MELBOURNE:
LEADING
INNOVATING
CONNECTING
Melbourne and regional Victoria are a perfect blend of economic strength and dynamism, with a lifestyle that is envied around the world. Talented people, a world-class education system, supportive government and superior infrastructure make the state of Victoria a global leader in research, education and vocational training.

Victoria’s research centres, universities and vocational training providers partner with industry, governments, non-government organisations (NGOs) and other educational institutions around the world.

They offer extensive opportunities for partnerships and program collaborations, including joint research initiatives, research and development services, licensing of materials, tailored curriculum development, joint program delivery, staff/student exchange, consultancy services and customised employee development programs.

For more information about Victoria’s research, higher education and vocational training capabilities, contact your region’s Victorian Government Business Office at: invest.vic.gov.au/offices.
HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES IN MELBOURNE

Melbourne is a global research and development hub for biotechnology, medical research, clinical trials and health-related information and communication technology (ICT), with world-leading research expertise in infectious diseases, cancer, cardiovascular disease and neuroscience.

Melbourne and regional Victoria also have a strong international reputation for their expertise in health services and community services, with particular strengths in the planning and design of health services, health systems management, health workforce training and delivery of flexible senior living solutions.

Victoria is home to 12 major independent medical research institutes, nine universities with expertise across health and life sciences and 10 major teaching hospitals.

The state’s cutting-edge research institutes include:

- Walter and Eliza Hall Institute: Australia’s oldest and largest medical research institute, working to prevent and treat cancers and inflammatory and infectious diseases
- Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health: the world’s third-largest neuroscience institute
- Murdoch Children’s Research Institute: the third-largest paediatric research institute in the world.

Melbourne’s A$1 billion Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre is due for completion in 2015. The Centre is the new home of the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and will also house new cancer research and clinical services for Melbourne Health and the University of Melbourne. A total of eight specialist organisations will share knowledge and resources at the Centre and drive the next generation of cancer research, education, treatment and care.

Melbourne scientists have pioneered innovative products such as the colony-stimulating factors used in cancer therapy around the world, the Relenza anti-flu vaccine, the Cochlear bionic hearing implant and in vitro fertilisation (IVF) technology.

The state’s world-class universities, teaching hospitals and renowned research institutes enable global collaboration and ensure a steady supply of highly skilled professionals. Its vocational training institutes provide world-class education and training in a vast range of health and community-related fields.

There are more than 170 life sciences companies headquartered in Victoria, with exports of more than A$1.5 billion. Notable companies include CSL, one of the five largest biopharmaceutical companies in the world (ranked by sales), and Mesoblast, one of the world’s largest stem cell companies (by market capitalisation).

BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOENGINEERING

Melbourne’s internationally recognised biotechnology sector attracts researchers from around the world. Melbourne is one of the few cities in the world with two universities in the top 25 global biomedical rankings, Monash University and the University of Melbourne.

Victoria is at the forefront of advanced materials research and, in conjunction with its medical and health sciences expertise, has developed outstanding expertise in medical device and instrumentation design.

Its world-class infrastructure supporting biotechnology innovation includes the Melbourne Centre of Nanofabrication (MCN), the Victorian Centre of Advance Materials Manufacturing (VCAMM) and the Australian Synchrotron.

Melbourne’s biotechnology research has resulted in a number of significant breakthroughs leading to commercially viable products with bio-medical applications. These include the world’s first 3D bioprinting technology, created in Melbourne by Invotech.

Annual spending on biotechnology-related research and development (R&D) in Victoria exceeds A$1 billion. In the 2012-13 financial year, listed and private companies spent an estimated A$716 million on R&D.

The Victorian Government has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to Melbourne’s life science industry, having invested more than A$1.8 billion over the 15 years to 2015.

MEDICINE, MODELLING AND ICT

Melbourne has one of the Southern Hemisphere’s largest information technology R&D clusters, producing world-leading, commercially focused research.

In the biomedical field, Melbourne has leading expertise in computer software development, eResearch, digital analysis, imaging, modelling and advanced systems analysis, which are all critical to the biotechnology industry.

Many world leaders in the supply of aged care ICT systems are based in Victoria. The Australian Centre for Health Innovation (ACHI) is located in Victoria, delivering service improvements in patient care, health administration and safety.

The A$100 million Victorian Life Sciences Computation Initiative (VLSCI) in partnership with IBM provides world-leading high performance supercomputing for life sciences and health research and is assisting with a range of biotechnological developments.
MEDICINE AND HEALTH

Medicine and health sciences are particular strengths of Melbourne’s research and tertiary education sector. Melbourne’s teaching hospitals, universities and vocational training institutes provide outstanding expertise in the health sector in disciplines including:

- Dentistry
- Epidemiology
- Radiology
- Pharmacy
- Health sciences
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Optometry
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Podiatry
- Science
- Pathology
- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Medical Imaging
- Biomedical Science
- Emergency Health (Paramedic)
- Health Services Management
- Public Health Management.

A number of Melbourne’s education institutions also specialise in providing offshore courses and curriculum advice, delivering in-country training programs in countries across the Middle East and South East Asia.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

Melbourne’s expertise in life sciences is matched by its leadership in research and education in health and community disciplines including:

- Aged Care
- Allied Health
- Audiology
- Children’s Services
- Chinese Medicine
- Chiropractic
- Community Development
- Community Services
- Counselling
- Dental Care
- Disability
- Emergency Health (Paramedic)
- Exercise physiologists
- Health Services
- Nursing and Midwifery
- Nutrition and Dietetics
- Occupational Therapy
- Osteopathy
- Physiotherapy
- Podiatry
- Psychology
- Remedial Massage
- Social Work
- Speech Pathology.

Victorian and Melbourne education providers have extensive experience in design and delivery of curriculum training programs, accreditation standards and course regulation in health and community services.

