

# The Organisation



## Basis of Authority

The University was established under *The Sunshine Coast University College Act 1994* and officially opened by the Governor of Queensland, Mrs Leneen Forde, AC, in 1996. Full university powers were granted to the University under *The University of the Sunshine Coast Act 1998*.

## Function of the University

The University's functions are:

- to provide education at university standard; and
- to provide facilities for, and to encourage, study and research; and
- to encourage the advancement and development of knowledge, and its application to government, industry, commerce and the community; and
- to provide courses of study or instruction, at the levels of achievement the Council considers appropriate, to meet the needs of the community; and
- to confer higher education awards; and
  - a) to provide facilities and resources for the wellbeing of the University's staff, students and other persons undertaking courses at the University;
  - b) to exploit commercially, for the university's benefit, a facility or resource of the university, including, for example, study, research or knowledge, or the practical application of study, research or knowledge, belonging to the University, whether alone or with someone else; and
  - c) to perform other functions given to the University under this Act or another Act.

## University Powers

- (1) Under *The University of the Sunshine Coast Act 1998* the University has all the powers of an individual and may, for example:
  - a) enter into contracts; and
  - b) acquire, hold, dispose of, and deal with property; and

- c) appoint agents and attorneys; and
- d) engage consultant; and
- e) fix charges, and other terms, for services and other facilities it supplies; and
- f) do anything else necessary or convenient to be done for its functions.

- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the University has the powers given to it under this Act or another Act.
- (3) The University may exercise powers inside and outside Queensland.
- (4) Without limiting subsection (3), the University may exercise its powers outside Australia.

## Governing Body

Under *The University of the Sunshine Coast Act 1998*, Council (refer to page 6) is designated as the University's governing body. In particular, Council has the power to appoint University staff, and manage and control University affairs, property and finances.

## Controlled Entities

The University established the Innovation Centre Sunshine Coast Pty Ltd (ICSC) on 26 October 2000, under *The University of the Sunshine Coast Act 1998* Part 2(6).

The company is supported by Maroochy Shire Council, State and Federal Government and by private business. The primary purpose of the company is to provide leadership that underpins the creation of new jobs in businesses in knowledge-based sectors, with a focus on the Knowledge Precinct development at Sippy Downs (refer to page 11).

ICSC operates an award-winning technology business incubator located in the Innovation Centre building, a \$7 million facility on the edge of the University campus. The incubator has supported the start-up and growth of 15 businesses to date in sectors such as software development, multimedia, biotechnology and sustainable water solutions.

The Queensland Audit Office audits the company's financial statements, which are reported in the Consolidated Statements section of the University's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2005.