



Southern Cross University

Southern Cross University is a vibrant, contemporary Australian university with campuses at Coffs Harbour, Lismore and the Gold Coast. The University delivers undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in an inspiring and supportive learning environment. Degrees are offered across a broad range of disciplines, and are designed in consultation with industry.

SCU is a research intensive university. In the Excellence in Research for Australia 2012 national report, the University was evaluated at world standard or above in the fields of geochemistry, crop and pasture production, zoology, forestry sciences, nursing, tourism, earth sciences, agricultural and veterinary sciences, biological sciences and studies in arts and creative writing.

The Coffs Harbour campus is situated on the southern side of the city, minutes from international standard sporting facilities and the airport. Courses at this campus include arts and creative writing, business, education (early childhood, primary and secondary), information technology and applied computing, international hospitality management, nursing, midwifery and psychology.

Facilities include purpose-built nursing laboratories, complete with simulated wards, specialised teaching spaces for education students, a human biosciences laboratory and purpose-built psychology research facilities.

The Coffs Harbour campus is also developing a strong research profile and staff work closely with government bodies and community organisations to support the growth and development of the region.

The Regional Initiative for Social Innovation and Research (RISR) was established at the Coffs Harbour campus in 2012. RISR is focused on multidisciplinary research projects which enhance the social and economic resilience of communities with a particular emphasis on the potential of emerging digital technologies to effect and sustain change.

RISR has developed collaborative relationships and partnerships with CSIRO, through the Australian Centre for Broadband Innovation; Housing NSW; Mission Australia Housing; and vTEams.

RISR was also engaged to author the Coffs Harbour City Council's Economic Development Strategy for 2013, including the facilitation of community-wide consultation.

National Marine Science Centre

Southern Cross University operates the National Marine Science Centre (NMSC) in Coffs Harbour. This teaching and research facility is located on the northern side of the city, in walking distance to Charlesworth Bay and Novotel Pacific Bay Resort, and adjacent to the Solitary Islands Marine Park, a protected marine habitat.

The NMSC provides a perfect setting for third-year marine science students and researchers to undertake fieldwork. Facilities include a flow-through seawater system that supplies laboratories, a tank farm and hatchery.

During 2012, there was a major upgrade of the Centre's research facilities including an aquaculture farm, which houses a wide range of fish and invertebrate species in variety of tanks and raceways. The Centre has 17 full-time and adjunct staff and conducts research in areas including sustainable aquaculture, fisheries, climate change, marine ecology, and terrestrial ecology and evolution.

The Centre also operates the Solitary Islands Aquarium, open to the public on weekends and during the NSW school holidays for visitors to discover what makes the Solitary Islands Marine Park special - through a series of aquariums, visual displays and guided tours.

For information visit www.scu.edu.au