A number of Victorian institutions have assisted governments around the world in the development of health-related courses, in countries including China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Fiji, Samoa, United Arab Emirates, Mongolia and the Philippines.

COMMERCIALISATION

Victoria’s biomedical research capabilities are supported by the state’s strengths in product development, prototyping and engineering. Victoria also has a highly skilled workforce to support the translation of research into products, including contract research organisations, analytical testing laboratories, regulatory and clinical advisors and allied legal services.

The Victorian BioPortal provides Melbourne’s biomedical sector with a single online directory of current, past and potential future research data, company and institutional listings, events and government departments and agencies. The portal is used to streamline access and collaboration between biotech-related commercial and educational organisations.

biomelbourne.org
THE FLOREY IS INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED FOR ITS GROUND-BREAKING AND NOVEL WAYS TO CONDUCT NEUROIMAGING, PARTICULARLY IN THE HIGHLY ACTIVE FIELD OF DIFFUSIVE MRI.
When the Florey Institute combined advanced technology and surgical expertise to cure a singer’s seizures, they unexpectedly improved her musicality.

The Florey Institute specialises in researching brain disorders and diseases including epilepsy, stroke, Alzheimer’s disease and mental illnesses. It is internationally renowned for its groundbreaking and novel ways to conduct neuroimaging, particularly in the highly active field of diffusive Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI).

The Florey is home to several modern MRI machines and will soon take possession of a A$10 million 7-tesla version that will offer researchers from the Florey and the University of Melbourne non-invasive but unrivalled clarity into the brain’s workings.

This state-of-the-art technology coupled with world-leading expertise enables the Florey to undertake truly remarkable, lifesaving surgery, like that which cured singer Sally Watt’s crippling seizures.

Sally is an accomplished pianist and singer, but the absence seizures she suffered since she was 16 made her situation intolerable and neurologists recommended invasive brain surgery. Sally feared she would lose her singing abilities, but made the decision to go ahead.

Sally was referred to Professor Graeme Jackson, a neurologist and division head of the epilepsy division at the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health. He is internationally renowned for his ability to steer surgeons around the brain, based on highly sophisticated MRI which is conducted prior to surgery.

Sally was asked to lie in a 3-tesla MRI machine and to imagine she was singing while looking at a music score. Professor Jackson was able to watch the brain pathways Sally used to sing. The surgery posed a clear risk; the area of the brain affected by the seizures was right where her singing centre was located.

Pre-surgery, Professor Jackson worked to ensure functional reorganisation was possible. “The aim is to spare functional tissue to preserve pre-surgical capacity of the patient. Cognitive risks are minimised but weighed up against the chance of complete seizure freedom,” Professor Jackson says.

The surgical team decoupled the language and singing networks in Sally’s brain during a right anterior temporal lobectomy.

The results were astounding: Sally proudly reports she has rediscovered piano, her brain is reorganising itself and she can once again sing with deep emotion. Her sight singing is now much more instinctive and remarkably accurate. She also has improved verbal memory and dyslexia is no longer a problem.

But most amazing of all, Sally now has improved pitch despite striking changes to her brain’s neural pathways.

Sally’s case has motivated a major research project in music which has led to a new understanding of brain plasticity and how singers ‘find their voices’.

florey.edu.au
THIS KNOWLEDGE WILL BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAY ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAMS.
MEASURING FINANCIAL AFTERSHOCKS IN PACIFIC ISLAND COMMUNITIES

RMIT University and Deakin University research will help policymakers and aid donors target their interventions in the Pacific Islands.

It is well known that Australia’s Pacific neighbours, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, are vulnerable to natural disasters.

Less well known is their vulnerability to recent food and fuel price hikes and the impacts of ongoing economic crises, which have followed the global financial crisis of September 2008.

The impacts of these economic shocks are ongoing and negatively impacting local households.

Victoria’s RMIT and Deakin Universities have teamed up with Oxfam Australia and the University of the South Pacific to help these Pacific households.

Funding for the project was provided by the former Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) Development Awards Scheme.

By identifying the most vulnerable households and understanding the factors that contribute to household resilience, the research will provide policymakers and aid donors with crucial information to help target their interventions.

This knowledge will be particularly important for future economic development and may assist in the development of social protection programs.

The RMIT project team is headed by Associate Professor Simon Feeny, who is working with senior lecturer Alberto Posso and PhD candidate Lachlan McDonald, who is also an economist working at Oxfam.

The research team conducted more than 1,600 household surveys using smartphone technology, focus group discussions and key informant interviews in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

Among their findings, increases in food and fuel prices have made it harder for households to pay for other essentials such as school fees and health services, and increased their reliance on cheaper, often lower quality food.

“The research also highlights the important role of women who provide a crucial safety net in Melanesian communities, being primarily responsible for the wellbeing of people in their own households as well as selling things in local markets when immediate cash is required,” Associate Professor Feeny says.

“On account of these responsibilities, women are bearing a substantial burden of the adjustment to the impact of shocks, sometimes consuming less food, working more and travelling less.

“Information from focus groups also indicated that violence against women can increase during times of stress, exacerbating one of the most pressing social problems in these two countries.”

McDonald says using research to forge stronger links between academics and aid agencies like Oxfam can help make an important difference to vulnerable people and communities.

“Projects that combine the academic rigour of universities and the on-the-ground presence of aid and development agencies can shed new light on important social problems,” he says.

“The results from this research will be used by Oxfam to better target our programs and campaigns to support people in need in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.”
THE OPTIMUM THRESHOLDS FOR HOUSING DENSITY AND GREEN SPACE MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE TO HEALTH AND PHYSICAL HEALTH.
Chronic disease is the target of the new National Centre for Research Excellence in Healthy, Liveable and Equitable Communities.

One of the biggest issues facing the world is the impact of chronic disease on health systems. Chronic diseases like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancers and obesity all have a major impact on health systems around the world.

