

## 2023 University Awards for Outstanding Achievement – Award recipients

### Excellence in Research

An award for an academic staff member

*Director, Waite Research Institute, Division of Research and Innovation*

Matthew is one of Australia's highest performing Plant Scientists. He is a Clarivate Highly Cited Researcher and respected internationally for his work in plant nutrition, stress signalling and salt tolerance. Matthew is focussed on translating fundamental discoveries into practice improvement, and his work in salinity tolerance has been adopted by industry. He has published in high impact journals and has led or been co-Chief Investigator on grants of over \$100 million from competitive industry and government sources. Amongst his many accomplishments, Matthew has been a Chief Investigator on two ARC Centres of Excellence, and was recently appointed Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence in Plants for Space.

Matthew has successfully held leadership positions at the Waite Research Institute for 4 years, as Director and Deputy Director. He has an impressive record of supervision, which includes 39 students and 14 postdoctoral research associates, and is committed to fostering the next generation of research leaders.

*NHMRC Externally funded Research Fellow in the School of Public Health, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences*





The Ray Last technical team contribute significantly to student recruitment and retention to flagship courses of the University by ensuring a highly professional teaching facility that is well-liked by students, enough for its reputation to spread by "word-of-mouth" amidst both domestic and international candidates. Numerous prospective medical-students recognise the 'state-of-the-art' Lab as being one of the main reasons why they choose the University of Adelaide to pursue their medical degree over other institutions, and current students consistently report their outstanding on-campus experience within the Lab.

### A Culture of Impact and Excellence

An award for an academic or professional staff member for exceptional leadership

#### *Head of School of Education, Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Economics*

Susan has been a transformative leader who, as Head of School, had an immediate and immeasurable impact in teaching and learning, research and culture for the School of Education. Susan has a clear vision for growth, which she heads towards with grace, determination and resilience. She has a strong awareness of equity issues, and this shines through in the way she leads. With a values-based leadership style, Susan has reset the School's agenda through negotiation and consultation. She endeavours to advance the strengths of individuals, so that everyone feels motivated to pull in the same direction, though in different ways and with diverse skills.

Under Susan's exceptional leadership, the School has strengthened its teaching, significantly developed leadership capability amongst staff, amassed research activity of over \$4 million, and importantly, fostered an environment of mutual respect, trust and collaboration. Susan is an asset to the University, and has positioned the School of Education for a strong future in a changing educational and institutional context.

An award for a staff member for service innovation and quality

#### *Sustainable Development Planner in Infrastructure, Division of University Operations*

Libby is being awarded for her integral role in developing, coordinating and now implementing the Here for Good Sustainability Strategy. This new strategy is a groundbreaking cornerstone for the University and the strategy's goals support our students with sustainable career paths, provide communities and partners with researched solutions to transition to the green economy, solve sustainability challenges and build climate adaptation and resilience.

Libby is also recognised for her recent contributions to the 2023 Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System submission, as well as the Campus Sustainability Plan (2016-

Through her work, Libby continually demonstrates her ability to navigate differing opinions and agendas with sensitivity and respect. She has a natural way of bringing people together, a



