

Professor. Ann Nicholson  
Faculty of Information Technology  
Monash Data Futures Institute  
Email: Ann.Nicholson@monash.edu



## Biography

Professor Ann E. Nicholson is Dean in the Faculty of Information Technology. Other past leadership roles including Deputy Dean (Research) 2018-2020, (Acting) Deputy Dean 2016-2017, and Associate Dean (Education) 2014-2016. After completing her BSc (Hons) and MSc in Computer Science at the University of Melbourne, in 1988 she was awarded a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford, where she did her doctorate in the Robotics Research Group. After completing a post-doc at Brown University, she returned to Australia to take up a lecturing position at Monash in 1994. Prof. Nicholson specialises in the broad area of Artificial Intelligence, a sub-discipline of computer science. She is a leading international researcher in the specialised area of Bayesian networks, now the dominant technology for probabilistic causal modelling in intelligent systems. She has published more than 100 peer reviewed papers, co-authored the well-received book "Bayesian Artificial Intelligence", and attracted more than \$8M in research funding. She has applied Bayesian Network technology to problem-solving in many domains including meteorology, epidemiology, medicine, education and environmental science. Examples include the use of BNs in biosecurity risk assessment, predicting the impact of conservation actions on threats and habitats of threatened species, fog forecasting and decision support for clinical cardiovascular risk assessment.

## Qualifications

Engineering Science, Doctor of Philosophy, University of Oxford  
Award Date: 1 Jun 1993

Computer Science, Master of Science, University of Melbourne  
Award Date: 1 Feb 1990

Computer Science, Bachelor of Science (Honours), University of Melbourne  
Award Date: 1 Feb 1987

## Activities

### Interim Dean, Faculty of IT

Ann Nicholson (Speaker)  
Jul 2020 → ...

### Honorary Secretary, Victoria Rhodes Selection Committee

Ann Nicholson (Speaker)  
2019 → 2023

### Deputy Dean (Research), Faculty of IT

Ann Nicholson (Speaker)  
Aug 2018 → Jul 2020

### Chair - Faculty Education Committee - Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University

Ann Nicholson (Chair/ Co-Chair)  
1 Jan 2016

### Associate Dean (Education) - Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University

Ann Nicholson (Fellow)  
1 Jan 2014 → 30 Jun 2016

### Associate Dean (Education), Faculty of IT

Ann Nicholson (Speaker)  
Jan 2014 → Jul 2016

**Course Director - Bachelor of Software Engineering - Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University**

Ann Nicholson (Chair/ Co-Chair)

1 Jan 2011 → 31 Dec 2013

**Monash University (External organisation)**

Ann Nicholson (Member)

1 Jan 2011 → 31 Dec 2013