

**Flinders University
Graduation Ceremony**

Executive Counselling and Training Academy, Singapore

November 2024

Flinders

Message from the President and Vice Chancellor

There are unforgettable and pivotal moments in life, and graduation is one such occasion.

Today marks a significant milestone in your academic journey – a journey characterised by hard work, dedication, and intellectual growth.

Your testamur demonstrates that you have equipped yourself with an advanced body of knowledge and skills that set you apart. It showcases your readiness to step confidently into the world and make a difference.

The road to academic success is seldom easy or simple, and the choice of what and where to study can set the course of your life.

You have chosen wisely.

Flinders University is proud of our partnership with Executive Counselling and Training Academy (ECTA), and the opportunities this provides to students to take their careers to the next level. With a shared commitment to nurturing the talent of future generations, Flinders and ECTA are dedicated to inspiring our students to make a difference in the lives of those around them.

Graduation is a milestone in a life of lessons from many sources – but remember that your education journey does not end here today. Lifelong learning is the key to success.

Your postgraduate program with Flinders University and ECTA has developed your knowledge and skills, but more importantly it has deepened your ability to think critically, to analyse problems and, when necessary, to challenge conventional wisdom. It is now up to you to build upon it.

As you begin the next chapter of your life, you join a global family of over 130,000 Flinders University graduates who are changing lives and changing the world. We look forward to following your journey as you join this important legacy.

Congratulations, graduate. Flinders is immensely proud of your achievements, and I am delighted to welcome you to the ECTA Flinders alumni community.

May you be inspired to always strive to make the world a better place.

Professor Colin J Stirling BSc Edin, PhD Glas
President and Vice-Chancellor



Professor Colin J Stirling
President and Vice-Chancellor
Flinders University

Welcome address by Vice President and Executive Dean, College of Medicine and Public Health, Flinders University

As the Vice President and Executive Dean of the College of Medicine and Public Health at Flinders University, I share in your pride and to be celebrating with you today as the first graduates in the Counselling suite of programs delivered in Singapore by Flinders University and the Executive Counselling and Training Academy.

This is the next step in what I expect will be an exciting journey in your careers. We are proud of our partnership with ECTA and working alongside you and to support you in gaining your Flinders University qualification. The Graduate Certificate, the Graduate Diploma and the Masters courses will give you an invaluable foundation in the scholarship and practice of counselling and behavioural health.

The partnership between ECTA and Flinders University is an important one as we have many shared values, with a focus on a *student-centred approach* and providing a transformative educational experience. We recognise that students are motivated to excel, and we trust that the knowledge and skills you have learnt enhance your future practice and your contribution to the health of the communities you will serve. We recognise that you will embark on, and further, your practice in a diverse range of careers. Our job is to provide you with the foundation for best practice, to be future leaders and invaluable team members, and to enable you to reflect on your approach and continue to learn and develop.

The Flinders values of *innovation* and *courage* are key to our pedagogical approach. We respond to industry needs – public sector, private sector and government – and we foster *courage* in your approach. We also pride ourselves on *integrity* – which is key to the discipline in which you will learn and work. Our final value – one we share with ECTA – is *excellence*. We want you to excel at what you do and we are so excited to be part of that journey with you.

As you celebrate your achievement today and take the next step in your careers, you will become one of Flinders University's Alumni. Take pride in what you have achieved and I encourage you to embrace the challenges that you face with the new skills and knowledge you have gained. I am confident you all have very successful futures ahead. Congratulations.

Professor Jonathan Craig

Vice President and Executive Dean,
College of Medicine and Public Health.



Professor Jonathan Craig

Vice President and Executive Dean,
College of Medicine and Public Health
Flinders University

Flinders University: a future focused university

Established in 1966, Flinders University is a world class, multidisciplinary institution leading the way in education, medicine, public and allied health, science, technology, creative industries, and innovation. Specific to medical and health sciences, Flinders has emerged as a global leader fostering innovation and collaboration to address contemporary healthcare challenges. The University's strengths build on the founding principles of equal opportunity, student-centred learning, industry, and government engagement.

Current student enrolments are well over 26,000 students, including around 5,300 international students, and over 2,500 staff. Flinders has an agile and forward thinking understanding of the contemporary challenges countries within the Asia Pacific region are facing, which means it can respond effectively to the changing needs of government and industry. The University provides students with access to excellent quality teaching, exposure to high impact global research, and active engagement with industry, government, and the broader community. Flinders has an enviable track record of mutually beneficial engagement with all its partners, forging strong relationships with industry partners locally and internationally across 33 countries including 8 transnational education programs in Asia.

We offer continuous student support, from the application, through to graduation and beyond focussing on our four core values which align to the Executive Counselling and Training Academy being: **Integrity, Courage, Innovation and Excellence**, and above all, an ethos that is **Student Centred**.

The International Student Services (ISS) team at Flinders is the first point of contact for all international students studying at Flinders University both in Australia and offshore. The team offers a range of programs supporting them in their study and social life, as well as referring students to services that can be accessed from any location, including access to student associations, unions, clubs, and teams.

