

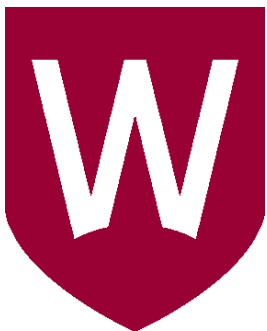
**WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY**



CANDIDATE BRIEF

**DEAN, SCHOOL OF BUILT
ENVIRONMENT AND DESIGN**

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY





**WE ARE
WESTERN
SYDNEY**



IN THE WORLD

2022–2025

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION IMPACT RANKINGS



TOP 2%

OF UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE*

* Times Higher Education (THE)
World University Rankings 2019–2025

WELCOME FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AND THE PROVOST



We are delighted to introduce you to Western Sydney University, a global university in the heart of one of Australia's most dynamic and important regions. Our new Dean, School of Built Environment and Design will join this anchor institution as we embark on an exciting new phase of reinvigorating our teaching, amplifying our research impact, building our partnerships, growing our global footprint, and establishing one of the country's most distinct centres of Indigenous culture, education and research.

Western Sydney University is more than a university; it is part of the community. The University's values of boldness, excellence, integrity, fairness, and trust reflect those of Western Sydney through its diversity, youthfulness, and aspiration.

At Western, we are driven to ensure access to a world-class higher education, an unparalleled student experience, life-changing opportunities, equity, and fairness. Our mission, outlined in our WESTERN 2030 strategic plan, is to deliver student success, impactful research and stronger communities.

The Dean, School of Built Environment and Design will play a pivotal role in furthering Western's ambitions, leading one of the four Schools within our new Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Science (ECS). Through the Faculty, Western is not only transforming education to deliver solutions to address the complex challenges posed by the contemporary built environments but also the workforce of tomorrow. This will be achieved locally, nationally and globally through Western's strategy and our exciting and escalating activities in transnational education and research.

No region in Australia has greater opportunity than Western Sydney, and the School of Built Environment and Design is deeply engaged in the growth arising from large scale investments, including the Western Sydney International Airport, which are changing the face of Western Sydney. The School is home to research focused on urban transformation, design, digitisation, sustainability and resilience. The School is enhancing the way we live in the world and the world in which we live. It is helping to ensure industry equity through programs

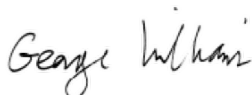
including Women Transforming the Built Environment.

The School of Built Environment and Design has a vertically and horizontally integrated curriculum, centred on problem-based learning, with undergraduate degree programs in Construction Management, Architecture, Industrial Design, and Building Design Management. It also offers a number of Master's programs and PhD research opportunities.

The School of Built Environment and Design is home to international research leaders focused on solving some of our greatest challenges, both regionally and globally. From ensuring housing security through sustainable housing, healthy built environments to smarter greener built assets through digitalisation and AI, the School is delivering impact through robust research translated into policy, practice and innovations.

The University has been ranked as the number one university in the world in the prestigious Times Higher Education Impact Rankings for four years in a row. The rankings assess more than 2,500 universities from over 130 countries on their commitment to research, teaching, sustainability, and partnerships. In repeatedly securing the award, Western Sydney University is globally recognised as a leader for its work with

communities, improving lives, promoting equity and fairness, and safeguarding the planet. The Dean, School of Built Environment and Design will join us at a time of exceptional opportunity. We look forward to welcoming a leader in education and research eager to rise to the challenge of becoming an integral part of our community, shaping the future for the benefit of future generations.



Distinguished Professor George Williams AO
Vice-Chancellor and President



Professor Deborah Sweeney
Provost



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DEAN



As Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Science, I am delighted to introduce the Faculty and share our vision for the future. ECS is a bold new Faculty at Western Sydney University, created to bring together Engineering, Built Environment and Design, Science, and Computing, into one integrated powerhouse of teaching, research, and innovation.

Our mission is clear; to be the engine of Western Sydney's prosperity, educating diverse, work-ready graduates and delivering mission-driven research and partnerships that turn ideas into impact for people and planet.

