



# RUN Latin America Delegation The University of the Sunshine Coast University Profile

**Professor David Schoeman**

**Professor of Global-Change Ecology, School of Science, Technology and Engineering**

**March 2024**

# Who am I and what do I do?

Prof David Schoeman

Professor of Global Change Ecology

<https://www.usc.edu.au/staff/professor-david-schoeman>

Prof Mark Brown

Director of Forest Research Institute

<https://www.usc.edu.au/staff/professor-mark-brown>

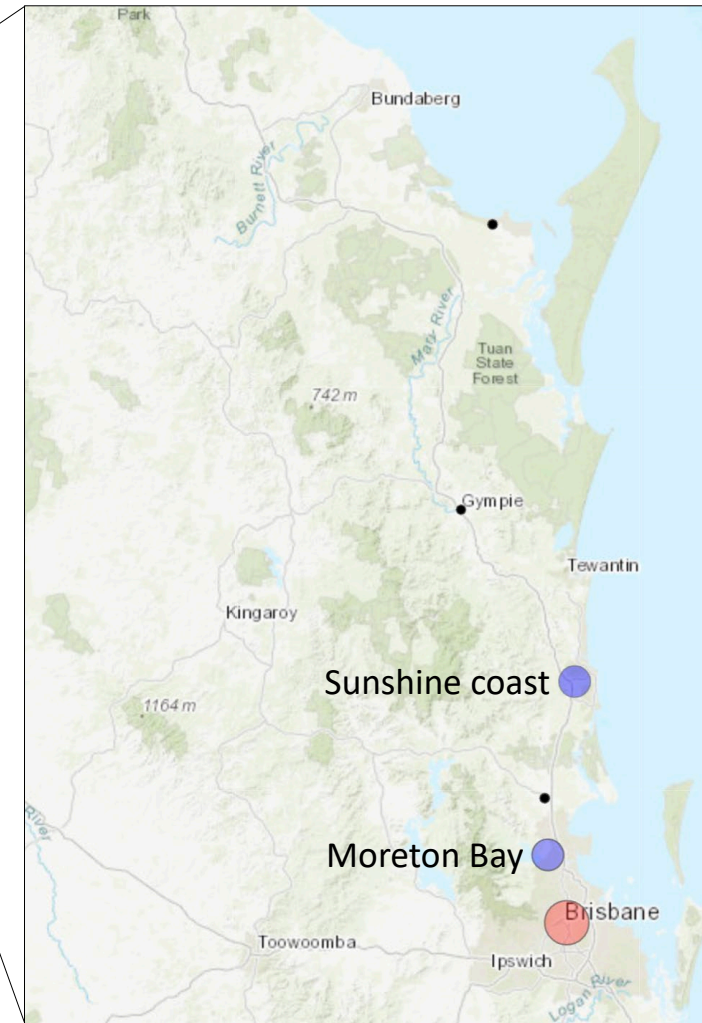


# Overview

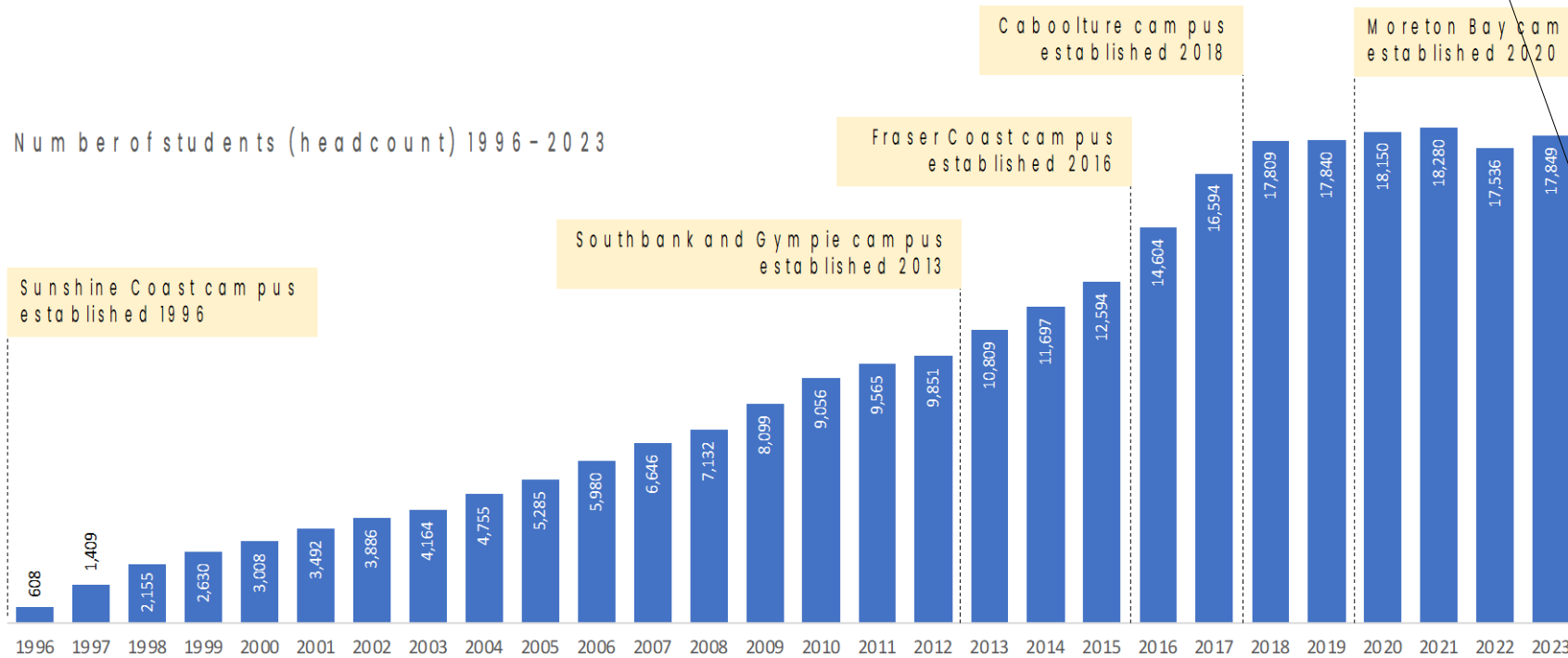
2023

Student load (EFTSL): 11,443.3

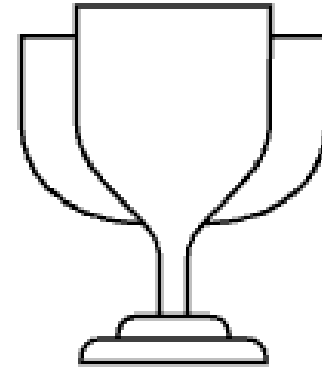
Total students: 17,849



Number of students (headcount) 1996 - 2023



**WE'RE ONE OF  
AUSTRALIA'S  
HIGHEST-RATED  
PUBLIC  
UNIVERSITIES**



**1st in Queensland  
2nd in Australia\***  
for overall educational experience

\*Ranking of Public Universities in 2021 Student Experience Survey

# Good University Guide Ratings



UniSC is rated 5 stars in the following:

- Overall Experience
- Learning Resources
- Teaching Quality
- Skills Development
- Student Support
- Social Equity
- First Generation
- Learner Engagement (Postgraduate)