While it is being recognised that a whole of government, whole of society approach is required to improve health, there is limited evidence about the mechanisms through which the social and built environment influences health and wellbeing outcomes.

A newly established National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Centre for Research Excellence in Healthy, Liveable and Equitable Communities will seek to address this gap.

Research will be undertaken in collaboration with Australian policymakers and practitioners covering planning, urban design, transport planning and health.

This project is being led by the McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing at the University of Melbourne, in collaboration with other Australian universities and industry partners including the Planning Institute of Australia and the Heart Foundation.

“There’s going to be a huge cost if we can’t get people to be more active, less sedentary, to eat a healthier diet and to stop smoking, so the focus for our Centre is how to create communities that will optimise those outcomes,” says Professor Billie Giles-Corti, Director of the McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing.

The McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing’s mission is to conduct research that influences policy and practice to improve the social, economic and environmental conditions of health, equity and community wellbeing. It is a multidisciplinary group but a defining feature of all the Centre’s research is a commitment to improving social and health equity and reducing health disparities.

With Australia’s population expected to double by 2050, the National Centre will study more than 20,000 people in the fastest growing cities in Australia to determine what cost-effective built environment interventions create healthy, equitable and liveable communities, and how these can be translated into policy and practice.

The Centre for Excellence is also drawing on international research and partnerships including the London Olympic Village regeneration study, disadvantaged neighbourhood regeneration in Denmark and the City of New York Active Design Centre, which focuses on how to change local government policy to develop active design guidelines across the whole city.

“The optimum thresholds for housing density and green space, the quality of green space, shop locations and designs, bike and footpath locations, access to public transport, all make a big difference to health, both mental and physical,” Professor Giles-Corti says.

“You couldn’t imagine now that once upon a time we built neighbourhoods without sanitation and water. Who would even think of that now? We need to get to the point where we have clear evidence showing the essential infrastructure required to create liveability and the impact it has on people.”
NEW TREATMENTS FOR CANCER THROUGH STEM CELL RESEARCH

Stem cell research at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute is revealing how cancers develop and discovering molecules that are critical for both stem cell function and cancer development.

Institute scientists are using this information to develop new strategies for treating cancers, based on their cellular origins, and are explaining why some cancers respond poorly to current treatments.

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute is Australia’s oldest medical research institute. It will celebrate its centenary in 2015. The Institute is home to more than 800 staff and students, and is affiliated with the University of Melbourne and the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Several hundred scientists are driving international research programs aimed at developing new approaches to the prevention and treatment of cancers including breast, lung, bowel, ovarian and stomach cancers and blood cancers, particularly leukaemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma. The Institute’s research into breast cancer is one example of its world-leading work.

Breast stem cells and breast cancer

More than 14,500 Australians will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, and breast cancer is the most common cause of cancer-related death in Australian women. There are a number of different types of breast cancer, and the most effective treatment varies depending on the type of cancer.

A Walter and Eliza Hall Institute research team led by Professor Jane Visvader and Professor Geoff Lindeman believe that understanding how normal breast tissue develops could pinpoint the cells from which the different types of breast cancer originate.

In 2006, the team revealed the identity of the breast stem cell – a cell that has the potential to generate the diverse cell types that make up breast tissue.

Professor Visvader said the discovery of the breast stem cell was an important step towards generating a ‘breast cancer roadmap’. “This has explained how the different breast cell types and structures develop,” she said. “We now know that breast stem cells and their ‘daughter’ cells, called luminal progenitors, can indeed contribute to the development of breast cancer.”

Research into how breast stem cells are regulated is now revealing possible new treatments for breast cancer. Professor Lindeman, who is also a medical oncologist at The Royal Melbourne Hospital, said the team had discovered that the female hormones oestrogen and progesterone can influence breast stem cells.

“This was an exciting discovery, because it explained the long-established link between breast cancer risk and exposure to oestrogen and progesterone,” he said. “It also clarified why ‘chemopreventative’ anti-oestrogen medications, such as tamoxifen, have a long-lasting effect in reducing the risk of developing breast cancer, which persists even when the chemopreventative treatment has been stopped.

“We hope that our research will ultimately improve the outlook for breast cancer patients,” Professor Lindeman said.
CHINA AND VICTORIA PARTNER IN E-HEALTH RESEARCH

The establishment of the Victoria University and Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Science’s Joint Research Lab on Social Computing and E-Health in 2011 has been a milestone in the strengthening partnerships between Victoria University and Chinese tertiary education providers.

A collaboration between Victoria University and the Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Science (GUCAS), the Research Lab provides an innovative platform for cross-disciplinary research in information science, health and social computing.

Health information science addresses the use of information technologies in healthcare and health management to store, share, transmit and analyse clinical data and discover medical knowledge. The use of information technology to study the factors of various diseases and correlations among factors and diseases through complex data analysis is also explored.

Spearheading Victoria University's role in the joint project is Professor Yanchun Zhang, named in 2010 as one of China’s 1000 Talents. Professor Zhang heads Victoria University’s Centre for Applied Informatics, and his research into data mining and social computing, particularly in the area of E-Health, is internationally renowned.

In an early accolade for the Joint Research Lab, computing researcher Dr Jing Yang, a postdoctoral researcher at the Lab, received an award from the China Postdoctoral Science Foundation for her research on optimising data searches. Professor Zhang is her co-supervisor.

Her award-winning project ‘Research on preference query processing technology over massive data’ investigates novel approaches for returning fewer and more relevant results when searching massive amounts of data.

