



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

FOR ALUMNI AND COMMUNITY SUMMER 2013

# CONTACT

## In this issue:

The spirit of sport at UQ

Best of the best: Alumni Awards 2013

Spotlight on UQ in Indonesia



# CONTACT

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#### COVER IMAGE:

Competitors in the 2012 Great Court inter-college relay (from left): Emilee Cherry (Women's College), Emily Kraut (Duchesne College), Simone Werndly (St John's College) and Kara Hoopman (Grace College).

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## LEAPS AND BOUNDS

Since UQ's earliest beginnings, sport has played an integral role in University life.



King's College during their win against St Leo's at the 2013 King's versus St Leo's rugby match.

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### + CONTACT APP



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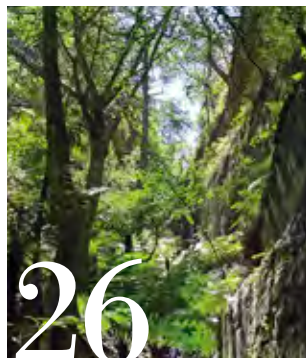


## + FEATURES



### UQ'S BEST OF THE BEST

Fifteen recipients were recognised for their achievements at the 2013 Courting the Greats alumni awards ceremony.



### CONSERVING OUR FUTURE

Professor Hugh Possingham discusses the economics of saving Australia's unique biodiversity.



### BOOK OF TREASURES

Brimming with the names of hundreds of alumni, *The Book of Student Benefactors* is a cherished University record.



### A LEARNING REVOLUTION

Having recently joined the prestigious edX consortium, UQ will begin offering Massive Open Online Courses from March 2014.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Both Ken (Taylor) and I really enjoyed the profile that appeared in the Winter 2013 issue of *Contact*. The photograph of us with the two current UQ students on page 9 was also a treat.

It seems like yesterday that we were in Australia, although we have been to Mexico, California, Cannes, Versailles, Paris and Banff since. UQ is certainly doing a wonderful job in its Global Outreach Programme. We have seen signs of it wherever we go. Congratulations!

### Dr Pat Taylor

Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours) – '54



As an evening student from 1957 to 1962 (like many teachers), I owe a debt of gratitude to Professor Keith Leopold (former head of the Department of German). The department in the 1950s was small in comparison to some; however, its academic influence far succeeded its size, thanks to the inspiring and untiring enthusiasm of its leader – and to lecturers like Dr Gunther Bonnin (Reader in German) and other colleagues.

### Doug Godwin

(Bachelor of Arts) – '63

Dr Paul Eliadis



I have just read the article "A Man of Many Passions" in *Contact* [Winter 2013]. Although my family and I won't benefit directly from his munificence in funding a Chair in Classics, I believe it is just what a "real" university needs.

I have benefited immensely from the study of literature at university and Latin at my secondary school. The advantages are not to be counted in terms of learning the meaning of prefixes or suffixes or expanding my vocabulary or teaching me the rudiments of Roman

*"Art captures the eternal in the everyday, and it is the eternal that feeds the soul – the whole world in a grain of sand."*

Thomas Moore

mythology. As Thomas Moore says in his book *Care of the Soul*, "Art captures the eternal in the everyday, and it is the eternal that feeds the soul – the whole world in a grain of sand." The world of the classics is eternal and uplifting – a far cry from choosing your vocation according to the salary posted on Seek.

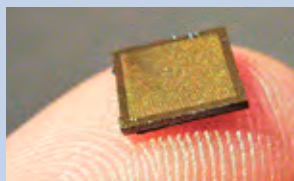
Do pass on my congratulations to the department and Dr Eliadis himself.

Pax vobiscum!

Heather Jones

As a former graduate from Gatton campus, I still receive *Contact*, and enjoy reading the achievements of alumni making a difference. I read in a recent copy of the magazine about the work being trialled by Professor Kendall with the Nanopatch in Port Moresby General Hospital [Winter 2013].

As CEO of Ok Tedi Development Foundation, we have just facilitated a large-scale primary health program in the Middle and South Fly Districts of Western Province, Papua New Guinea. One of the biggest



tasks facing us is vaccinating children and women in remote locations and I wondered if Professor Kendall's Nanopatch could be utilised?

