

Flinders University
Graduation Ceremony
Darwin December 2021

Flinders



Flinders
UNIVERSITY

The Crest



The Flinders University Council adopted a coat of arms for the University on 16 December 1966.

The coat of arms consists of a shield bearing a radiant sun at the base surmounted by an open book on a blue background, with an extract from page 176 of Volume 1 of Matthew Flinders' *A Voyage to Terra Australis* printed on the open pages.

The shield is surmounted by a crest comprising a reproduction of Flinders' ship *Investigator* fully rigged, on a wreath of the University's colours of dark blue, pale blue and white.

The Crest was designed by Kevyn Graham Whisson.

The extract from *A Voyage to Terra Australis* reads:

"The situation of Mount Lofty was found from hence and from some other cross bearings, to be 34° 59' south and 138° 42' east.

No land was visible so far to the north as where the trees appeared above the horizon, which showed the coast to be very low, and our soundings were fast decreasing.

From noon to six o'clock we ran thirty miles to the northward, skirting a sandy shore at the distance of five, and thence to eight miles; the depth was then 5 fathoms, and we dropped the anchor upon a bottom of sand, mixed with pieces of dead coral."

Congratulations

On behalf of Flinders and Charles Darwin Universities, it's my honour to congratulate our newest graduates, marking a proud moment and important milestone.

It is no small feat to navigate the bumpy road towards academic success, especially during the recent period of disruption. Graduation is an accomplishment that reflects diligence, persistence and tremendous effort, qualities that will set you in good stead for your lives ahead.

I urge you to ever embrace our University values by being courageous, displaying integrity, being innovative, striving for excellence, and considering the interests of people who matter most to you.

Yours has been a special journey because you have chosen to study in the Northern Territory. This means you have seized the opportunity to undertake work-based study in a regional or remote area, and further, that you share our commitment to improving communities, the social fabric, and health outcomes in this extraordinary place.

All of you will have benefited from Flinders University's valuable Territory collaborations, especially our longstanding partnership with Charles Darwin University. This partnership continues to deliver a medical programme that is uniquely designed for the context of the NT, and whose graduates are equipped and ready to meet the healthcare needs of Territorians. We trust this foundation has prepared you well for your future. Equipped with a qualification that you have worked so hard for, there is no doubt in my mind that you will be valued and integral contributors to our society.

For us as for you, change is constant and you can be assured that we will continue to grow, improve and always make you proud to be a Flinders graduate.

I sincerely hope you stay in touch and inform us of your progress. We are keen to hear where your degree takes you next. My warmest wishes for your journey ahead to personal and professional fulfillment.



Stephen Gerlach AM
Chancellor
Flinders University

Acknowledgement of Country

Flinders University acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands in which its campuses and centres are located and honours Elders past and present. These are the traditional lands of the Arrernte, Barngarla, Boandik, Dagoman, Erawirung, Gunditjmara, Jawoyn, Kurna, Larrakia, Nauo, Ngadjuri, Ngarrindjeri, Peramangk, Ramindjeri, Wardaman, Warumungu and Yolngu peoples, spanning across South Australia, the Northern Territory and Victoria.

Our vision for Reconciliation

Flinders University's collective vision is to foster an environment that recognises and embraces Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, knowledges and cultures. This vision for reconciliation is grounded in the concepts of togetherness, reciprocity, and respect.

We respect and recognise the long-held philosophies, knowledges, research, strengths and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in this country.

Flinders has committed to an Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan following two decades of incremental advances in prioritising Indigenous engagement in higher education. We continue to work across our staff, student and alumni community to increase respectful recognition, knowledge and awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and contributions.

Explore our Reconciliation Action Plan at:
[Flinders.edu.au/rap](https://flinders.edu.au/rap)



Tiles are designed by Dr. Ali Baker and painted by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students during Orientation week at Flinders University.

Welcome, our newest Alumni

It's my pleasure to welcome you to the Flinders University alumni network, joining more than 115,000 graduates whose skills and abilities are shaping the future across all aspects of our society.

Your graduation represents an important milestone in your life, marking the culmination of your studies where your hard work and dedication is finally rewarded with qualifications that you will have for the rest of your lives.

Your testamur tells the world that you have developed a body of advanced knowledge and skills that sets you apart and equips you for success in the future.