Western Sydney is one of Australia's most dynamic regions. It is home to nearly 3 million people, a new international airport, and the emerging high-tech city of Bradfield. No region in Australia has greater potential. ECS sits at the heart of this transformation, with state-of-the-art facilities and strong partnerships with industry, government, and communities.

Guided by Western 2030, our strategy focuses on:

- Student Success: delivering personalised, flexible, industry-connected education.
- Research & Innovation: driving solutions in areas which include advanced manufacturing, infrastructure, sustainability, agriculture, and digital technologies.
- Indigenous Leadership: embedding Indigenous knowledges and building pathways for Indigenous student and staff success.
- Global Engagement: expanding transnational education through campuses in Indonesia and India.
- Sustainability: leading the sector as Australia's first climate- and nature-positive university.

ECS already has more than 9,400 students and 400 staff across its Schools. We are building on strong foundations but also reimagining what an engineering, computing and science faculty can be; collaborative, industry-facing, and globally connected.

The School of the Built Environment and Design is home to some of our most in-demand programs, from Construction Management to Architecture. As Dean, you will lead one of the University's largest schools, foster deep partnerships with industry and professional bodies, and champion innovation in teaching, research, and design practice. You will have the opportunity to influence not just the careers of our students, but also the shape of Western Sydney's cities and communities.

The Dean's role is more than an academic leadership position, it is an opportunity to transform lives and communities through education and research. It requires a bold, strategic and collaborative leader who can inspire staff, support students, and work with partners across sectors to deliver the promise of Western Sydney.

At ECS, we aspire to be a faculty without boundaries: interdisciplinary, inclusive, and innovative. If you share that ambition, I invite you to join us in shaping the future.

Professor Brian Falzon

Executive Dean, Engineering, Computing and Science

Purpose of the Position

POSITION TITLE

Dean, School of Built Environment and Design

CLASSIFICATION

Executive

REPORTING TO

Executive Dean, Engineering, Computing and Science

SCHOOL/OFFICE

Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Science

DIRECT REPORTS

Portfolio Directors, Heads of Discipline, Professors, and Associate Professors when required, School Academic and Professional staff.

The School of the Built Environment and Design offers undergraduate degree programs in Construction Management, Building Design Management, Architectural Design and Industrial Design. It delivers Master's programs in Construction Law (jointly with the School of Law), Project Management, Fire Safety Engineering, Bushfire Protection, Building Surveying, Architecture (Urban Transformation), and various graduate certificates/diplomas in relevant areas. The School also offers a comprehensive doctoral program.

The Dean is responsible for fostering a culture of innovation, excellence and inclusion that underpins the performance of the School of Built Environment and Design in teaching and learning, research, external engagement, and that enhances the student experience. The Dean is responsible for strategic planning consistent with the Faculty's strategic objectives and ensures that this is consistent with or exceeds the expectations of our students, communities, and relevant professional bodies, government, and industry.

The Dean of the School will work collaboratively with the Faculty Executive Dean, as well as other School Deans within the Faculty, Research Centre/Institute Directors, Directors of Divisions, and academic and administrative support to align School resources and priorities to facilitate high-quality outcomes in teaching, learning, curriculum delivery, research and engagement. The successful candidate is expected to maintain research/professional currency.





Position Description

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| → Lead the day-to-day operations of the School, ensuring alignment with Faculty and University policies, priorities, and standards. | → Build the strength and sustainability of the School by promoting research, consulting, enterprise, and interdisciplinary collaboration. |
| → Translate Faculty strategic initiatives into operational plans and outcomes, ensuring delivery of high-quality teaching, research, and engagement. | → Manage the School's budget and resources effectively, ensuring financial sustainability and alignment with strategic priorities. |
| → Oversee curriculum development, accreditation processes, and continuous improvement of teaching programs to ensure quality, relevance, and compliance. | → Lead and support academic staff through workforce planning, recruitment, performance management, and professional development. |
| → Foster a high-quality student experience by promoting innovation, monitoring enrolment health, and improving retention and engagement across all cohorts. | → Strengthen relationships with professional bodies, accreditation agencies, industry, and community partners to enhance curriculum relevance and graduate employability. |
| → Support academic integrity and governance through oversight of results approval, misconduct management, and policy compliance. | → Represent the School in Faculty-wide committees and contribute to governance, partnerships, and strategic initiatives across the University. |



