

A message from the
**Vice-Chancellor
and President**
FEDERATION UNIVERSITY



Thursday 20 February, 2020

Dear colleagues,

It is with mixed emotions that I announce my resignation as Vice-Chancellor and President of Federation University Australia.

Family considerations are at the forefront of my decision to return to Queensland, my former home state, where I have accepted the position of Vice-Chancellor and President at the University of the Sunshine Coast. While the timing of this move was not anticipated, I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to continue my passion for regional education and contribute to making a difference in another state.

I am incredibly proud of the work we have achieved as a university community in my years at Federation University. The university is now in a much stronger financial position and there is a clear vision and strategic plan, informed by our mission to change lives and enhance community.

Your support in achieving so many changes since my arrival in 2017 has been vital. Together, we have introduced a new academic organisational structure, enhanced academic and research leadership, undertaken major program renewal in both higher education and TAFE, improved national rankings for teaching quality and research, grown international student enrolments through onshore partnerships and at our own campuses, developed a new master plan to improve teaching and research infrastructure, and strengthened community engagement within our regions.

We have also navigated a challenging political landscape. Securing Commonwealth funding for growth of the Berwick campus while the sector was capped, proved essential to the success of our newest campus in Victoria.

The momentum of our transformation agenda will continue under my leadership over the coming months until I depart in early July. I will remain as committed as ever in working to ensure the success of the university while it transitions to new leadership. The Chancellor will advise the university community of transition plans in the coming days.

It has been an honour and a privilege to lead Federation University through this period of change over the past three years. I thank you all for your support and dedication to our university. I believe that the university has an exciting and sustainable future as a leading multi-sector university serving communities across Victoria and Brisbane.

Best regards

Professor Helen Bartlett

Vice-Chancellor and President