So, while your graduation from one of our Northern Territory programmes marks the end of an important chapter in your life, it also represents the beginning of the next and we here at Flinders University look forward to following your progress.

Our University was named after the navigator, Matthew Flinders, a man of humble origins who knew that the route to his success would be through the value of his deeds, writing 'Since neither birth nor fortune have favoured me, my actions shall speak to the world.'

At Flinders University, we share our namesake's ambition and his commitment to making a difference in the world through the value of the work that we do. This is evident in making a difference to the lives of our graduates through high quality education and making a difference to the wider community through the impact of our research.

As you embark on the next stage of your life's journey, I encourage you to always strive to make your own mark on the world through the positive value of your actions.

Today you join the Flinders Alumni Network, a rich array of remarkable alumni that reaches across Australia and around the globe. The Network has been created to support you; please stay connected to access the support and resources of our global community including professional development, networking opportunities, further study, and a range of exclusive Flinders University alumni benefits and services.

On behalf of the University, I congratulate you on your personal achievement and wish you every success in the future.



Professor Colin J Stirling
President and Vice-Chancellor
Flinders University

Academic dress

The history of academic dress spans a period of more than 600 years from the earliest days of universities to present. The tradition of wearing academic dress continues in universities around the world.

At Flinders University, the wearing of a hood by the graduate to indicate their College is the principal feature. The hood of Flinders' academic dress is a dark blue. The colours of the hood's lining and piping are prescribed by the University and distinguish the different award and College.


Graduates who identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian are entitled to wear a stole of either Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander colours, worn over the gown and under the hood.


List of hood piping colours


	Blue for College of Business, Government and Law
	Orange for College of Education, Psychology and Social Work
	Yellow for College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
	Green for College of Medicine and Public Health
	Red for College of Nursing and Health Sciences
	Purple for College of Science and Engineering


Academic dress colours


Academic dress is made up of three parts; the **gown**, the **hood** and the **cap**. The cap is a black mortarboard with black tassel, unless graduating with a doctorate, where a black velvet bonnet with a black cord is worn.


 **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**
Gown: Navy with red trim
Hood: Navy with red lining (no piping)


 **Doctorate (other than PhD and Doctor of Medicine)**
Gown: Red with coloured trim
Hood: Navy with red lining and coloured piping

 **Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Clinical Sciences and Doctor of Medicine**
Gown: Black with glove sleeves
Hood: Navy with light green lining (no piping)

 **Masters**
Gown: Black with glove sleeves
Hood: Navy with pale blue lining and coloured piping

 **Graduate Certificates and Graduate Diplomas**
Gown: Black with open sleeves
Hood: Navy with pale blue lining (no piping)

 **Bachelor**
Gown: Black with open sleeves
Hood: Navy with white lining and coloured piping

 **Undergraduate, Associate Degrees and Associate Diplomas**
Gown: Black with open sleeves
Hood: Navy with white lining (no piping)

Graduation ceremony

Graduation Ceremony
Monday 13 December 2021 3pm

PROGRAM

Entry of Academic Procession

Australian National Anthem

Welcome to Country

Opening of Proceedings

Speeches

Presentation of Graduates

Closing of Proceedings

Officers of the University

Chancellor

Mr Stephen Gerlach AM

Deputy Chancellors

Mr Stephen Hains

Ms Elizabeth Perry AM

President and Vice-Chancellor

Professor Colin J Stirling

Interim Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students)

Professor Deborah West

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

Professor Robert Saint

Vice-President and Pro Vice-Chancellor (International)

Mr Sebastian Raneskold

Vice-President (Corporate Services)

Mr Mark Gregory

Chief Financial Officer

Mr Richard Porter

General Counsel & University Secretary

Mr David Lim

College Vice-Presidents and Executive Deans

Business, Government and Law

Professor Michael Gilding

Education, Psychology and Social Work

Professor Deborah West (Interim)

Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

Professor Peter Monteath (Interim)

Medicine and Public Health

Professor Jonathan Craig

Nursing and Health Sciences

Professor Alison Kitson

Science and Engineering

Professor Alistair Rendell

Graduates - Doctor of Medicine

Flinders University is recognised globally as a leader in medical education and universities worldwide have adopted the curriculum of our medical program. The program integrates clinical medicine with a strong underpinning in the relevant biomedical sciences, while also providing students with a broader understanding of health in a range of social contexts, with a commitment to social justice and equity.

