

# Foreword

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The Australian National University (ANU) consistently ranks among the best universities in the world and we are well known for our research-intensive culture. ANU is a centre of unparalleled intellectual talent and research excellence.

Each year we welcome a large number of undergraduate students from all over the world to study a diverse range of research-led degrees that offer an experience rich in academic and personal reward.

The *ANU Undergraduate Research Journal*, published annually by ANU Press, under the eView imprint, gives our most exceptional students the opportunity to share their work with the wider community.

By studying at Australia's national university, these students featured in the *ANU Undergraduate Research Journal* have access to extensive opportunities in research centres and facilities, which nurture and support them to make discoveries, to invent, to innovate, to influence and shape our world.

I congratulate the authors and editors of the 2015 journal on the excellent quality of their work and their contribution to advancing Australia's national research output.

Professor Brian P. Schmidt AC  
Vice-Chancellor and President  
The Australian National University

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