The ISS team supports international students who are experiencing challenges in adjusting to the Australian academic environment, including one-to-one confidential appointments with an International Student Advisor. Our key role is to provide timely and specialised support to international students throughout their program of study.

No. 1 SA University for Student Support

(The Good Universities Guide 2024 (undergraduate), public SA founded universities only)



Flinders University's recent achievements

- **140% increase in research income in five years** – largest growth in research income of any Australian University
- **Flinders ranked 368 in the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) 2023** – a climb of 42 places
- **Ranked 36 in the World for Nursing and 39 in the world for Water Resources**
- **500 +undergraduate, postgraduate and research degrees**
- **5 Rhodes Scholars; 26 Fulbright Scholars; one Fields medallist; and one Australian of The Year**
- **Ranked in the top 2% of universities in the world**
- **No. 1 Australian University:**
 - **In Medicine** for learning resources and student support
 - **In Nursing** for learning resources (postgraduate)
 - **In Rehabilitation** for overall educational experience (postgraduate).

SA International Student of Year 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022

StudyAdelaide International Student Awards

Congratulations!

You are now part of an impressive group of more than 130,000 Flinders University graduates from across 130 countries who are finding their place, leaving their mark and making a difference around the world.

Leverage your degree long after graduation by tapping into this powerful network and make connections wherever you may travel.

Keeping you updated on news and opportunities

As a Flinders graduate, you will now receive our monthly alumni e-newsletter – keep an eye out for eNCOUNTER in your inbox, it contains relevant news, opportunities, events and alumni stories. And don't forget to update us if you move or change email address, that way we can let you know about events and opportunities in your location.



Update your
contact details

Share your story

We all have unique life stories and we would love to hear about yours as you follow your career path. Over the next year, or in the next decade, inspire the next generation of students by sharing what your next steps were beyond Flinders University and how you achieved your career goals.

We look forward to staying connected

We are so excited for your next move after you graduate, 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 and ECTA Alumni Network activities, professional development opportunities, reunions and events in your location.

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.

alumni@flinders.edu.au

+61 8 8201 7969

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



The Chairman of ECTA, Prof Tan Chue Tin on the far left with alumni.

Celebrating Alumni Achievements

Flinders is honoured to count you among its alumni:

1 Fields
Medallist

6 Rhodes
Scholars

30 Fulbright
Scholars

390+ Australian Honours
recipients

Graduation ceremonies

THE GRADUATION CEREMONY

The ceremony is an important day in the University year and a proud day in the life of those who are graduating. The graduation is the culmination of years of study and is the occasion on which the University formally awards certificates and diplomas and confers degrees upon those students who have completed their studies at the University over the past year.

The ceremony is an exciting blend of old and new; a ceremony steeped in tradition in which many of the customs and much of the regalia dates from many hundreds of years and the earliest universities, while the graduates represent the latest in ideas, technologies and expression.

Academic dress is part of the rich heritage of universities. The beginning of the ceremony sees the staff of the University show their pride and support for the new graduates by wearing academic dress and official robes in the academic procession. When presented with their academic Testamur, the graduates also wear the academic dress.

PROGRAM

for the
**DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS (INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS IN ECONOMY AND TRADE)**

for the
**DEGREE OF MASTER OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP
AND MANAGEMENT**

and for the
DEGREE OF MASTER OF HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION

SUNDAY , 9 JUNE 2024
NANKAI UNIVERSITY, TIANJIN

OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Chancellor

Mr John Hood

Deputy Chancellors

Ms Elizabeth Perry AM

Mr Douglas Gautier AM

President and Vice-Chancellor

Professor Colin J Stirling

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students)

Professor Romy Lawson

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

Professor Raymond Chan

Vice-President and Pro Vice-Chancellor (International)

Mr Sebastian Raneskold

Vice-President (Corporate Services)

Mr Mark Gregory

General Counsel & University Secretary

Mr Marc Davies

Master of Arts (International Relations in Economy and Trade)

The Master of Arts (International Relations in Economy and Trade) (MAIRET) has been offered in China by Flinders University in partnership with Nankai University since 2000. The program is taught by staff from the University's College of Business, Government and Law in association with Nankai University.

The MAIRET equips students with cutting-edge knowledge and skills in International Relations focusing on international political economy, international business, finance, and trade. It has a particular emphasis on the economic and trade relationships in the Asia-Pacific Region and the political and economic implications of the rise of East Asian economies in this digital era.

Students undertaking the MAIRET course with Flinders University are taking part in an enterprise which is truly international, not simply in terms of its intrinsic content but also in its overseas availability and recognition. As Chinese business is increasingly moving up the value chain and rapidly going global, the course is particularly intended for business managers, government officials, and nonprofit leaders who aim to increase their international savvy.

Postgraduate university credentials in International Relations are valuable for graduates who seek professional recognition and employment in international public affairs, international banking, international business and trade, diplomacy and foreign affairs, journalism and related areas.



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

About Flinders

1966

University established

5,300

International students from
more than 90 countries

26,700

Students

2,600

Staff

Over 106,000

Alumni in 120 countries

Over 500

Undergraduate, postgraduate
and research degrees