### Ian Middleton

Associate Diploma of Applied Science (Farm Management) – '90  
[www.otdfpng.org](http://www.otdfpng.org)

**We appreciate your feedback – if you have a letter for the editor, please email the *Contact* editorial team at [contactmagazine@uq.edu.au](mailto:contactmagazine@uq.edu.au) or write to us at:**

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# SHARE YOUR STORIES



**W**hen people ask me about the most satisfying highlights in a President and Vice-Chancellor's year, it is not easy to nominate favourites.

Graduation ceremonies are hard to beat, as they are a chance to witness students crossing the threshold between academic achievement and career and personal success.

Rivalling these moments are my interactions with former students who have progressed months, years or decades down the track since graduation – whose contributions to society help validate the purpose of an excellent university such as UQ.

Many of them have recorded conspicuous professional success, but many more are quiet achievers, perhaps taking the counsel of Albert Einstein, who said words to the effect that “the value of a person resides in what they give, not in what they are capable of receiving”.

In an ideal world, UQ would put the names of hundreds, if not thousands of alumni in neon lights, because their actions not only benefit other people, they also reflect favourably on UQ.

So, more than 30 years after the University began its annual alumni awards, we have added new categories in an effort to more accurately represent the areas where our graduates use their UQ Advantage to make a difference.

As you will see from the brief biographies in this edition of *Contact*, the 15 recipients contribute to tackling issues such as childhood AIDS, cancer, youth substance abuse, Indigenous educational disadvantage, nature conservation, gender inequality and Indigenous health issues. They also enrich individual and community lives through the arts, through motivating others to lead – and much more.

Collectively, their stories are a window to our global network of 205,000-plus graduates, which includes many visionaries who create opportunities for current and future students, at the same time as they help the wider community.

As Chair of the awards selection panel, I was strongly impressed by the quality of the nominations – but I believe there are many others of similar calibre who have not yet come to our attention.

Modesty and humility are admirable qualities that some of our awardees exhibit in spades. However, it would be a shame if these same qualities prevented students and alumni from gaining new role models.

That is why I am rallying the families, friends and colleagues of UQ's humble high-achievers to resist their protests and nominate them for future accolades. The nominators might be the catalysts for others to reach higher.

I can assure you that outstanding alumni give pause for thought to people working at UQ, including senior staff. Stories of alumni impact help energise our ongoing quest for excellence. Our alumni give so much, we owe it to them to ensure that UQ's calibre reflects merit on them.

So alumni are part of UQ's achievements, and when your institution rises within the top 100 of globally ranked universities – as we have done in recent months – alumni are entitled to be proud.

No matter when you graduated, this university belongs to you, and you can have agency in delivering benefits to countless people locally, nationally and worldwide.

Thank you.

**Professor Peter Høj**  
President and Vice-Chancellor

## THE “YOU” IN UQ

**Director of Alumni and Community Relations**  
**Gina Wheatcroft discusses the importance of sharing your stories, successes and memories with UQ.**



**T**he University of Queensland prides itself on not just being at the forefront of research and teaching, but also as an institution that embraces inclusiveness.

I witnessed this first-hand during my first year at UQ; a period that was filled with joyous alumni reunions, an engaging Global Leadership Series program, the celebration of our alumni award winners, and visits by international and interstate visitors.

In addition to these events, the UQ community watched with pride as 8000 students, who now join our family of alumni, reaped the rewards of their incredible hard work at their graduation ceremonies.

Our alumni have demonstrated their willingness to interact and engage with UQ, but we would really like to know more about you, to hear your thoughts and tell others about your stories.

Are you part of a family where several generations have chosen UQ to study? Maybe your children are commencing their degrees here?

*“Do you have memories of your time at UQ during times of social upheaval or change?”*

Are you impacting the lives of people overseas, or those who are in need closer to home? Has your life, or the lives of family members or a friend, been touched by research that was undertaken at UQ?

We are not only interested in what you are doing now, but also your experiences while you were on campus.

Do you have memories of your time at UQ during times of social upheaval or change? How were you involved with clubs

and societies? If you have family members who are now studying at UQ, how is their experience different to when you were here?

