Flinders University
Digital Transformation Journey
Key elements for success!

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Where we were

2013...

- Limited IT centralisation - Central IT largely infrastructure
- Limited investment in IT
- Nobody ‘trusted’ IT

Fast forward to 2016

- Many aspects of IT now centralised
- Improved customer service focus
- Increased automation and improved access to ‘technology’ for teaching and learning
But..

Investment still centered around ‘who screamed the loudest’

Staff and student digital experience inconsistent and not always intuitive or customer centric

Lack of IT investment to support research and researchers

Lack of governance over IT priorities and investment
Drivers for change

To be internationally recognised as a world leader in research, an innovator in contemporary education, and the source of Australia’s most enterprising graduates.
Drivers for change

Utilise digital technologies to connect students seamlessly with knowledge, educators, researchers, industry and each other creating opportunities to collaborate regardless of the location of the participant.
Drivers for change

Take advantage of technology in the development of education delivery utilizing the availability of knowledge and online learning tools to create flexibility allowing for different learning styles that stretches beyond traditional learners into life-long learners.
Drivers for change

Improve Researchers access to and support for the ever increasing volumes of data. Use and reuse of data that can increase research potential and productivity.
Drivers for change

Take advantage of the data that is created by digital technologies to analyse and create a personalised experience with a deeper understanding of students and the way they engage with Flinders at the same time allowing for optimisation of operational aspects.
The need for a Digital Strategy

Flinders University needed a **modern, technology enabled and digitally enhanced learning experience** and a vibrant, dynamic and impactful research collaboration eco-system. Radical shifts were needed toward an open, collaborative, curious, creative, empowered and stakeholder centric culture.
Developing a Strategic Vision

Flinders’ digital vision is focused on
- Providing a personalised experience for staff and students
- Connectedness
- Collaborative learning
- Promoting lifelong learning
- Improving access to research data
- Learning analytics
Strategic Vision to Actionable Plan

Strategic visions are just pieces of paper unless they are accompanied by an actionable plan.
Target State and Roadmap

Clear target state that has direct links back to the University Strategy and Digital Strategy

This transforms the vision of the University Strategy and the themes of the Digital Strategy into a detailed architectural view and ultimately, via the roadmap, into an actionable plan.
Governance

Governance group and processes put in place early to guide the development of the roadmap

Governance group made up of senior executive team members
Key Elements for Success

★ Ensure it is a business led strategy not an IT led strategy

★ Strong, clear and visible executive support and ownership

★ Identify areas that would provide early business benefit

★ Appropriate prioritisation of projects aligned with the University’s Strategy

★ Ensure the timeframes and investment are ‘realistic’
Key Elements for Success

★ A focus on strong disciplined program management

★ Bundle changes to a single application into a single project

★ Harness existing momentum

★ Recognise the dependencies between projects

★ Socialise widely and early the Digital Vision, Strategy and Roadmap
Key Elements for Success

Be clear about the benefits to the University and its Stakeholders
Questions?