

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Professor Darius Pfitzner Joins Australian Institute of Business as Academic Dean**

Adelaide, South Australia (24<sup>th</sup> of June 2024) - The Australian Institute of Business (AIB) is delighted to announce the appointment of Professor Darius Pfitzner as the new Academic Dean. With an invaluable blend of academic leadership, real-world business experience, and robust teaching and research in Business and IT, Professor Pfitzner's arrival marks an exciting new chapter for the institution.

Professor Pfitzner has observed AIB's growth and development for over a decade. "I have been aware of AIB for around ten years, watching it nimbly and expertly respond to student needs and the regulatory environment," said Professor Pfitzner. "The capabilities of AIB's staff, its mature systems, and its global reputation are what motivated me, and indeed have me excited, to work with the AIB team to realise more and greater successes together."

Joining AIB from his most recent role as Associate Dean of Innovations at Charles Darwin University, Professor Darius Pfitzner brings decades of academic experience. His distinguished career includes roles such as Associate Dean of Learning & Teaching, Associate Dean of Innovations, Discipline Leader of Economics, and Discipline Leader of Information Technology. Additionally, he has served as an Academic and Project Lead for campus deployments in New South Wales and Victoria.

Professor Pfitzner's contributions to numerous academic boards, including the Australian Business Deans Council Teaching & Learning Executive, the NT Trades and Labour Council Executive, the National Tertiary Education Union Territory and National Councils, and the Small Business Association of Australia, as well as various learning and teaching committees and policy development bodies, underscore his broad expertise and commitment to educational excellence. Aligning perfectly with the AIB ethos of the practical business school, Darius brings practical business experience, having owned and managed several successful businesses over the past 30 years.

Looking forward, Professor Pfitzner is optimistic about the future of education and AIB's online, flexible programs. "Improvements in computing and the internet continue to offer new ways of learning and doing business. I am certain that AIB's capable staff and responsive systems position it to continue expanding into the global online business education market. Undoubtedly, as an elite private business education institution in Australia, AIB has a promising future delivering flexible online learning courses to business students in Australia and around the world."

AIB's CEO, Warren Hebard, expressed his enthusiasm about Professor Pfitzner's appointment. "Today marks a significant milestone for AIB as we welcome Darius. His unique experience embodies what we stand for here at AIB: the invaluable combination of education and practical, real-world experience. I am confident that AIB will continue to thrive and innovate under his guidance, delivering exceptional, accessible, and practical business education that supports our students' success."

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**About the Australian Institute of Business:** The Australian Institute of Business is a global higher education institution and Australia's largest MBA provider\*. Delivered entirely online and designed to fit around the lives of busy working people, the Australian Institute of Business' postgraduate business degrees are fully accredited in Australia, internationally recognised and industry-aligned. The Australian Institute of Business has a history of almost 40 years of excellence and a network of more than 20,000 students and graduates across 95 countries.

\*AIB is Australia's largest provider of MBAs: see Domestic Enrolments Surged During COVID, [MBA News](#) (March 2023).

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