In our next edition of *Contact*, we will be highlighting the effect World War I and subsequent conflicts had on UQ, its students and staff. If you have stories of your time at UQ during a time of war and conflict, please contact us.

UQ is proud of the accomplishments of our alumni and the impact they have had on communities here in Australia and around the world. Please email us at [contactmagazine@uq.edu.au](mailto:contactmagazine@uq.edu.au) with your submissions, or write to us at Alumni and Community Relations, Level 7 JD Story Building, The University of Queensland, QLD 4072.

We have an exciting program of alumni events scheduled in 2014, so please make sure your contact details are up-to-date so you can receive all the latest news. You can register your details on the alumni website at [alumni.uq.edu.au](http://alumni.uq.edu.au)

We look forward to hearing from you.

## YOUR UQ

### Your global leaders

Hundreds of alumni and community members have had the opportunity this year to learn about the latest UQ research making an impact globally at the Global Leadership Series (GLS). From improving the reach of vaccines to the developing world, to the power of sport and more recently the future of food, all events have been well attended and have received very positive feedback. For a list of upcoming GLS events, visit [alumni.uq.edu.au/global-leadership-series](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/global-leadership-series)



From left: Professor Lorraine Mazerolle, Dr Rebecca Wickes, Professor Mark Western and Dr Suzanna Ramirez from the Institute of Social Science Research with Chief Superintendent Alistair Dawson at the GLS event *Strong, resilient communities*.

### Your reunion

The first year of UQ's reunion program has been a great success, with more than 500 alumni attending over 20 class reunions to celebrate their 20 to 50-year milestones. If you are interested in organising a reunion for your graduating class, the Alumni team can help you get started. Visit [alumni.uq.edu.au/reunions](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/reunions) to find out more.



In July 2013, 31 Agricultural Science and Science (Forestry) alumni celebrated their 50-year reunion at Woodlands of Marburg and Gatton campus.

### Your alumni benefits

The value of being a part of the UQ alumni and community continues to grow on campus too, with new deals and benefits listed on the website. See [alumni.uq.edu.au/alumni-benefits](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/alumni-benefits)

# EXTEND YOURSELF.

Improve your mind, body and spirit this summer at UQ Sport.

**T**he benefits of exercise are far-reaching. Apart from the obvious effects on the body's physical state, exercise can improve mood, concentration and overall happiness.

With UQ Community rates on offer for all alumni, why not take advantage of UQ Sport's wide range of sports facilities and classes this summer? From as little as \$2 a day, you can find yourself back on campus, enjoying access to a three-level weights gym, cardio room, spin studio, pool, swim squads, tennis court hire (11am–2pm) and an Olympic-standard running track. Ipswich and Gatton campuses also offer a range of sporting facilities, including a fitness and aquatic centre, squash and tennis courts, and numerous sporting clubs.

A perfect start for anyone wanting to enjoy the rewards of a healthy lifestyle is UQ Sport's group fitness program. With more than 60 classes to choose from, there is something for every age and level of fitness. Two of the most popular classes are Vinyasa Yoga and Cardio Tennis, which offer different yet equally valuable benefits.

Vinyasa Yoga is a dynamic style of yoga that emphasises breathing and awareness, encourages detoxification, and assists in the development and maintenance of suppleness, balance, strength and relaxation. Catering for beginners through to experienced participants, Vinyasa Yoga will leave you feeling calm and revitalised.

If this sounds a little too relaxed for you, then Cardio Tennis is sure to get your blood pumping. Combining a cardio workout with the fun and excitement of playing tennis, Cardio Tennis is a fun group activity that players of all levels can enjoy.

**To find out more about what's on offer for alumni, call +61 (0)7 3365 6612, go to [uqsport.com.au/memberships](http://uqsport.com.au/memberships), or visit any of UQ Sport's venues.**



# WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS



## BATTLE AGAINST OVARIAN CANCER

**O**n Sunday, 23 February 2014, the third annual *Battle Against Ovarian Cancer* event will kick-off to raise money for gynaecological cancer research. The Queensland Centre for Gynaecological Cancer (QCGC) is a recognised centre of research within UQ's School of Medicine, dedicated to giving every woman in Queensland the best chance of surviving gynaecological cancer. This exciting beach volleyball competition, held at five-time Olympic champion Natalie Cook's Sandstorm Beach Club at Nathan, will help raise much-needed funds.