As a professional qualification, the Flinders University Doctor of Medicine (MD) is accredited by the Australian Medical Council to deliver outstanding clinical and academic training, ensuring students are well prepared for the challenges of internship and future professional training.

The Northern Territory Medical Program (NTMP), which commenced in 2011 in partnership with Charles Darwin University and the NT Government, has enabled the full four years of the Flinders MD to be taught in the Northern Territory. For the first time in the last 10 years, Territorians have been able to study to become a doctor without having to leave home. The MD provides high quality education to students. Curriculum delivery is innovative, using the latest technologies to ensure quality teaching in a variety of settings - from Flinders Medical Centre in suburban Adelaide to Nhulunbuy, one of the most remote medical program campuses in Australia. The NTMP taps into the deep vein of clinical and public health expertise of local practitioners who are national and international leaders in their field.

While graduates are skilled to practice anywhere in the world, the NTMP contextualised curriculum ensures we produce the appropriately trained medical workforce trained in the Territory, for the Territory.

Congratulations to the 2021 graduates of the Northern Territory Medical Program.

College of Medicine and Public Health

DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

Evangeline Agbayani

Rayan Arysun

Nikki Burnett

Jessica Jean Coolwell

Kathleen Jane Crook

Byron Richard Winston Davis

Leif Alexander Eldridge Smith

Meghann Louise Everett

Shaun Goh

Tia Louise Gordon

Sam Guempel Crothers

Thomas Anthony Jackson

Shileigh Jane Martin

Afif Mazid

Jumana Mazid

Cameron McKenzie

Radita Naowal

Claire Maree Wall O'Bryan

Arijeet Pal

Tarun Raval Ponneri

Kate Postans

Sophia Shafiq

Amelia Skaczkowski

James Stuart Tierney

Josephine Ifeyinwa Ugwu

Reuben Joseph Wakefield

John Malcolm Williams

DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE WITH DISTINCTION

Casey Lee Hills

Danyal Haroon Jamil

Jessica Lina Lim

Rhiannon Julia Oakhill Steel

Anna Jane Orgar Walmsley

Graduates

The College of Medicine and Public Health is delighted to acknowledge the achievements of Northern Territory residents who have completed a range of Flinders University degrees. Last year (2020) was the first time that students from a range of degrees had the opportunity to celebrate their achievements with family and their local community. This year the number of students has grown from two to seven students. We look forward to your contribution to the Northern Territory workforce in the years to come, and that you continue to join us for alumni events that celebrate over 1200 Northern Territorians who have completed Flinders University degrees over time.

Congratulations!

College of Business, Government and Law

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF BUSINESS (MARKETING)

Chelsea Mudge

College of Education, Psychology and Social Work

DEGREES OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (PRIMARY R 7) AND BACHELOR OF ARTS

Luke James Bray

DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Reen Nankunda Barigye

College of Nursing and Health Sciences

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN MIDWIFERY

Ishita Singhal

DEGREE OF MASTER OF NURSING (PAEDIATRICS)

Lucinda May Blennerhassett

College of Medicine and Public Health

DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Heather Mary Burton

Principal Supervisor: Professor Tara Brabazon

By thesis entitled: Decolonisation as the absencing of harm: an ultra realist reading of Indigenous education literature

The national Indigenous health policy, Closing the Gap, activates an assumption that schools support health by equipping young people to participate in work and economic development. The benefits of education are lost if young people leave school early. First Nations (Indigenous) young people are disproportionately represented in this group, especially in rural and remote areas. Examining research by Australian Indigenous educators reveals a consistent, strong message that schools are sites of unacknowledged harm, framed by colonisation and dispossession. Negative experiences such as absence of Indigenous culture and languages in the school, and questioning Indigenous identity based on physical appearance have arisen from historical legislation and policy that colonises non Indigenous thinking and beliefs. This doctorate actualizes decolonising strategies involving Non Indigenous collaboration with Indigenous teaching staff, Elders and community leaders; and learning from Indigenous authored literature, to value and support Indigenous young people's health.

