessary to conduct advanced research	By 2027	Provost
Recognise and support emerging research costs, such as Article Processing Charges	Budget allocation to support costs	Budget 2024	Provost
Put in place internal mechanisms to directly support research computing infrastructure	Budget allocation to support computing software and hardware infrastructure	Budget 2024	Provost

KEY MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- Full utilisation of Infrastructure resources
- Faculty satisfaction regarding appropriateness of infrastructure
- Full utilisation of article processing charges and read and publish agreement caps



Bond University
Gold Coast Queensland 4229
Australia

Toll free: 1800 074 074
Phone: 07 5595 2222
bond.edu.au/enquire



CRICOS Provider Code 00017B
TEQSA Provider Number PRV12072