Position Description

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → A doctoral qualification in the Built Environment field, with extensive leadership experience and achievement at a senior level. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → High-level capability in managing financial, human, and physical resources within a complex organisation, including budget oversight and staff deployment. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Demonstrated international reputation through a productive research track record. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Demonstrated ability to lead and manage senior academic staff, fostering collaboration, accountability, and high performance. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Proven experience in leading operational delivery within a School or similar unit, ensuring teaching quality, curriculum relevance, and student success. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Capacity to maintain and strengthen discipline-specific relationships with industry, professional bodies, and community partners to support curriculum quality and student employability. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Strong knowledge of professional, accreditation, and industry issues and trends relevant to the School's disciplines and programs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Strong strategic insight into the future directions of the School's disciplines and programs, including academic innovation, graduate outcomes, and regional and global relevance. |



UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS

The University expects that all employees are aware of, and comply with legislation and Western’s policies and procedures relevant to the position, including but not limited to:

- Code of Conduct
- Work Health and Safety and Wellbeing Management System
- Enterprise Agreement or Award
- Anti-discrimination principles, Equal Employment Opportunity and staff and student equity.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS TO POSITION	CHALLENGES
Internal (within the University) → Faculty Executive Dean → Vice-Chancellor and President → Provost → Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President, Education & Students → Pro Vice-Chancellor, Research & Innovation → Pro Vice-Chancellor, Global Partnerships and Transnational Education → Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President Indigenous Leadership → Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Western Sydney and External Engagement → Chief Operating Officer → Heads of Discipline → Academic staff of the School → Deans of the Faculty → Senior University staff → Students	→ Managing the strategic and operational delivery of a diverse portfolio of undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs across disciplines such as construction, architecture, and design, while ensuring alignment with Faculty and University priorities. → Overseeing curriculum development and accreditation processes across multiple professional domains, ensuring compliance with evolving industry standards and regulatory requirements. → Building and maintaining strong relationships with professional bodies, accreditation agencies, and industry partners to support curriculum relevance, student employability, and research engagement. → Leading academic workforce planning and development, while managing financial resources effectively to ensure sustainability and support the School's growth and reputation.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for the position should include the following:

- Full Academic Curriculum Vitae
- Candidate Statement
- Referee details
- Date of Commencement

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

CURRICULUM VITAE

- Details of positions held, including dates, details of your present position, and key achievements.
- Details of education, professional training and qualifications (and dates of degree completion).
- Research Activity Statement, including details of your research track record, such as external income, research outputs, and outcomes.
- Evidence of the delivery of innovative teaching and world-class research.
- Any other relevant information, such as contributions to professional associations and learned societies, community activities, awards and other recognitions of esteem.

CANDIDATE STATEMENT

A brief statement (no more than five pages) outlining your vision for the role and what you would expect to accomplish in the role, reflecting on your experience and skills as it relates to the selection criteria.

REFEREES

Full contact details of three referees that we may contact.

Candidates should state their relationship to the referees and why they have been nominated to speak on the candidate's behalf.

Referees will only be contacted after prior consultation with the candidate.

DATE OF COMMENCEMENT

An indication of the earliest date on which you could commence in the position.

CONTACT DETAILS

Applicants should provide a confidential email address and suitable daytime and evening telephone contact details (including mobile), and details of their availability during this period.

TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION AND FOR ENQUIRIES

For a confidential discussion or to apply, please email Brian Falzon (Executive Dean, ECS) at B.Falzon@westernsydney.edu.au or Michael Baker (Faculty General Manager, ECS) at Mi.Baker@westernsydney.edu.au.

On behalf of Western Sydney University and as part of the application and appointment process, candidates may be requested to undergo psychometric testing and give permission for verification of their tertiary qualifications and an Australian Federal Police check.



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