For details on how to donate or to register a team, go to [battleagainstovariancancer.org](http://battleagainstovariancancer.org)



## HANDS ON HISTORY FOR KIDS THIS SUMMER

**D**uring January 2014, the RD Milns Antiquities Museum will be running a number of children's workshops on Egyptian, Greek and Roman history as part of its *Hands on History* program. Running from Wednesday, 8 January to Friday, 17 January, the workshops will invite attendees to handle ancient objects and learn the secrets of the ancient world.

To find out more, visit [uq.edu.au/antiquities](http://uq.edu.au/antiquities)



## SELF IN A NETWORKED AGE

UQ Art Museum is playing host to two important exhibitions of contemporary art during the summer break.

With an impressive \$50,000 acquisitive prize, The University of Queensland National Artists' Self-Portrait Prize is the museum's flagship biennial exhibition. Focusing on the prevalence of the self-image in today's networked age, this year's prize *remix. post. connect.* showcases the work of 38 artists from across Australia who were invited to consider the self and how it is constructed and received in contemporary culture. Displaying artworks in a range of media that defy traditional notions of portraiture, including the winning entry by Sydney-based artist Nell, *SUMMER 2012*, the exhibition is on show until Sunday, 16 February 2014.

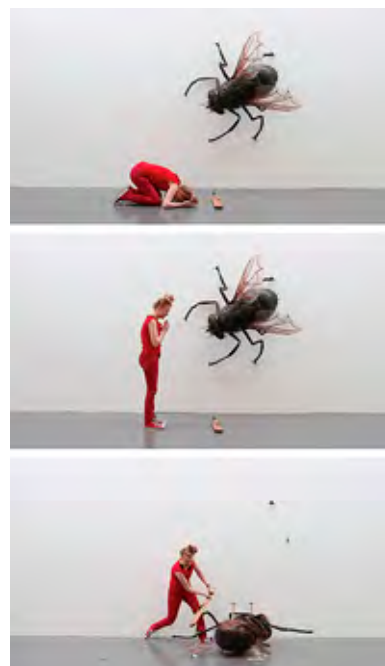
A major survey of the work of renowned contemporary artist Danie Mellor will be on display in the lower-level galleries from Saturday, 18 January 2014. Mellor works in a range of styles and media, but always

with an eye to Australia's colonial past. His Indigenous heritage informs his art, which challenges even as it beguiles.

*Danie Mellor: Exotic Lies Sacred Ties* is the first large-scale exhibition to consider Mellor's contribution to contemporary Australian art, focusing on the past decade of his career. Showing until Sunday, 27 April 2014, the exhibition will continue its tour to the TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria (10 May – 13 July 2014), and the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT), Darwin (29 August – 16 November 2014).

**The UQ Art Museum is open daily from 10am to 4pm. To find out more, visit [artmuseum.uq.edu.au](http://artmuseum.uq.edu.au)**

**Nell**  
*SUMMER (Stills) 2012*  
digital video, sound, duration 0:03:00, edition of 10  
Videography: Tina Havelock Stevens  
Sound: Ingrid Powell  
Courtesy of the artist and Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney





Sally Bledsoe  
People Partner North, NAB



Justin Golding  
Supply Chain Manager, QGC

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FEATURE



# LEAPS AND BOUNDS

# THE SPIRIT OF SPORT AT UQ

Much has changed since UQ's early days, but the passion for sport remains strong.

Since UQ's earliest beginnings, sport has played an integral role in university life. It was a key consideration when deciding where the University's main campus would be located, with the *Daily Mail* newspaper reporting that, "there is much to recommend the proposed site of St Lucia... its spacious grass swards, so suitable for sports of all kinds, its broad flowing river, so much better adapted for boating..."

Even before the St Lucia site was purchased in 1926 thanks to a significant donation from Dr James O'Neil Mayne and his sister Mary, sport was a priority for both staff and students.

UQ welcomed its first students in 1911 and it was around this time that the first clubs for rugby union, tennis, cricket, athletics, rowing, boxing and women's hockey were formed; sports that are still thriving more than 100 years later, along with newer activities such as beach volleyball, rock climbing and handball.