Catherine Grace Malla

Principal Supervisor: Emeritus Professor Colin MacDougall

By thesis entitled: Knowledge translation in international public health NGOs

The work of international non government organisations (INGOs) relies on multiple knowledges, ranging from local to global, and from highly technical to tacit and contextual. This research explored what types of knowledge were valued within INGOs and how these knowledges were used. The findings revealed that country office staff of INGOs play a crucial role as 'middle figures' in the knowledge translation work of the INGO, working at the boundaries of different knowledge cultures. Their work is often largely unseen and undervalued, highlighting the invisibility of both country office and knowledge translation work in the sector. This research contributes to better understandings of the complex and varied work of local staff of INGOs, and provides deeper insights into how the work of knowledge translation is conducted. It has the potential to inform guidance for INGOs on their knowledge to action practice.

Celebrating 25 years of impact and partnership in the NT

This year we have hosted a series of celebrations to mark the 10th anniversary of the Flinders Northern Territory Medical Program.

Our accomplishments with the NTMP have been extraordinary. Since the program's inception, the NTMP has been providing nearly 50% of the new interns required in the Northern Territory. Graduates to date have included nine Aboriginal doctors, with more conferred at today's graduation celebration.

Most importantly, we have delivered on the primary aim of the NTMP: to produce graduates who are fit-for-practice in the unique context of remote and Indigenous Northern Territory communities.

The NTMP is successful because of the dedication, goodwill and vision of a collective of students, teachers, clinicians, researchers, academics and professional staff who are steadfast in their commitment to the provision of quality health care and equitable access for our communities in the NT.

To highlight the incredible work of this collective, we are developing a special book which tells individual stories of some of the people who conceptualised, developed, supported, taught and studied the NTMP. These pages provide a sneak peek into the book content's and highlight some of the incredible stories that embody Flinders University's contributions to the Northern Territory and to rural and remote health.



Richard Fejo
Senior Elder on campus
Darwin

"We are still the most disadvantaged people in Australia, and that's not acceptable, but it will take a massive effort of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to make change. That's why I became a cultural educator, equipping doctors and nurses with knowledge to go out into communities, so they understand what they can experience and immerse into our lifestyle and better understand the challenges we face.

"A lot of non-Aboriginal people say to me 'we don't know where to start'. I tell them to go find out whose land they are on, talk to the traditional owners on the land you are standing on, go to a museum and find out more. Knowledge and understanding are essential if we are going to make changes in our health."

10
years

Celebrating 10 years of the Northern Territory Medical Program



Associate Professor
Buddhika Weerasundera
NT Medical Program

"I will always remember the first cohort that graduated: it was very special to me, almost like watching my own children graduate! That's the kind of passion that we all have for medical education here. I am so happy that I can be part of growing the health workforce in the NT, and to contribute even in the smallest possible way."



Madison Ludwig
Student NT Medical
Program

"I was worried that I wasn't smart enough for medicine. 'Then a few people around me said, 'Just do it, give it a go and if it's too much, you can always leave.' Within a few weeks I started to realise it is hard, and there is a lot of time and effort involved, but it's definitely manageable. I realised that with the Indigenous pathway program, I came into the course just as prepared as everybody else. I am confident now that I will graduate with a whole range of skills that will help me become a confident and competent doctor for all of my future patients, and in particular for my Indigenous patients."



Associate Professor Emma Kennedy, Academic Coordinator of the Flinders NT Medical Program

"Our society can't change if we are not aware of the problems and prepared to face up to them and own them. Reconciliation is about working out where things have gone wrong and recognising that. There isn't a need to beat each other over the back; the biggest thing is to come together and move forward together."

"Through the NTMP I can influence a curriculum, set priorities, and drive a focus on integrating how individual patients and people influence the learning of the doctor. I also am recognising the need to give more access to Aboriginal people in our program to translate real everyday issues for students and to carry the humour and stories of the human condition into the program, so that it is real."



Kath Martin, Lecturer in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

"If I can change one person's mind and get them thinking outside the box, realising Aboriginal health is not as simple as you might think it is, then I am happy. If I can do that for a whole class, I am even happier!"

"I love teaching. I want to give medical students the opportunities to learn what Aboriginal health means from an Aboriginal perspective, taught by an Aboriginal whose community lives with and is impacted by the health problems that we talk about."



