

# 1. DEAN'S WELCOME

Welcome to the Faculty of Science at the University of Wollongong. I hope that your studies with us will be an interesting and challenging education and I am sure that this will lead you to a rewarding career. You have chosen to do a degree in a Faculty that is very strong in research and teaching. All of our teaching staff have active research programs and most have international research reputations.

This booklet has been produced to help you to plan your degree, and also to find your way through what can appear to be a complex set of requirements. We urge you to read it carefully and to keep it available to consult as your studies progress and your interests and objectives change, so that you can determine what is or is not possible within the constraints of your degree program.

The basic sciences are complementary to each other. The lines of separation between disciplines are not sharp and the results obtained in any one of them can influence and advance the others. In addition, the basic sciences are the foundations upon which the applied sciences (from engineering to medicine) are built. For these reasons, you should gain as broad a knowledge of the basic sciences as possible, in the first year of your studies, before you embark on your chosen major.

The Faculty of Science offers six specialist degrees, Biotechnology, Environmental Science, Marine Science, Medicinal Chemistry, Nanotechnology and International Science as well as BSc majors in each discipline area. The structure of the BSc allows students to specialise in one of the Science disciplines while providing the flexibility to accommodate the interests of individual students, across a very wide range of subjects in virtually any discipline. Especially talented students are able to enrol in the BSc Advanced (Honours) or in the Advanced program of one of the specialist degrees.

If you are not yet sure in which field of Science you want to specialise, don't worry! The BSc course at Wollongong allows a good deal of flexibility in which to explore different options.

This is not an official University publication, so you should also check the University's Online Course Handbook and Subject Database on the UOW website: [www.uow.edu.au/handbook](http://www.uow.edu.au/handbook) for up-to-date subject details, course structures, schedules, and degree regulations.

If you have any questions about the development of a program of study, please contact your School's Academic Adviser, a Course Coordinator, the Associate Dean, or me at the earliest possible opportunity - before your uncertainty becomes a problem.



Professor Will Price, Dean, Faculty of Science