



Professor S. Bruce Dowton

Vice-Chancellor and President, Macquarie University



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MBBS MD

FACMG FRACP FAICD FRSN

Professor S. Bruce Dowton is the fifth Vice-Chancellor and President of Macquarie University. He is a paediatrician, clinical geneticist, molecular biologist, researcher and academic, who has served as a senior medical executive at a range of universities, healthcare institutions and consulting organisations. Before returning to his native Australia to join Macquarie, he served as a paediatrician at the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children and as Clinical Professor of Paediatrics at Harvard Medical School.

Professor Dowton joined the University in September 2012. During his first year he led a highly consultative process to develop a long-term strategic framework for the University, establishing an ethos of service and engagement at the heart of its learning, teaching and research activities. The framework has subsequently enabled a dramatic improvement in research performance, a synthesis of traditional and technological learning and teaching activities, deeper relationships with corporate and industry partners, significantly enhanced philanthropic giving and a series of multi-million-dollar capital works on campus. More recently, with the advent of increasing uncertainty and complexity for universities in Australia and globally, Professor Dowton has led the development of a new university-wide Operating Plan that focuses on six key domains: Students First, Coursework Suite and Delivery, Focused Investment in Research, Our People, Ways of Working and Digital Transformation. Professor Dowton's ability to clarify complexity and highly engaging personal style have since become hallmarks of his vice-chancellorship.

He has published articles on a wide range of topics in peer-reviewed academic publications and has held visiting professorial and external examiner appointments at several universities, including the University of Edinburgh, Columbia University in New York, the University of Tromsø in Norway and the University of Hong Kong, as well as at institutions in the People's Republic of China.

Outside the University, Professor Dowton is involved in educational philanthropic and community engagements, and currently serves as:

- a trustee on the Board of Trustees, Art Gallery of New South Wales
- chair of Open Universities Australia
- a member of Asia Society Australia.

Professor Dowton was born in Ivanhoe, in far-west New South Wales, and raised in Dubbo. He was the first in his family to go to university. He has lived and worked extensively in many countries and experienced different cultures. Professor Dowton's experiences embolden his approach to leading Macquarie University to be a distinctive institution that is also thoroughly international in engagement and outlook.

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