The Joint Research Lab is one of a number of ventures being nurtured in the relationships established between Victoria University and its Chinese partners.
CAPABILITY STATEMENTS
Key areas of expertise
- Aged, Home and Community Care
- Children’s Services

Research/program
delivery capabilities

Academia’s Aged Care, Home and Community Care, Children’s Services (Childcare) courses are designed with industry work placement of up to 150 hours with accredited aged care or childcare centres. Utilising industry techniques, equipment and facilities, our students qualify job-ready. Areas of expertise include: Low Care, Medium Care, Home Care and Childcare (Early Childhood Centres or Community Childcare Centres).

Industry placements into aged care centres include but are not limited to: Residential Aged Care Australia homes, St Vincent De Paul, Benetas, The Manor Aged Care and Corandirk House. Childcare centre placements include Moreland Community Child Care Centres (Tinning Street, Dunstan Reserve and Mitchell Street).
ACADEMIA INTERNATIONAL

Academia International won the Excellence in International Education: Private Education and Training award at the Victorian International Education Awards 2013 and was the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) International Provider of the Year in 2012 and 2013.

It is recognised for delivering training in skill shortage areas across the hospitality, personal care, community services, business and commerce, information technology and digital arts sectors.

Academia International's English school is a full member of English Australia. Curriculum is developed with an industry and job-ready practicality in mind, utilising the latest industry tools and applications, with project work enabling the student to connect with industry wherever possible.

Key contact

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Key areas of expertise
- Allied Health (incorporating Occupational Therapy, Public Health, Speech Pathology and Social Work)
- Exercise Science
- Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine
- Physiotherapy
- Psychology
- Science

Research/program delivery capabilities
The new Faculty of Health Sciences Research Institute incorporates the areas of research strength across faculties and schools to enable high quality and high impact research in partnership with international and national experts in keeping with the ethos and philosophy of ACU: promotion of the common good and the dignity of the human person.

The Institute is responsive to Australian Government Strategic Research Priorities, including the goal of promoting population health and wellbeing. Areas of concentration for the Institute will include:
- Cardiovascular Disease and Metabolism
- Health Services Research
- Movement and Rehabilitation
- Psychology and Mental Health.
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

With over 150 years of educational heritage, Australian Catholic University (ACU) offers students high quality and internationally recognised qualifications. ACU’s vision is to provide caring and prepared graduates who promote health, prevent illness and provide quality healthcare for vulnerable communities such as the Indigenous, elderly and disabled. ACU’s commitment to this vision has resulted in it now being the largest provider of graduate nurses in Australia.

ACU offers courses in the area of Health Sciences at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The focus on community engagement and well-established links to businesses, hospitals, schools, churches and welfare agencies means that all of ACU’s courses have practical work opportunities.

ACU is recognised as having world-class research in Human Movement and Exercise and in Nursing. The establishment of new Schools (Allied Health) and ongoing recruitment and development of research excellence within existing Schools highlights the University’s commitment to achieving recognition of its research strengths across more health disciplines.

Key contact

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Key areas of expertise

- Gender-based violence and HIV in Papua New Guinea (United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) consultancy)
- Quality in higher education
- Parents bereaved by suicide
- The place of hope in psychotherapy
- Needs of gender variant children and their parents
- Reducing stigmatising responses for people with chronic health conditions
- Study persistence in higher education students
- Effectiveness of hypnotherapy
- Repressed memory in sexual abuse
- Mindfulness and field theory in therapeutic change processes

Research/program delivery capabilities

The Australian College of Applied Psychology (ACAP) covers a broad range of courses including counselling, psychology, case management, coaching, social science and elite athlete mentoring.

Its Student Exchange Abroad program, both inbound and outbound, promotes a two-way exchange of students with the Universiti Sains Malaysia and the F.M. Dostoyevsky Omsk State University.

ACAP has significant industry and organisational linkages, including with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Disability Care Australia, Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia and the Society of Counselling and Psychotherapy Educators.

It also offers consultancy services, for example of gender-based violence and HIV in Papua New Guinea (PNG) and has delivered the Bachelor of Applied Social Science in (Counselling) in Singapore and Malaysia.
AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY (ACAP)

Established over 30 years ago, ACAP is a leader in applied psychology education. In Melbourne, it offers specialist courses to international students in applied social science, counselling and coaching. ACAP is an Australian Government-registered higher education provider, offering bachelor degrees and graduate diplomas. Its higher education counselling courses are accredited by the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA). ACAP’s practical and interactive approach to learning allows students to put the theory they learn into practice. Academic and teaching staff possess a depth of real-life experience, thorough knowledge of their discipline and an understanding of the latest work practices.

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Key areas of expertise

- Children’s Services
- Community Services
- Health and Wellbeing
- Occupational and Work Preparation

Research/program delivery capabilities

There are opportunities for degree students to participate in projects and research in any given field within community services, early childhood services or related fields of expertise.

Students are provided literacy and numeracy support, including tutorials and seminars, at all levels of study. Librarians work closely with students to assist with research and support enquiries about resources and study skills.

In the future there will be opportunities for students to undertake a practicum with Australian Pacific Technical College connections in Pacific regions in early childhood services.
BOX HILL INSTITUTE

By studying one of Box Hill Institute’s health and community-related courses, students are guaranteeing their place in an industry that is both highly sought after and highly rewarding. Courses provide students with theoretical and practical knowledge to excel in hospital and community health centre settings. These courses are designed to meet the needs of a complex and carefully regulated industry. They provide students with the skills and knowledge they need to make a meaningful contribution in their chosen field, and gain satisfaction from their work. And they’re nationally-accredited, so the qualifications will travel.

Box Hill Institute has been the recipient of many awards and achievements including the International Training Provider of the Year at the Australian Training Awards 2013.

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Key areas of expertise

Expertise across a broad range of areas is located within the Faculty of Health’s five Schools. Each School hosts several research centres or groups related to specific areas of expertise. Information is available via each School’s website.

