

Partnerships

Our goal is to foster mutually beneficial partnerships for research translation and commercialisation at scale, to create positive impact for our communities, the environment and economy.

How we are achieving this

In preparing to develop a new partnerships and translation strategy, we implemented a Research Partnerships Review that saw both a Community of Practice and a Pipeline of Projects and Partners through the UQ Commercialisation Action Plan established during the year. This will feed into the Research Roadmap implementation as well as the convening of a cross-organisational partnership community.

Related achievements and initiatives

- UQ signed a partnership agreement with the Queensland Government, Griffith University and global healthcare company Sanofi to establish a significant new mRNA vaccine research facility in Brisbane.
- The Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) partnered with the German Research Foundation DFG to establish the International Research Training Group for researching genetic improvements in cereal and pulse crops.
- The Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN) successfully launched Australia's first Advanced Biomanufacturing Nucleic Acid facility (BASE), a joint initiative with the National Biologics Facility and Protein Expression Facility, and supported by Therapeutics Innovation Australia.
- Global medical technology group Stryker will establish its first Australian research and development facility in Queensland, with support from the Queensland Government, UQ and QUT.
- The Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) signed a research Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Washington.
- We appointed an Executive Director (Research Partnerships) to advance research partnerships with industry.
- QAAFI's TropAg conference was held in October/November as a vehicle for collaboration and engagement.

Research community

We support the development of our research community, including professional staff and HDR students, empowering them to thrive and excel in the evolving research and innovation ecosystem.

How we are achieving this

Work began on implementing a Researcher Development Framework to empower and support diverse career pathways for academics and professional staff. This included the development of the UQ Spark - Industry Engagement Skills program for Level B and C academics.

Related achievements and initiatives

- We continued to improve the Career Development Framework.
- latest ERA assessment in 2018, we were assessed in 98 4-digit Fields of Research, with 100% rated at world standard or above. UQ was rated above world standard in more specialised fields of research than any other Australian university. Preparations did not commence on the EI assessment as the ARC announced in December that the 2024 exercise would not proceed.

Related achievements and initiatives

- 51 UQ researchers and research teams received grants (to commence in 2023) totalling \$25 million under the ARC Discovery Projects scheme, the second highest number nationally.
- Our Interdisciplinary Tobacco Endgame Research Network received a \$5 million grant under the NHMRC's Synergy scheme to help reduce smoking.
- In order to meet security obligations when working on defence-related research projects, we applied for institutional membership of the Defense Industry Security program.
- QAAFI staff completed the GRDC-funded Sorghum pre-breeding with the transfer of germplasm project to the satisfaction of commercial partners.
- The Faculty of Science continued to monitor and manage regulatory compliance with research protocols, including a review of the equine unit and closure of the piggery at UQ Gatton.
- Work continued on systems upgrades to bolster the University's research infrastructure, including rolling out the Research Infrastructure Management System 2 and preparing for the MyResearch Projects system.

We seek to enrich communities here in Queensland, and around the world. Our commitments to leading reconciliation, global development and capacity building; broadening access to education; and leveraging our research impact to strengthen the economy demonstrate just some of the ways in which we will deliver for the public good.

30% of domestic undergraduate students will come from low socio-economic or regional/ remote background enrolments ¹				
	2017	2018	2019	2020
P	-	Q	/	
Proportion of students identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander will reflect representation of people identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander in Queensland				
	2019	2020	2021 ²	2022 ²
P	I	A	/	1.3 1.4 1.5 1.4
Platinum rating in Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS)				
	2020	2021	2022	
A	1.3	1.3	1.3	

- We delivered the InspireU Program, bringing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students from across the state for a week-long camp at St Lucia.
- We grew the Young Achievers Program, which supports the tertiary study and career aspirations of senior secondary school students from disadvantaged backgrounds by engaging and mentoring them throughout their academic journey and beyond.
- We strengthened the UQ College Foundation Year program to provide a direct pathway into the University for undergraduate international students.
- We delivered a Breakfast Club webinar series to strengthen knowledge and university pathway options.
- We established a new Government Relations office within the University.
- We established a research working group to promote and support high-quality health research for rural communities, including allied health placements at Chinchilla and St George.

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The Queensland Commitment

Through our Queensland Commitment, we are broadening access to higher education, and working in partnership to address our state's priorities, including those relating to the health workforce and economic diversification.

How we are achieving this

The Queensland Commitment was officially launched in August to break down the personal, financial and geographical barriers facing students aspiring to study at UQ. The core focus of the pledge is on increasing philanthropic funding to provide sustainable, needs-based scholarships for future scholars, particularly those from regional, remote or low socio-economic backgrounds, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Other

initiatives include expanded pathway programs, extensive regional and rural outreach, and accommodation support. We aim to strengthen our engagement with core educational, health, industry and arts partners throughout the state, to deliver transformative change.

Related achievements and initiatives

- We conducted Regional Roadshows across the state to discover more ways UQ can foster the growth, health and prosperity of communities across Queensland.
- We invited alumni and the broader community to support the ambitions of The Queensland Commitment by volunteering with UQ, sharing their stories, or becoming a UQ ambassador.

Reconciliation and Indigenous excellence

Our aim is for Reconciliation to be business as usual through the successful development and implementation of our Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), and we support the continued development of Indigenous excellence as defined by Indigenous peoples, in collaboration with the broader UQ community.

How we are achieving this

With the 2019-2022 Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) successfully implemented, work began on developing the 2023-2026 Stretch RAP, further embedding

reconciliation in the day-to-day business of the University. We also established an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collections and Services team to identify and catalogue Indigenous knowledge held in the Library and to create open educational resources, as well as starting to Indigenise the curriculum.

Related achievements and initiatives

- UQ will be hosting the first ever Indigenous-led ARC Centre of Excellence – Indigenous Futures – using Indigenous knowledge to transform the life chances of Indigenous Australians and enhance understanding of the complex nature of intergenerational inequity.
- We launched *Campuses on Countries: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Design Framework* in June to incorporate Indigenous design principles for UQ's physical spaces and built environment.
- Through the Ventures Strong Spirit program, we increased the participation of female-identifying First Nations persons in UQ entrepreneurial activities.
- We grew the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholarships to 20, thanks to several high-profile sponsors.
- In September, we held the third Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and Innovation Forum, focusing on Indigenous health and wellbeing.
- Work began on implementing the AIATSIS Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and we continued to implement the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and Innovation Strategy.
- Along with cultural awareness training, QBI offered Indigenous summer scholarships and cultural experiences.
- 100% of the profit made from sales of RAP merchandise was committed to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student scholarships.
- The Faculty of Medicine increased the number of Indigenous staff members in the Faculty by 25% in 2022.
- New Indigenous health modules were

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