# Excellence in Research Australia Results (2018)

Well above world standard	(5)	Environmental Sciences (Citation) Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences (Citation) Technology (Citation)
Above world standard	(4)	Biological Sciences (Citation) Psychology and Cognitive Sciences (Citation)
At world standard	(3)	Engineering (Citation) Medical and Health Sciences (Citation) Studies in Human Society (Peer Review) Language, Communications and Culture (Peer Review)

# Our key research focus areas

HEALTHY  
PLANET



HEALTHY  
PEOPLE





# UniSC sits in three UNESCO Biosphere Reserves





**UniSC is the  
highest-ranked  
Queensland  
university, and  
7th in Australia**



In 2023 UniSC ranked  
**29** equal out of **1705**  
institutions globally in the  
Times Higher Education (THE)  
Impact Rankings

Up **two positions** globally from 2022





We're

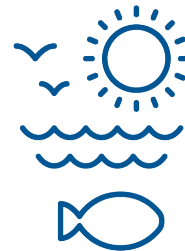
**3rd**

*globally for...*

## Clean Water and Sanitation



# THE IMPACT RANKINGS



Life Below Water



11th



3rd



Life On Land

23rd

5th



Climate Action

28th

9th

# UniSC Research Plan (2021-2024)

## 1. **Attain critical mass and develop capacity**

- Consolidate our research Centres and Institutes
- Enhance enterprise processes
- Develop our regionally relevant and distinctive focus
- Build critical mass

