The concept to create the Learning Centre was first introduced as part of a Corporate Development Proposal dated 11 June 1992, where it was noted that "it is proposed that the university establish a teaching and communication centre, to be called simply 'The Learning Centre', modelled on the Learning Skills Centre at the Australian National University. The Centre would build on existing programs and resources and would be central to the university’s academic activity, equity commitments and international program". The Centre was to commence operations from the beginning of 1993 and was to report to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs). The first director of the Centre was Bruce Hunter, who commenced duties in May 1993 (file 931651).

When Dr Jane Morrison took up her position as Pro-Vice-Chancellor from January 1994, the Centre was moved to this section.

On 1 February 2000, the Unit was moved to the responsibility of the newly established Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education).

From 4 August 2003, this position became known as the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education & Quality Improvement). On 27 September 2006, the Centre was moved to the responsibility of the Deputy-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) (SRF-Organisation & Management).

When Professor Joan Cooper took up her position as the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Students) & Registrar on 7 May 2007, the Learning Centre was moved to this area and placed under the Student Development portfolio (SRF-Organisation & Management).

In 2010 the Director of the Learning Centre was Associate Professor Sue Starfield.