- School of Psychology
- School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences
- School of Health and Social Development
- School of Nursing and Midwifery
- School of Medicine

Research/program delivery capabilities

The School of Psychology is one of Australia’s largest and most progressive psychology departments with strengths in the areas of Clinical, Health, Forensic and Industrial/Organisational Psychology. It collaborates with numerous external organisations, including industry, hospitals, business organisations and community and support centres.

dekin.edu.au/health/psychology

The School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences is the only Australian department and one of only a few internationally that is specifically focused on teaching and research in both nutrition and physical activity. It collaborates with a wide range of organisations, including sport, nutrition, health services, community and government departments.

dekin.edu.au/health/ens
DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

Deakin University is one of Australia’s largest and fastest growing universities, providing learning, teaching and research opportunities across multiple campuses and innovative use of online technology through Cloud Deakin. World university rankings evidence Deakin’s well established reputation for excellent teaching, innovative course delivery, high level student satisfaction and world-class research aligned to industry and community needs.

The Faculty of Health has established itself as a leader in several fields of applied health research. It proactively collaborates with a wide range of external organisations in order to deliver better health outcomes for communities at home and abroad.

Deakin University offers relevant courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, including PhDs.

The School of Health and Social Development undertakes teaching and research in the areas of public health, health promotion, health sciences, environments for health, social work, occupational therapy and disability studies. It uniquely connects non-mainstream research theme perspectives into highly socially responsive, progressive and innovative approaches to human wellbeing and quality of life. Collaborative research is undertaken with government, health services, business and community organisations.

deakin.edu.au/health/hsd

The School of Nursing and Midwifery is one of the largest schools of nursing and midwifery in Australia and its teaching and research reflect the current imperatives of contemporary nursing and midwifery practice. Extensive partnerships with major healthcare providers support both research activity and student clinical placement opportunities through the joint appointment of staff.

deakin.edu.au/health/nursing

The School of Medicine is Victoria’s first rural and regional medical school, teaching medicine and optometry. It is involved in high level research in areas such as metabolic disease, cancer treatments, mental health and neuroscience, and infection and immunology.

deakin.edu.au/health/medicine

Key contacts

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deakin.edu.au
Key areas of expertise
- Nursing
- Community Services Work
- Dental Technology
- Pathology
- Laboratory Techniques

Research/program delivery capabilities
Holmesglen’s industry engagement is built on its proven model for forming and sustaining industry alliances in international contexts. Its approach drives innovation through joint partnerships in workforce development, fosters industry-led and validated curriculum design and delivers authentic and structured workplace learning experiences.

In 2012, Holmesglen conducted a twinning project, funded by the Millennium Challenge Corporation, to provide assistance to the School of Health Technology in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, to move to a competency-based curriculum model. This assistance included the provision of teacher training, management training, a mentoring and coaching system, and the development of basic school and campus management processes such as policy development, strategic planning, work planning, staffing and budget planning.
Holmesglen was awarded extension funding to support the sustainability of the project. The funding was used to design and manage a teacher exchange program between senior educators from the institutes in Mongolia and their counterparts in Australia.

Holmesglen is also highly experienced in the provision of consultancy services, development and industry projects. Consultancy services include:

- Training needs analysis
- Teacher training
- Professional development for staff and managers
- Curriculum development
- Instructional design – face-to-face, blended and online delivery, work integrated learning
- Advice on facilities and equipment
- Quality assurance services
- Management of scholarship and fellowship programs
- Study tours
- English language training and support.

The Institute has a strong quality assurance framework in place so that clients can be assured of high quality outcomes.

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Key areas of expertise

- Aged Care
- Nursing
- Disability
- Children’s Services
- Education Support
- Community Services work
- Pathology
- Allied Health
- Health Services

Research/program delivery capabilities

The Centre for Health and Community Services provides all stages of the training cycle, from conceptualisation through to needs analyses, resource development, design, delivery and evaluation.

Kangan’s integrated approach provides access to the full range of education and consultancy services:

- training needs assessment
- skill recognition services
- flexibility in the time and location of delivery including online and blended learning
- advice and choice about methods of delivery and assessment
- industry and work-based specific skill gap training
KANGAN INSTITUTE

As one of Australia’s largest government TAFEs and a major training provider for the automotive, aviation, fashion and health industries, Kangan Institute has been delivering vocational education and training services internationally for over 15 years.

Kangan’s health programs are delivered at a specialist health campus with state-of-the-art equipment for the modern learner. Courses are developed and delivered in close collaboration with industry and in conjunction with Melbourne’s biggest hospitals and healthcare providers. Graduates in the Centre for Health and Community Services department gain employment in skills shortage areas or continue on to further study.

- customised resource development
- creation of pathways between professional development, current skills and knowledge and further education
- creative combinations of the existing qualifications range
- strategies to maximise organisations’ training investment and its cost effectiveness
- delivery by industry-skilled professionals who are highly experienced and qualified teachers
- integrated evaluation and continuous improvement strategies.

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Key areas of expertise

- Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation
- Lower Extremity and Gait Studies
- Building Healthy Rural Communities
- Food for Life, Health and Performance
- Healthy Motherhood
- Living with Disability
- Physical Activity and Rehabilitation
- Sex, Health and Society
- Psychology

Research/program delivery capabilities

La Trobe’s Human Movements and Sports Science fields were rated as “well above world standard” in the 2012 Excellence in Research rankings.

Research is being undertaken into the structure and function of the musculoskeletal system and causes, prevention and treatment of musculoskeletal injuries and disease, with a particular emphasis on lower extremity disorders, balance and gait.

La Trobe Rural Health School’s lead research program is ‘Building Healthy Rural Communities’. The goal is to produce research that contributes to a future-oriented, community-relevant, effective model of providing health and human services for a rural region, in partnership with health and human services and communities.

Food for Life, Health and Performance research programs encompass the application of food and nutrition with a primary focus on obesity and chronic disease.
The purpose of the Healthy Motherhood research program is to improve the health and experiences of women giving birth in Australia.