Dr Kelum Priyadarshana
Clinical Dean and Senior Lecturer
NT Medical Program

"I literally enjoyed every minute of my medical education. There was not a single day I felt tired or unhappy. Studying alongside similar-minded people, working hard together and then having a little bit of fun every now and then was good. I loved medical school and that is one of the reasons I wanted to keep teaching, to be a part of that environment."

Congratulations!

Now that you have finished your degree at Flinders University you have become a lifelong member of our Alumni Network.

You join over 115,000 Flinders alumni across 120 countries who are finding their place, making their mark and making a difference around the world!

Along with the graduates who live and work in Australia, many of our alumni are located in China, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, USA, Canada, UK, Japan and Norway.

Leverage your degree long after graduation by tapping into this powerful network and making connections wherever your degree takes you.

We're here for you

Keep your career on the cutting edge with year-round opportunities to develop your professional capacity, including:

- Access to Flinders CareerHub for job listings and career support for two years
- Professional development opportunities
- Networking at a range of course, College and University events
- Mentoring a current student
- Postgraduate study or short courses
- Public lectures – in person, live streamed or recorded

These opportunities are promoted in our monthly alumni e-newsletter – keep an eye out for it in your inbox. And don't forget to update us if you move, so that we can let you know about events and opportunities in your location.

Flinders is honoured to count among its alumni:

1 Fields Medallist

6 Rhodes Scholars

30 Fulbright Scholars

315+ Australian Honours Recipients



**John Kuot (BBus/BlntSt '15)
2021 Fulbright Scholar**

Flinders University Alumni Awards

The annual Flinders University Alumni Awards acknowledge the significant contributions made by our graduates in their field, to the University or to the community locally, nationally and internationally.

The awards include the Convocation Medal, Distinguished Alumni Awards and the Early Career Alumni Awards.

Congratulations to our 2021 recipients!

Convocation Medal

Dr Rosemary Brooks OAM

Doctor of Philosophy (Humanities) 1979

Distinguished Alumni Award

Lee Cumberlidge

Bachelor of Cultural Tourism 2000

Associate Professor Rosalie Grivell

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery 1998

Leanne Liddle

Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice 2004

Dr Christopher McGowan

Doctor of Philosophy (Health Sciences) 2017

Associate Professor Elspeth McInnes AM

Bachelor of Arts with Honours 1991,
Doctor of Philosophy (Social Sciences) 2001

Elizabeth Naumczyk

Bachelor of Arts 1976

Richard Stokes

Bachelor of Arts 1980, Diploma of Education 1981

Early Career Alumni Award

Launched in 2020, the Early Career Alumni Award recognises the outstanding achievements and contributions of graduates in their early career (up to five years after graduating from an undergraduate or postgraduate degree).

This year we celebrate the achievements of Early Career Alumni Awardees:

Sam Ackland

Bachelor of Business (Marketing) 2016

Kate Bohunnis

Bachelor of Creative Arts with Honours 2018

Dr Himal Kandel

Doctor of Philosophy (Health Sciences) 2019

Dr Alyce Martin

Bachelor of Medical Science 2011, Bachelor of Science with Honours 2012, Doctor of Philosophy (Medicine) 2018

Dr Katharina J Peters

Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology with Honours 2010, Doctor of Philosophy (Biology) 2016

Benjamin Tripodi

Bachelor of Health Sciences 2016

Consider nominating a recent Flinders University graduate in the 2022 nomination round.

Read more:

[Flinders.edu.au/alumni-awards](https://flinders.edu.au/alumni-awards)

**2021 Distinguished Alumni Award winner,
Law graduate Leanne Liddle is closing the
gap on justice in the NT**





We look forward to staying connected

We are so excited for your next move after you graduate from Flinders University, but we also want to continue to engage with you, inspire you and help you reach your career goals into the future.

Staying connected is an important way for us to let you know about Flinders University Alumni Network activities, professional development opportunities, reunions and events in your location (whether that is Sydney, Shanghai or Stewart Park).

You can stay connected by updating your contact details whenever you move or change jobs. Fill in the online form or contact the Alumni Relations Team.

Update your details via:
[Flinders.edu.au/update](https://flinders.edu.au/update)

Contact the Alumni Relations Team to find out how you can get involved, share your experiences and develop new ones:

alumni@flinders.edu.au

+61 8 8201 7969

[Flinders.edu.au/alumni](https://flinders.edu.au/alumni)



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