

University of Newcastle VC Professor Alex Zelinsky formally takes over the reins as Chair of NUW Alliance

Monday, 11 January 2021

As universities return to work after the holiday period, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Newcastle, Professor Alex Zelinsky AO, will today formally take over as Chair of Australia's largest higher education joint venture, NUW Alliance.

Professor Zelinsky succeeds Professor Paul Wellings CBE (Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wollongong) as NUW Alliance Chair.

"The important work of the NUW Alliance has accelerated in recent months, which, of course, has included welcoming our newest partner, the University of Western Sydney (UWS). We look forward to this momentum continuing," Professor Zelinsky said.

The recent development of the NUW Energy project has brought together experts from across the member universities, to address Australia's current and future energy challenges.

Professor Zelinsky brings a wealth of experience to the leadership of NUW Alliance from his previous role as Australia's Chief Defence Scientist. Under the guidance of Professor Wellings, NUW Alliance delivered a preliminary model of integrated education, research and training, and established a joint taskforce with TAFE NSW.

"The unique collaborations connect through the rich 'living lab' model from the University of Newcastle with the resources and expertise of the other universities. Through the NUW Alliance we realise better research outcomes, and each University partner is able to improve the experience for their students," added Professor Zelinsky.

NUW Alliance will continue to connect with local start-ups, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and international firms, forming partnerships which will be critical to ensuring that student learning extends beyond theory to incorporate applied skills in real workplace environments.

"The Alliance represents a step change in industry, education, research and training collaboration. These world-first initiatives will unquestionably deliver job-ready graduates across the Alliance."

For further information contact:

NUW Alliance

Matt Gijselman, CEO

0424 244 777

matt.gijselman@nuwalliance.edu.au

About the NUW Alliance:

The NUW Alliance comprises four of Australia's leading research-intensive universities – the University of Newcastle, UNSW Sydney, the University of Wollongong and Western Sydney University. The mission of the NUW Alliance is to seek out the big collaborations that make a difference, collaborations that unlock new value, impact and benefit for our communities across NSW. Our Universities have a proud history of achievement that has led to strong outcomes in international university rankings. Acting together as the NUW Alliance, they continue to build on their local and global reputations as leaders in research and student experience. Together and individually, we are among the world's best.