The Living with Disability research program informs the development of practices, programs and policies to enable community participation of people with a disability and promote their social inclusion.

The Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society hosts the Sex, Health and Society program. The program includes two major areas of research enquiry – Sex, Gender and Sexuality; and HIV, Sexually Transmissible Infections (STIs) and Blood Borne Viruses (BBVs).

The School of Psychological Science was ranked equal 10th in Australia and among the top 150 universities in the world for Psychology in the QS World University Rankings 2012/13.

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One of La Trobe University’s five Research Focus Areas is Building Healthy Communities. This research translates into equitable improvements in health care delivery, community services, work and educational outcomes, to achieve better health and wellbeing in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

La Trobe aims to produce better research and hence better evidence on health, wellbeing and social inclusion. It focuses particularly on communities at disadvantage. La Trobe’s values of equity, social inclusion, social justice and human rights are fundamental to its research focus.
Key areas of expertise

- Regenerative Medicine, Stem Cells and Developmental Biology
- Cardiovascular and Thrombosis
- Cancer
- Structural Biology and Drug Development
- Infection and Immunity
- Inflammation, Allergy and Autoimmunity
- Health Science and Global Health
- Public Health and Epidemiology
- Injury Prevention
- Neurotrauma
- Rural and Indigenous Health
- Mental Health and Cognitive Neurosciences
- Medical Engineering
- Healthy Ageing
- Healthy Start to Life
- Sleep
- Obesity and Metabolism
- Health Education
- Women’s Health

Research/program delivery capabilities

Monash is ranked in the top 50 institutions in the world for its strengths in clinical, medical, and preclinical, psychology and pharmacology. Monash is the only Australian University in the prestigious international M8 Alliance of Academic Health Centres and Medical Universities, a global healthcare network which addresses global medical development and health challenges, including the transformation of health care systems and prevention of diseases.

Monash is a leader in health translation, and has partnerships with six major hospitals and four medical research institutes. This enables clinical leaders to drive research questions, and ensures biomedical discoveries are rapidly translated through to improvements in human health.
Monash University has become the largest university in Australia, renowned for its outstanding teaching, transformative research, international reach and extensive alumni network. Monash is a global university with campuses in Australia, Malaysia and South Africa and major partnerships with universities in China, India and the United Kingdom.

Monash provides an education that takes intellectual, social and ethical development in the field of health beyond theory, into clinical and research settings, and out into the broader community. Monash offers the broadest suite of programs across health and medical disciplines of any Australian university, including surgery, nursing, social work, midwifery and biomedical sciences.

Monash’s researchers, in collaboration with industry and hospital partners, are leaders in:

- **Registries, data management and clinical trials**: Monash provides one of Australia’s most advanced capabilities for supporting large-scale human studies. It brings together advanced skills in epidemiology, data management, biostatistics and clinical medicine. The Clinical Research Platform undertakes research into improving patient care and safety, develops clinical registries, undertakes large-scale clinical trials and provides leadership in population health.

- **Health systems and service delivery**: including areas such as eHealth and telemedicine.

- **Medical engineering**: including biomaterials, delivery systems, and new sensors and devices, such as the development of a bionic eye by the Monash Vision Group.

Beyond its operations in Australia, Malaysia and South Africa, Monash is also involved in the offshore delivery of undergraduate and postgraduate programs with partner institutions in Saudia Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

### Key contact

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Key areas of expertise
• Children’s Services
• Aged Care
• Community Services Work, Home and Community Care
• Mental Health, Disability Care, Health Services Assistance

Research/program delivery capabilities
NMIT has forged strong connections with various health and community organisations through its commitment to developing skills that are in demand and add value to the industry.

NMIT has delivering Aged Care and Child Care qualifications in China. Resources have been developed and tailored for the Chinese market, and also to prepare graduates for work in an Australian or international environment. Students nearing graduation can continue study in Australia with the aim of returning to China with Australian study and work experience to develop their careers.

Aged care programs are delivered in cooperation with a local institution with state-of-the-art facilities. NMIT is working on the development of aged care benchmarks in China in cooperation within the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific program (UNESCAP).
NMIT

NMIT offers nationally accredited courses in children’s services, disability, aged care, health services assistance and community studies.

Its Health and Community Studies department offers courses in child care, aged care, health services assistance, home and community care, disability work, alcohol and other drugs work, and welfare and management.

The department is located at NMIT’s Preston and Collingwood campuses and is organised in three vocationally-based sections: Child Studies, Health and Aged Care, and Social and Community Studies.

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Key areas of expertise

- Acute Care
- Biophysics, Bioengineering
- Chinese Medicine
- Clinical Neuroscience
- Communities and Governance
- Dental
- Health Technologies – wireless, pandemic mapping
- Homelessness, Housing
- Laboratory Medicine
- Medical Radiations
- Membrane Ion Transport
- Metabolism, Exercise, Disease
- Nursing, Midwifery
- Optical Dispensing
- Osteopathy
- Pharmacy
- Psychology
- Public and Mental Health
- Remedial Massage
- Social Change, Social Policy
- Traditional, Complementary Medicine
- Wellness, Nutrition

Research/program delivery capabilities

RMIT’s research is rated by the Australian Research Council as “well above world standard” in Clinical Sciences and Human Movement and Sports Science, and as “above world standard” in Medical Physiology, Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Physical Chemistry.

Research is aimed at translating biomedical discoveries into safe and effective health outcomes for cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, obesity, arthritis, mental health diseases and stroke.

RMIT has many active research partnerships with local health and community groups, as well as global alliances with the World Health Organization and other multilateral organisations.

Over an 18-year period, RMIT has developed its position in Chinese medicine education and research to one of international leadership. This was recognised when the University’s Chinese Medicine Division was designated as a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine.
RMIT UNIVERSITY

RMIT is a global university of technology and design with campuses in Australia and Vietnam, and international partners worldwide.

