Australia’s Group of Eight

The Group of Eight (Go8) is a coalition of Australia’s leading research universities. Go8 universities are distinguished by the intensity and breadth of the research they perform, the research-informed nature of the education they offer, and the leadership they bring to community consideration of complex issues.

The Go8 adds value for member universities and for Australia by:

- facilitating collaboration between Go8 universities;
- offering a trusted network through which the leaders and administrators of Go8 universities share ideas and expertise;
- influencing national policies for higher education and university research;
- sustaining quality brand recognition;
- building community support for research universities;
- developing international strategic alliances and networks; and
- benchmarking for performance improvement.
Go8 universities can be distinguished in the following ways:

- Go8 universities are the most research-intensive of all Australian universities.
- They attract the highest levels of industry and competitive government grant funding for research.
- Various international rankings consistently rate Go8 universities as the top-tier institutions in Australia.
- Go8 universities have nurtured every Nobel Prize winner educated at an Australian university.
- They have much lower student staff ratios than other Australian universities.
- They attract the highest performing Australian school students.
- International students succeed at a similarly high level as Australian students.
- A focus on the teaching-research nexus at Go8 universities leads to the development of advanced curricula and research-based learning that produce distinctive graduates.
- They enrol over half of all higher degree by research students.
- Go8 alumni take up senior positions in professional life, business and government in Australia and other countries.

Go8 Leadership

Go8 universities invest in world-class research in order to drive discovery and innovation and to deliver world class education.

Go8 universities are leaders in medical and health research, and in translation of that research into both teaching and learning, and patient care.

The Go8 Quality Verification System promotes discussion on best practice in teaching and learning across institutions. It assists Go8 universities in maintaining and improving their academic standards and learning outcomes.

The Go8 Credit Transfer and Foundation Program agreements demonstrate the mutual recognition of high standards of teaching within the group.

Go8 research training has achieved domestic and international recognition. This is because of the high quality of the experience it provides, with access to world leading research infrastructure and facilities, supervision by leading researchers, an intellectually stimulating, diverse and supportive academic environment, and a rigorous, consistent and transparent assessment process.

Go8 committees meet regularly to collaborate on issues such as quality research training, credit transfer, international promotion, international research cooperation, human resource and financial management, planning and benchmarking as well as specific education and research disciplines.

Students from disadvantaged backgrounds have better outcomes in terms of retention and success at Go8 universities than at other Australian universities. Go8 universities provide particular opportunities in postgraduate education for Indigenous students and students from disadvantaged backgrounds.
Global partnerships enable our universities to operate at the cutting edge of research and innovation.

The Go8 seeks to collaborate with like-minded university consortia around the world and facilitate the participation of its member universities in leading centres for research and higher education.

Contact us
For further information on international research or other forms of collaboration with the Go8 visit www.go8.edu.au, phone +61 (2) 6239 5488 or email executive.director@go8.edu.au.