



Flinders
UNIVERSITY

College of Nursing
& Health Sciences

**INSPIRING
ACHIEVEMENT**

Partnership working group **Action Plan**

2023-2025



Background

The challenges facing the higher education sector demand a significant shift in strategy for universities around the idea of collaboration and the development of much deeper partnerships with external stakeholders than higher education has seen before. For example, partnering with companies and businesses provides universities access to more resources to fund research and diversify their research areas. Universities also receive industry feedback and guidance on their innovations helping them to improve further. Industry partnerships allow universities to expose their students to real-time industry jobs or networking events, which are extremely important for students' career prospects.

Relationship with University Policy and Strategic Plan:

The [Flinders University 2025 Agenda](#) articulates the importance of partnerships across a range of networks to create impact that is core to our mission of changing lives and changing the world. Partnership engagement allows us to celebrate diversity, strengthen community and government relationships, and expand our global reach through high quality international partnerships. With industry, our role as a catalyst in the knowledge economy is to add value through collaborations with business, industry and entrepreneurs in order to stimulate economic growth and bring about positive societal change. Industry partners are core to the research, teaching and practice strategic directions of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, particularly given the future of a new Nexus building.

The CNHS strategic goals in the 2023-2027 strategic plan include several priorities that are explicitly or implicitly reliant on our industry partners such as:

2.2 Build and sustain authentic partnerships to deepen engagement and maximise research impact.

2.3 Lead innovations that create and translate knowledge to improve health, self-care, and caring solutions across the life-course.

3.3 Lead and implement interprofessional student partnerships, strengthen collaborative practice, and respond to community and industry needs with innovative placement opportunities.

4.1 Enhance our reputation for diverse, flexible, equitable, student learning placements and opportunities that prioritise working with communities in significant need.

4.3 Engage effectively with the health, care and disability sectors to add value, impact and new approaches to practice.

College Objectives

- Conduct a stakeholder analysis that identifies and maps internal and external stakeholders, assesses the nature of each stakeholder's influence and importance to enable the construction of a matrix to identify stakeholder influence and importance. This mapping needs to sit across the three areas of research, education and practice.

- Develop a targeted approach to a Strategic Partnership Engagement Strategy as a means to more effectively resource and grow productive and mutually beneficial partnerships, recognising it is only possible to do so with a select number of partners.
- Developing a Strategic Partnership Engagement Strategy in conjunction with partners that establishes a win-win for all parties (e.g., tiered membership, partner events). The Partner Engagement Strategy will provide guidelines for how the CNHS will resource and engage with its partners over the next five years.
- Deepen our current industry partnerships in health and education by meeting their needs around research, workforce and education.

College Objectives:

Objective 1: Conduct a stakeholder analysis that identifies and maps internal and external stakeholders, assesses the nature of each stakeholder’s influence and importance to enable the construction of a matrix to identify stakeholder influence and importance. This mapping needs to sit across the three areas of research, education and practice.

Success indicators:	
A	Mapping of all internal research, education and practice relationships
B	Mapping of international travel in key areas with staff for research and education international partnerships and travel

Success Indicator	Strategy	PIC representative and/or lead responsible person	Target (related to indicators)	Progress	Timeframe for completion
A	Mapping of partners	Lucy, Xing, Lucy L, Julie I	Complete versus not	Complete	
B	Mapping of international partners	Lucy C, Seb, Julie I, Xing	Complete versus not	Complete	

Objective 2: Developing a targeted approach to a Strategic Partnership Engagement Strategy as a means to more effectively resource and grow productive and mutually beneficial partnerships, recognising it is only possible to do so with a select number of partners.

Success indicators:	
A	Develop suite of partnership engagement activities
B	Engage Emeritus professors regularly

Success indicators:	
C	Facilitate a review of academic status holder policy to be open to industry partners
D	Develop CNHS principles for engaging and communicating with partners
E	

Success Indicator	Strategy	PIC representative and/or lead responsible person	Target (related to indicators)	Progress	Timeframe for completion	College Strategic Priority reference
A	Develop suite of partnership engagement activities	Lucy C, Seb, Xing	2-3 partner events in a year that are aligned		End of 2023	2,2
B	Engage with Emeritus professor in meaningful ways	Bonnie, Lucy C	One event for 2023 to co design needs		End of 2024	2.2
C	Review of academic status holder policy to be open to industry partners	Lucy C, Xing, Michelle M	Facilitate a review as above.		End of 2023	2.2
D	Develop CNHS principals for engaging and communicating with partners	Xing, Lucy, and all working group and CFI	Share with CNHS by end of year along with Strategic Partnership Framework		End of 2023	2.2

Objective 3: Developing a Strategic Partnership Engagement Strategy in conjunction with partners that establishes a win-win for all parties (e.g., tiered membership, partner events). The Partner Engagement Strategy will provide guidelines for how the CNHS will resource and engage with its partners over the next five years.

Success indicators:	
A	Strategic Partnership Strategy development

Success Indicator	Strategy	PIC representative and/or lead responsible person	Target (related to indicators)	Progress	Timeframe for completion
A	Develop partnership strategic framework	Lucy C, Xing	Complete	Complete	Completed early 2023 and disseminated to partners. Now to disseminate to CNHS staff

Objective 4: Deepen our current industry partnerships in health and education by meeting their needs around research, workforce and education.

Success indicators:	
A	The development of educational pathways to suit industry needs.
B	Development of research collaboration as a win-win
C	Articulate industry supervision and collaborations on RHD panels, and other 'non-placement' activities, e.g., where partners provide topics or have student groups doing project work with them (links to education).
D	Promotion of Flinders Uni RHD (and other post-graduate) pathways with industry
E	Explore potential for additional joint research positions with industry

Success Indicator	Strategy	PIC representative and/or lead responsible person	Target (related to indicators)	Progress	Timeframe for completion	College Strategic Priority reference
A	The development of educational pathways to suit industry needs.	Chris Barr and Seb	Micro-credentials			3.2

Success Indicator	Strategy	PIC representative and/or lead responsible person	Target (related to indicators)	Progress	Timeframe for completion	College Strategic Priority reference
A	The development of educational pathways to suit industry needs.	Seb	Diagnostic Radiography degree with industry partner	Met with industry partners re HMRB building	Dec 2025	
B	Development of research collaborations as a win-win	Lucy C, Lucy L, Jane Bickford	Pilot research and practitioner in residence programs		Dec 2024 (linked to CNHS priority project 2023)	2.2
C	Articulate industry supervision and collaborations on RHD panels, and other 'non-placement' activities, e.g., where partners provide topics or have student groups doing project work with them (links to education).	Lucy L, Xing Lee			Ongoing	2.2
D	Promotion of Flinders Uni RHD (and other post-graduate) pathways with industry	Lucy L, Xing Lee			Ongoing	2.2
E	Explore potential for additional joint research positions with industry	Lucy L, Xing Lee			Ongoing	2.2