A long-standing and internationally recognised provider of education for key health professions, RMIT offers an extensive range of programs. RMIT’s research in this field is cutting edge and includes Chinese medicine and homelessness.

RMIT’s Health Innovations Research Institute applies a cross-disciplinary approach to addressing contemporary health issues. Current research programs are biophysics and bioengineering; ion channels and transporters as therapeutic targets; metabolism, exercise and disease; and traditional and complementary medicine.

RMIT’s community services focus includes education in justice, social work, aged care, disability, and occupational health and safety.

RMIT’s Centre for Applied Social Research has a strong record working with industry, government and community organisations on issues of social welfare and employment.

Industry partners have included:
- Epworth Hospital
- Royal Dental Hospital of Melbourne
- Austin Hospital
- Villa Maria
- VicHealth
- Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute
- Department of Human Services (Victoria)
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society (US)
- Indian Institute of Chemical Technology
- INET International (Canada)
- Guangdong Provincial Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences.

Key contacts

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Key areas of expertise

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Research Skills
- Complex and Acute Care
- Aged Care
- Medication Administration
- Wound Management
- Legal and Ethical Considerations
- CPR and First Aid Application

Research/program delivery capabilities

South West TAFE has a proven track record of achievement in providing innovative and high quality education and training in Australia and internationally.

South West TAFE graduates acquire the skills, knowledge, understanding and qualification to work as an Enrolled – Division 2 Registered Nurse Australia-wide in hospitals and community services. It is a preferred training provider to various aged and community care centres and hospitals. Graduates are qualified to work in acute care, aged care, rehabilitation and mental health.

South West TAFE partners with Deakin University and upon a student’s successful completion of the Diploma of Nursing at South West TAFE, they can choose to undertake a Bachelor of Nursing at Deakin University.

South West TAFE’s international offerings include short courses to diploma level in areas including aged care, nursing, rehabilitation and mental health.
SOUTH WEST TAFE

South West TAFE has a long history of providing vocational education and training (VET) for healthcare industries domestically and abroad. It specialises in providing students with skills in nursing, aged care, and mental health.

South West TAFE is located in south-west Victoria and is the largest provider of VET in the region with approximately 14,000 enrolments annually.

South West TAFE has provided industry recognised training solutions including customised skill-based and nationally-accredited and non-accredited training for more than 150 years. It is highly recognised for quality delivery of international education and training through flexibly delivered models, ensuring student access worldwide.

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South West TAFE has fostered close links with various industries to ensure the direction and delivery of its teaching complies with current and future industry requirements.

During the past 20 years South West TAFE has worked in China, Malaysia, Fiji, Samoa and the Philippines to deliver a diverse range of courses.

South West TAFE has secured a number of international agreements with companies recognised for excellence in training including Woolworths, GlaxoSmithKline and Alcoa. These agreements have helped South West TAFE to develop and deliver diverse learning opportunities abroad.

South West TAFE’s experienced staff provide effective responses to international delivery requirements and ensure clients’ needs are met with culturally appropriate communication strategies.
Key areas of expertise

- Cognition enhancement focusing on the effects of natural substances
- Disorders of mood and mood regulation, particularly bipolar disorder
- Examining cellular neuroscience
- Forensic psychology
- Neurophysiological measures (EEG), brain imaging techniques (MRI, fMRI) and stimulation techniques
- Pharmacological and nutraceutical treatments for neurocognitive ageing
- Social and affective neuroscience research
- Understanding the obsessive-compulsive spectrum

Research/program delivery capabilities

At the Brain and Psychological Sciences Research Centre Swinburne brings together different disciplines with common interests in bio-psychosocial factors associated with the healthy and dysfunctional human mind and brain. Key research programs include:

- Bioelectromagnetics Research Group
- Clinical and Health Research Program
- Clinical Disorders and Abnormal Psychology Research Program
- Cognitive Neurosciences and Brain Dynamics Research Program
- Lifespan Development Research Group
- Social Psychology Research Unit.
With more than 30 researchers, the Centre for Human Psychopharmacology is the largest group in the world researching the cognitive and mood effects of natural products, nutritional supplements and other nutritional interventions. Key research areas include:

- Brain imaging techniques
- Psychiatric assessment
- Neurocognitive testing
- Stress and mood assessment.

Swinburne’s transnational program delivery includes delivery of a Master Degree, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate of Social Science (Professional Counselling) at the Executive Counselling and Training Academy (ECTA) (Singapore). Other industry and organisational links include:

- Australian Wine Research Institute
- Barbara Dicker Brain Sciences Foundation
- Barry Callebaut (Europe)
- Bayer HealthCare (Switzerland)
- Blackmores (Australia)
- BriteAge (USA)
- CDR (UK)
- Cognis (Germany)
- Dairy Innovation Australia
- Enzo Nutraceuticals (New Zealand)
- Flordis Medicines Australia
- Fred P Archer Charitable Trust
- GlaxoSmithKline (Global)
- Horphag (Europe)
- Integria (Australia)
- Mannatech (USA)
- Masterfoods (Global)
- Naturex (USA, France)
- Nestlé (NRC Switzerland)
- Novasel (Australia)
- Omniblend (Australia)
- People First Retirement (Australia)
- Personal Training Academy (Australia)
- Pharmalink (Australia)
- Pharmaton (Switzerland)
- Soho Flordis International (Global)
- Swisse (Australia)
- VicRoads (Victoria, Australia)
- Wrigley (USA)
- Zeller (Europe).