While much has changed since those early days, the passion for sport that helped shape the University's culture and spirit remains strong, thanks in part to the long history of sporting rivalry between the University's faculties and residential colleges.

UQ Sport CEO Bryan Pryde said sport was a key part of the university experience.

"Everyone knows the University's reputation for academic success, and another part of UQ is sport," he said.

"Students don't leave university and talk about a particular lecture or an assignment they wrote; what they remember are those extra-curricular moments.

"It rounds out the university experience."

## LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

The University's commitment to sport was evident from the start, with the Sports Union established shortly after the first students commenced classes. The University's first Chancellor, Sir William MacGregor, was appointed the Sports Union's first patron, and Vice-Chancellor Reginald Heber Roe its first president.

Back then, the University was based in the former Governor's residence, Old Government House, and one of the key challenges for the Sports Union was finding suitable places to practise. With no dedicated facilities, football players were forced to play on the uneven surface of the Domain (now part of the City Botanic Gardens) and use an old pigeon loft covered in hessian as their dressing shed.

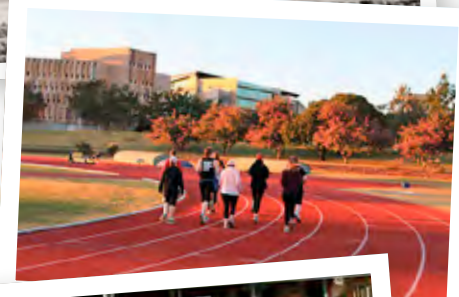
The site for St Lucia campus was purchased in 1926, but it wasn't until 1937, after the Depression, that construction of the sporting fields and buildings began, with classes commencing at St Lucia in 1949.

The Sports Union had a long list of requests for the new campus, including four hockey fields, two football fields, 50 tennis courts, and a sports oval with a football field, running track, grandstand and parking space.

Excavation commenced in 1937, and Oval 1 (now named the Wep Harris Oval) was the first playing field established at St Lucia campus, followed by Ovals 2 and 3. However, World War II severely curtailed both development and sporting activities, with most competitions suspended from 1942 to 1946.

The first clubhouse built at St Lucia was the Tennis Club in 1956 which, according to current club Honorary Secretary Dr Doug Bergman, was largely due to the advocacy of former Brisbane Lord Mayor Clem Jones AO, the UQ Tennis Club President at the time.

This clubhouse, together with the Rugby Club completed in 1978 and Cricket Club established in 2002, remain key fixtures at St Lucia campus today.



Clockwise from top: The University of Queensland Intersvarsity Boat Race Crew in 1920 in Melbourne; softball players at St Lucia campus in 1962; construction of the sporting ovals at St Lucia campus in 1937; the St Lucia running track and Tennis Club today; and players from The University of Queensland and Queensland Combined School football clubs in 1917 at the Domain, now part of the City Botanic Gardens. Images courtesy of the Fryer Library and The University of Queensland Archives.

Opposite page: UQ Athletics Club alumnus, UQ Blue and UQ Sport Life Member Tony Booth OAM (on the right) winning the Queensland 100-Yards Championship in 1949 ahead of Brian Butterfield.

# A UNIVERSITY OF CHAMPIONS

**A**long with an early investment in sporting grounds and facilities, UQ has a long history of recognising sporting excellence.

The first UQ Blues Awards were awarded in 1912, continuing the tradition that began in the 1800s during the intervarsity challenges between Oxford and Cambridge universities. Today, UQ continues to award Blues for outstanding sporting achievement at the annual UQ Blues Awards Dinner.

The University also presents awards for the most outstanding Sportsman and Sportswoman at the UQ Sport Club and Sports Award Dinner. In 2013, these were awarded to Bianca Hammett for her contribution to synchronised swimming as part of the 2012 Olympic team, and to James Hanson for his outstanding season with the UQ Rugby Club, Queensland Reds and Australian Wallabies.

Many well-known sports stars have studied at UQ, including Dr David Theile OAM, Kieren Perkins, Susie O'Neill and Melanie Schlanger (swimming); Natalie Cook

James Hanson and Bianca Hammett were named Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year at the 2013 UQ Sport Club and Sports Award Dinner.