## 2. **Develop strong, collaborative and productive partnerships**

- Research partnership arrangements with international universities
- Create end-user partnerships, including with national centres
- Knowledge transfer

## 3. **Achieve research impact**

- Job-ready higher-degree research graduates
- Excellence in higher-degree research supervision
- Research leadership, development and marketing
- Innovation and entrepreneurship
- Research development programs

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# UniSC Centres and Institutes

## **Forestry Research Institute**

- Forestry value chain and the economic and environmental sustainability of forest industries

## **Australian Centre for Pacific Islands Research**

- Developing evidenced-based solutions collaboratively with Pacific communities

## **Centre for Bioinnovation**

- Using bio-inspired approaches to better understand disease and the environment

## **Centre for Human Factors and Sociotechnical Systems**

- Using systems thinking to improve recreation, transport, defence, land use and safety

## **Thompson Institute**

- New insight into mental health linked to our brain structure and foundation

## **Indigenous and Transcultural Research Centre**

- Inspiring the lives and wellbeing of First Nations and culturally diverse people

## **Clinical Trials Centre**

- Advanced treatments and breakthrough therapies through safe, ethical medical research studies that aim to find a better way to manage particular diseases in partnership with medical experts and industry

## **Innovation Centre**

- Strategic partnerships to support university-industry interactions to unlock the innovation, productivity and potential of its regional communities.



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# UniSC Higher Degree by Research Program



435 Higher Degree by Research (355 PhD)

## Research Strengths

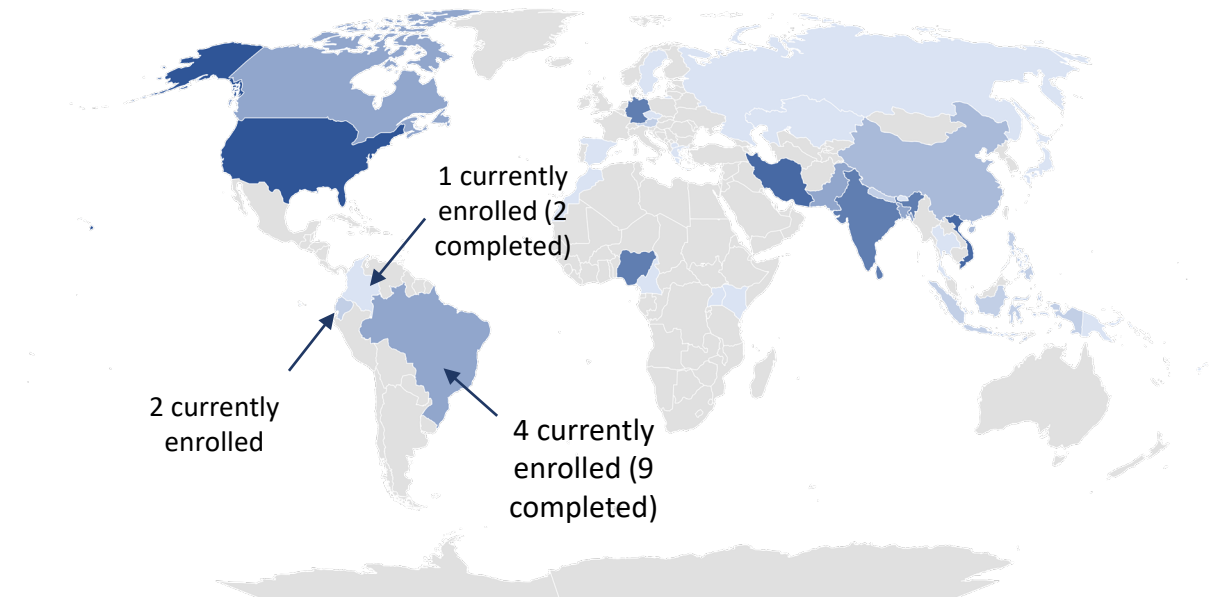
- Health, medicine and wellbeing
- Agriculture, aquaculture and forestry
- Ecology and environment
- Human behaviour, work and society



333  
Domestic



102  
International



# Our aspirations

- Establish new international research partnerships
- Further internationalise our HDR student body
- Foster knowledge exchange with other regional universities and/or university networks
- Explore co-funding arrangements that facilitate new research and support new HDR candidates