



Abridged Biography | Prof Alwyn Louw



Professor Alwyn Louw is the Vice-Chancellor, Torrens University, Australia. A sociologist by training, Professor Alwyn Louw completed both his BA and MA at the University of Free State (Bloemfontein, South Africa). Professor Louw completed his PhD, entitled "The Role of a Development Organization in Societal Change – A Sociological Analysis" at Vista University (Pretoria, South Africa). He has published extensively on a broad range of issues including societal development, gender equity, civil society and community, future of education, new generation universities, research and innovation. Professor Louw is highly regarded for his work in building new approaches to higher education by ensuring access to high-quality education for all through a deliberate focus shift to inclusivity and affordability. His experience in distance and contact education as well as traditional and integrated delivery models prepared him for a strong focus on the university of the future, based on new generation university principles, creating flexibility for broadening opportunities through innovation. In January 2020, Professor Louw became Vice-Chancellor of Torrens University Australia which is part of Strategic Education Inc. He has served in senior academic leadership and management roles for over 20 years, including as President of the University and Academic President at Monash South Africa.

Driving research strategy is a key focus for Professor Louw at Torrens University. An important part of the strategy is ensuring quality and impactful research output connects with the university's role as a B Corporation, committed to delivering significant public good. Professor Louw has overseen the introduction of a new Academic Framework which has provided a critical continuum for the organisation's broader strategic plan. Importantly, since March 2020, Professor Louw has led the institution's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in a more flexible learning model across the institution. Professor Louw has consulted for various Civic and Charitable organisations and has delivered over 130 papers on a broad range of topics.
