



## The Teaching-Research Nexus

A guide for academics and policy-makers  
in higher education

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### Examples from Australian universities

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#### Creating a Research Culture in Forensic Computing Classes

Associate Professor Jill Slay  
University of South Australia

**Broad discipline area:**

Engineering and Related Technologies

- Forensic Computing

**Year level:**

- Fourth year undergraduate (Honours and non-honours)

**TRN strategy:**

- Infuse teaching with the values of researchers
- Encourage students to feel part of the research culture of departments
- Involve students in departmental research projects

**Teaching and learning context:**

- Student/lecturer research collaborations
- Mentoring of individual students

**Brief description of the initiative:**

This Associate Professor believes that by teaching with reference to her research, she inspires her students to consider enrolling in further study. She incorporates her research into her teaching at third year and from the pool of third year students she usually gains 10 students who go on to do honours under her supervision. This academic tries to involve these students in her department's research activities, by having a PhD student work with honours students on the same research project. By supervising a large number of honours students, this supervisor finds she always has students interested in undertaking a PhD under her supervision. She is proactive in helping her students not only with their study, but gives them practical assistance in looking for employment. Once these students are employed in industry, she maintains links with them that in turn strengthens her ability to help her current students learn the necessary skills demanded by the industry. Many of her PhD students are also people who have been in the industry for some time and who have returned to undertake postgraduate study. Therefore, by helping students to become better researchers for the industry, this Associate Professor benefits from collaboration later on in both her teaching and research duties.

**For further details:**

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