(beach volleyball); and John Eales AM and James Horwill (Rugby Union Wallabies captains).

Perhaps even more impressive is that since the University began, almost 100 students and alumni have competed in the Olympics or Paralympics, beginning with silver swimming medalist Nancy Welsh (Lyons) in

London in 1948. This number is sure to rise in future, as UQ continues to support elite athletes through its sporting scholarships program (see page 15).



## A PLACE TO MEET

**A**lumnus Joe Clouston (Bachelor of Commerce '76) started swimming at the David Theile pool when it first opened at St Lucia campus in 1972. Forty years on, he still swims there.

"In the 70s, it was free to go to the pool, like most things back then," Clouston (pictured above) said.

"There were eight lanes [now nine], no lane ropes, and the pool wasn't heated."

Today, the only element that remains of the old pool is the shell, after a \$6.5 million rebuild following the Brisbane flood in 2011.

The rebuild included shady shelter areas, new change rooms, a café overlooking the

pool, a retail area and new water filtration to ensure peak water quality.

What hasn't changed is the community atmosphere of the pool. Clouston recalls the time his son Bobby at age seven saw Olympian Kieren Perkins at the pool and said to him, "excuse me Mr Perkins, but this is my lane".

"Everyone's family here and that's the way it's always been," Clouston said.

Over the years, a number of Olympic athletes have swum at the pool, including Hayley Lewis, Julie McDonald and alumni Kieren Perkins, Susie O'Neill and Melanie Schlanger. The pool was named after the University's first Olympic gold medalist, Dr David Theile OAM.

Theile (Snr) won two consecutive Olympic gold medals at the 1956 Melbourne and 1960 Rome Olympics for 100-metres backstroke.

After his success in Rome, he returned to the University to finish his medical degree in 1962.

Theile went on to become a highly successful surgeon and was District Chief Executive Officer of the Brisbane Metro South Health Service District, which incorporates Princess Alexandra Hospital, until he retired in 2012.

He is currently Chairman of Diamantina Health Partners, an academic health science centre in Queensland.



# SPORT TODAY

**I**n contrast to the early days of the University, today's students, staff and alumni are spoilt for choice.

The 114-hectare St Lucia campus features many world-class sporting facilities, including an athletic centre, 21 tennis courts, 10 sporting fields, a modern aquatic centre with an Olympic-length pool, a three-level gymnasium and the multi-purpose indoor UQ Centre.

St Lucia campus also hosts the UQ Sport Academy, Queensland's leading provider of strength and conditioning services and coach and athlete education programs. The academy provides strength and conditioning to many Queensland sporting organisations, clubs and schools, and works with individual athletes to help them reach their full athletic potential.

Those based at Gatton and Ipswich campuses also have access to modern sporting facilities, including an indoor sports hall, gymnasium, tennis and squash courts. A recent addition to the Gatton campus is the state-of-the-art, \$4.1 million Fitness and Aquatic Centre, which features a 25-metre year-round heated pool.

Many of these facilities have been supported by the generosity of UQ's donors, who have also contributed to sporting scholarships and various club activities.

Staff and students are not the only beneficiaries of these facilities, with alumni also eligible for UQ Sport discounts.

What hasn't changed since those early days is students' enthusiasm and love of sport, with UQ one of the top three universities in the country in terms of student participation in club, college or social sports.

And, with more than 30 sporting clubs, 60 fitness classes a week, short courses, social sports and inter-varsity competitions, including the popular University Games, there is certainly plenty to choose from.

**To find out more about UQ Sport's wide range of programs and facilities, visit [uqsport.com.au](http://uqsport.com.au)**

Contact acknowledges Ian Jobling and Rhonda Bushby's 1982 publication *Seventy Years of Sport at Queensland University*, which provided much of the content for this article.

Capoeira (a Brazilian martial art) is just one of many activities on offer at UQ Sport.



# INTER-COLLEGE RIVALRY REIGNS

College sport has a long and rich history dating back as far as 1914, three years after teaching began at the University.

The first competitions were between the earliest residential colleges, with King's College first to win football, athletics and rifle shooting, and St John's College victors in cricket and tennis.

Since then, the strong traditions and fierce rivalry amongst current and past college residents have continued.