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Key areas of expertise

- Dentistry
- Engineering
- Epidemiology
- Health Sciences
- Law
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Optometry
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Science
- Social Work
- Veterinary Science

Research/program delivery capabilities

Key University of Melbourne initiatives in health and communities research include:

**Victorian Life Sciences Computation Initiative**

The University of Melbourne’s Victorian Life Sciences Computation Initiative (VLSCI) is home to one of Australia’s fastest supercomputers and the world’s greenest supercomputer, the IBM Blue Gene/Q. The VLSCI has drawn computation and biology experts from around the world to manage the supercomputer resource and provide training and support to researchers to help them fast-track solutions to some of the most debilitating health conditions. Through this supercomputer, scientists will be able to advance their work in finding cures and developing improved treatments for cancer, epilepsy and other devastating diseases.
Neuroscience

A small device implanted in the brain has accurately predicted epilepsy seizures in humans in a world-first study led by Professor Mark Cook, Chair of Medicine at the University of Melbourne and Director of Neurology at St Vincent's Hospital. Knowing when a seizure might happen could dramatically improve the quality of life and independence of people with epilepsy.

The University of Melbourne team worked with researchers at Seattle-based company, NeuroVista, who developed a device which could be implanted between the skull and brain surface to monitor long-term electrical signals in the brain. They worked together to develop a second device implanted under the chest, which transmitted electrodes recorded in the brain to a hand-held device, providing a series of lights warning patients of the high (red), moderate (white), or low (blue), likelihood of having a seizure in the hours ahead.

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Key areas of expertise

- Nursing and Paramedics
- Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Sport and Exercise Science
- Psychology
- Community Health

Research/program delivery capabilities

In the Australian Government’s 2012 Excellence in Research (ERA) ratings, Victoria University received the highest rating of 5 (well above world standard) in pharmacology and pharmaceutical sciences as well as human movement and sports science. It also received ERA ratings of 4 (above world standard) in medical physiology and 3 (world standard) in nursing and psychology.

The Bachelor of Health Science (Paramedic) was ranked ‘best in state’ by Ambulance Victoria in 2012 for graduate outcomes, work readiness and employability.

At Victoria University’s A$50 million Centre for Health Research and Education (allied with Sunshine Hospital, one of the largest training hospitals in Melbourne), students from the College of Health and Biomedicine and College of Sport and Exercise Science learn alongside health professionals.
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

Victoria University is one of the few Australian universities to offer higher education courses and vocational training. It has more than 51,000 enrolled students, including more than 4,000 international students studying at its Melbourne campuses and 9,000 studying at offshore partner institutions.

Victoria University’s College of Sport and Exercise Science is the largest provider of sport and exercise science-related courses in Australia. Its College of Health and Biomedicine offers courses in nursing, paramedics, pharmacology and pharmaceutical science. Psychology courses are offered through the College of Arts.

Victoria University’s courses in the field of health and communities range from certificates and diplomas through to bachelor degrees, masters and PhDs.

The Bachelor of Nursing course is accredited by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council, and psychology bachelor degrees are accredited by the Australian Psychological Society (APS). Graduates of the Master of Health Science (Osteopathy) are eligible for Osteopathy Board of Australia membership and Australian Osteopathy Association registration.

The College of Sport and Exercise Science’s A$68 million high-technology teaching and research facility undertakes research that contributes to all aspects of the sport and exercise industries. Its biomechanics, biochemistry and exercise physiology labs are used by professional sports teams and community organisations and support world-renowned research undertaken by Victoria University’s Institute of Sport, Exercise and Active Living.

The Mitchell Institute for Health and Education Policy works with researchers, governments and communities to improve the connection between evidence-based social research and public policy reform on health education.

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Key areas of expertise

- Aged care services
- Allied health assistance (ambulance)
- Child care
- Community services
- Disability
- Fitness
- Health services assistance
- Mental health
- Non-emergency client transport
- Nursing
- Outdoor recreation
- Paramedic science
- Pathology
- Remedial massage
- Sports development
- Sterilisation
- Workplace health & safety
- Youth work and welfare

Research/program delivery capabilities

The Community Services and Health (CSH) department provides industry-focused, quality, and flexible training within the broad community services and health industries with emphasis placed upon building collaborative, successful partnerships. CSH provides blended learning modes that incorporate the workplace and specific environmental factors, eLearning resources and targeted industry capability-building events to ensure a highly qualified industry workforce is maintained.

CSH is a leader in the provision of industry-focused, quality and flexible training that meets the challenges of workforce development in a rapidly-changing and demanding industry environment. With relevant industry accreditation at state and national levels, CSH has formed significant partnerships with regional and state industry organisations, sharing knowledge and expertise to develop a wide range of engaging and industry-relevant training courses.
WODONGA INSTITUTE OF TAFE

Located in Albury Wodonga, one of Australia’s largest and fastest-growing regional centres, Wodonga Institute of TAFE has delivered training in every mainland state and territory of Australia and has a current successful delivery project in logistics training within China.

The award winning Community Services & Health department of Wodonga TAFE offers a full range of courses for people who want to enter the community services and health industries.

The Department also incorporates a specialist Community Resilience Skills Centre which offers training in paramedical science and non-emergency client transport.

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Working successfully over many years with Government Departments such as the Department of Defence, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Social Service the CSH department has been acknowledged for achievements in excellence in innovation in workforce training and assessment by the Industry Training and Advisory Board in Victoria.

CSH has well developed relationships with several higher education sector partners to promote training pathways that recognise and build on the qualifications gained by their students.

Consultancy services are also offered in relation to workforce planning and training needs analysis.
The Melbourne: Research, Education and Training series profiles the capabilities of Victorian education providers across 13 sectors:

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Agriculture and Food Security
- Business, Governance and Finance
- Clean Energy
- Creative Industries
- Education and Development
- Health and Communities
- ICT
- Infrastructure and Urban Design
- Mining
- Tourism and Hospitality
- Transport
- Water Management

For more information on Melbourne’s research, education and training capabilities contact your local Victorian Government Business Office at: invest.vic.gov.au/offices

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