

## Our impact themes

### The themes articulate where we will have the greatest positive impact

Our core activities of Education & Employability and Ideas & Innovation define what we do; our impact themes focus our activities to where we can have the most impact. We will harness and join capabilities across Deakin, and with our partners, pursue a multi-disciplinary approach that builds on Deakin's capabilities across our University.

We have chosen these five interconnected themes because they are important to society and relate to our strengths in education and research. Whenever we need to determine whether an opportunity is relevant, we will make sure it aligns with one or more of these five themes.

We understand that we cannot do everything. We will focus on areas where we can make the most impact and meet society's needs while achieving excellence at an internationally significant standard. We will use our impact themes like a compass, helping us navigate opportunities and decisions.



Through education that supports our students to achieve their aspirations, through the generation and exploration of ideas that challenge and advance knowledge, or through innovation driving progress, we will build our strength around five impact themes:

### **Advancing society, culture and the economy**

- strengthen democratic and civil society through education and the application of critical ideas
- inform and shape the development of a more effective and resilient education system
- build the business capabilities necessary for a strong, sustainable, diverse and resilient economy
- research and teach Australia's rich heritage, including Indigenous Knowledges, and support the aspirations of the First Peoples of this country
- support and develop Australia's cultural, creative, and sporting industries

### **Building safe and secure communities**

- develop innovative solutions to the geopolitical, social and cultural dimensions of community resilience, safety, and wellbeing
- create more secure communities through innovation in intelligent systems, cyber-security, and human-centric digital solutions
- develop solutions to secure supply chains and transportation in a rapidly urbanising world
- develop innovative solutions that support Australian defence
- create new knowledge to enhance local and international responses to humanitarian events

### **Creating smarter technologies**

- advance the sophistication, capability and wider utilisation of technologies such as artificial intelligence, sensing systems, robotics and automation and new materials
- develop the skills and technologies that will underpin a sustainable economic future for Australia in which new technologies align creative problem-solving and productivity to deliver progress, not just change

### **Enabling a sustainable world**

- understand, protect and manage land, air and marine ecosystems
- advance the circular economy through innovative resource management technologies that are sustainable and scalable
- support organisations and communities to be more economically, socially and environmentally sustainable
- support the new energy transition through innovative and sustainable energy generation and storage technologies

### **Improving health and wellbeing**

- support the sustainable delivery of high-quality healthcare across Australia
- translate our education and research to help improve global health outcomes and address humanitarian needs
- develop initiatives that enhance wellbeing and enable all to enjoy fulfilling and healthy lives

Further information on our *current* research impact themes is available on the [\*Deakin website\*](#).