

The University

“AUQA commends USC for its significant achievements since its inception, including high growth in student demand, and provision of quality learning and teaching...”

Australian Universities Quality Agency report



University leadership

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paul Thomas AM, is the Chief Executive Officer reporting to Council. He is responsible for the University's strategic development, organisational leadership and day-to-day operations.

The Vice-Chancellor is supported by a Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellor (International and Development). Five additional senior University positions report directly to the Vice-Chancellor. They are the Chief Financial Officer; Director, Capital Programs and Operations; Director, Human Resources; Executive Officer, University of the Sunshine Coast Foundation; and Director, Regional Engagement, as well as the Chief Executive Officer of the Innovation Centre—the Vice-Chancellor is Chair of the Board of ICSC Pty Ltd.

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Professor Paul Thomas AM

BSc(Hons), DipEd *Wales*,
MA *Lough.*, PhD *Qld.*,
FACE, LRPS

Vice-Chancellor

University CEO, responsible to Council for strategic development and day-to-day operations of the University

Inaugural Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Sunshine Coast since it opened on 1 January 1996. Planning President of the University 1994–1996. Previous posts include Campus Principal and Head of Education at Queensland University of Technology and (prior to 1976, when he came to Australia) senior higher education roles in the UK. Member of Sunshine Coast Organisation for Regional Enterprise (SCORE). Chair of Sunshine Coast Education Executive (previously a SCORE committee, now auspiced by the University).



Professor Greg Hill

CertTeach, BA(Hons), PhD
Qld.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor

Oversees the academic functions (learning, teaching and research) of the University, with responsibility for related support areas including Teaching and Research Services, Information Services, Information Technology, Student Administration and Student Services

Appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor March 2005. Previously Foundation Professor of Tropical Environmental Science 1995–2004 and Dean 1997–2004, Charles Darwin University, establishing four University and national research centres. Reader in Geographical Sciences and Director of the ARC Key Centre in Land Information Studies 1979–1994, University of Queensland. Former Chair of Northern Territory Board of Studies. Former member of Kakadu National Park Research Advisory Committee.



Professor Robert Elliot

BA(Hons) *UNSW*, MA
La Trobe, DipEd *Melb*, PhD
Qld.

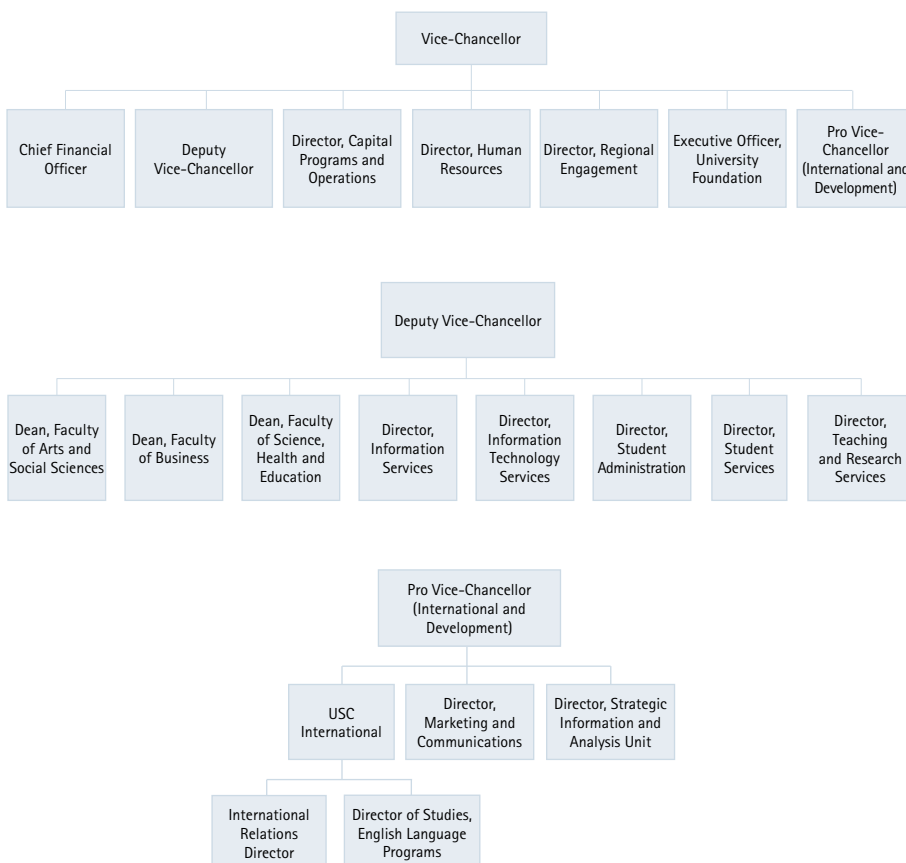
Pro Vice-Chancellor (International and Development)

Oversees, manages and advises on internationalisation, quality improvement, marketing and communication and the collection and analysis of strategic information

Appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor (International and Development) in 2005. Chairs Learning and Teaching Management Committee, Animal Ethics Committee, Internationalisation Advisory Committee and the Quality Steering Group. Previously Foundation Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of the Sunshine Coast 1995–2004; senior lecturer in philosophy, University of New England 1987–1995. Associations with various educational institutions including the University of Queensland, the Brisbane College of Advanced Education, Monash University and the State College of Victoria.

The University

The Vice-Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer reporting to Council. The Vice-Chancellor is supported by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellor (International and Development). Senior University positions report to the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellor (International and Development).



Planning for the future

The Strategic Plan <www.usc.edu.au/strategicplan> is the University's highest-level planning document, along with the Master Plan. Functional Plans such as the Learning and Teaching Plan (page 48) and the Internationalisation Plan complement the Strategic Plan. These apply University-wide, and drive resource allocations through the budget process. Operational Plans for individual cost centres support initiatives outlined in the Strategic and Functional Plans.

Strategic framework

The imperative of a changing policy environment and increasing national and international competition requires that the University energetically pursue its distinctiveness through a long-term strategic approach built around the following two major themes:

- regional engagement; and
- sustainability.

Regional engagement

The University has already developed an international reputation for local, national and international engagement at all levels of its activities. The University is intent on developing its symbiotic relationship with the regional community as a springboard for wider national and international engagement.

Sustainability

Concepts of sustainability drove the way in which the University was conceived and developed. Elements included sustainable master planning, sub-tropical architectural design, and academic work related to the sustainable development of the Sunshine Coast region.

The concept has expanded and now encompasses nearly every aspect of community life: social inclusion; energy for the future; the effective and equitable use of natural resources; preservation of built and natural environments; preservation of cultural and social heritages; and the development of sustainable economic opportunities.

Key areas

The University measures progress according to key indicators for the following eight areas:

- growth and development;
- learning and teaching;
- research;
- regional engagement;
- internationalisation;

- student support;
- staff; and
- environmental sustainability.

The goals, strategies, key performance indicators and benchmarks for the eight areas are addressed on the following pages.