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\$10 MILLION FUNDING BOOST FOR UNI RESEARCH FACILITIES

Research facilities at the University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide will be boosted by a State Government funding injection of **\$10 million over five years**.

The funding is in addition to the Federal Government's \$68.8 million Higher Education Endowment Fund (HEEF) contribution, announced in December last year.

Minister for Science and Information Technology Michael O'Brien says the money will support of two projects at the universities, which will greatly assist the defence and advanced manufacturing sectors in our state.

The Government will provide \$5 million to UniSA's Mawson Lakes campus to help establish a Materials and Minerals Science Learning and Research Hub.

The money is in addition to \$40 million in Federal Government funding.

The second project is to establish a new Institute for Photonics and Advanced Sensing (IPAS) at the University of Adelaide. The State Government is committing \$5 million to this project on top of the Commonwealth's \$28.8 million.

"The science of photonics underpins many modern defence capabilities including lasers, radar and electronic warfare systems," Mr O'Brien says

"The IPAS funding will also support bio-security, solar and optical research areas; while the research hub at UniSA will support mining and minerals processing.

Mr O'Brien says the funding is part of the State Government's commitment to the commercialisation of research and to increasing expenditure on research and development facilities.

"Establishing a hub at Mawson Lakes will expand the capabilities for the campus in minerals science and materials, an area of high relevance to the state's economic future.

"The new research hub at the University of Adelaide will overcome current accommodation constraints which are limiting its ability to further develop photonic technologies and their application in defence, national security and commercial purposes," Mr O'Brien says.