Each year, the 10 colleges compete at the prestigious annual rowing regatta, with the winning colleges proudly hanging their competitors' oars in their respective residences.

In 2013, King's College won the men's regatta, while Women's College won the

women's regatta for the third year in a row.

Other inter-college challenges include the King's–St Leo's rugby match, King's–St John's basketball game, hockey and the annual swimming carnival.

Points are scored at each sporting event, with the overall top men's college winning the Perpetual Men's Old Collegian's Cup (currently King's), and the overall women's college winning the Inter-College Competition Sport Shield (currently Women's College).

UQ Sport Director and Vice-Chairman Richard Powell, who competed in two Olympics as a rower, described the



The King's College team who won the first University inter-college football competition in 1913. Image courtesy of the Fryer Library.

atmosphere of the inter-college matches and regattas as "amazing".

"It's not unusual for up to 5000 people to come to the annual King's versus St Leo's rugby match," Powell said.

"Since there are around 2500 students currently residing at the colleges, it shows the swell of support from the college alumni community.

"Every year the traditions become stronger, deeper."

Another event steeped in tradition is the Great Court Race inter-college relay, with

Women's College and King's College the current reigning champions.

The Great Court Race is one of the University's proudest traditions. The 636-metre lap of the Great Court was first run in 1984 to celebrate UQ's 75th anniversary, and is based on the historic Cambridge race, as depicted in the film *Chariots of Fire*.

**app** • Download the UQ Contact app to find out more about the history of the Great Court Race.



Women's College hockey team (date unknown). Image courtesy of the Fryer Library.



St John's College rowing team in 1936. Image courtesy of the Fryer Library.



The Great Court Race is one of UQ's proudest traditions and will celebrate its 30th anniversary next year.

# SUPPORTING SPORTING SUCCESS



**T**hird-year Exercise and Sports Science student Brenden Hall (pictured right) has more than just study on his mind.

He is one of 70 UQ students training and competing as an elite athlete.

Winning two gold medals and one bronze medal at the 2012 Paralympics for freestyle swimming, Hall also holds world records in 400-metres, 800-metres and 1500-metres freestyle in the S9 disability classification.

On top of study, Hall trains for an average of four to six hours every day. He said he appreciates the support he gets from UQ to balance his studies with the demands of elite-level sport.

"I'm currently a Clem Jones Sporting Scholarship holder and the scholarship not only helps me financially, but academically as well," he said.

The Clem Jones Sporting Scholarships, valued at \$6000 each, are generously funded by the Clem Jones Foundation.

UQ has amongst the highest number of sporting scholarship recipients and total available funds in Australia. As well as 10 Clem Jones Sporting Scholarships,

UQ Sport offers 28 Sports Achievement Scholarships, also valued at \$6000 each, which are generously funded by Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc., Saint Lucy Caffé e Cucina, The University of Queensland Rugby Club, The University of Queensland Australian Football Club, The University of Queensland Hockey Club and UQ Sport.

Scholarship holders receive financial assistance and academic support, including flexibility with assessment when they have sporting commitments.

As an Elite Athlete Friendly University endorsed by both the Australian Institute of Sport and Queensland Academy of Sport, UQ has also provided academic, nutritional and motivational support to many world-class athletes, including Wallabies, numerous national cricketers and multiple Olympians.

**For details on how you can contribute to the UQ Sporting Scholarship Program, visit [uqsport.com.au/scholarships](http://uqsport.com.au/scholarships)**

**app • Download the UQ Contact app to view a list of world-class athletes who have studied at UQ.**



# THE SCIENCE OF SPORT

From junior sport to elite athletics, UQ researchers are at the forefront of national research projects to improve Australia's sports programs and performance.

## IMPROVING JUNIOR SPORT

Researchers from the School of Human Movement Studies have delivered vital research findings and recommendations to the Australian Sports Commission's Junior Sport Framework, which assists sporting organisations to develop positive sporting experiences for young people.

Dr Steven Rynne said research had shown that adults' influence was a critical component in the success of junior sport.

"We've found that it's not only the sporting clubs that influence junior sport, but every adult that's involved, including parents," he said.

"Getting all adults on board is really

important, because junior sport can do more harm than good if it's not planned correctly."

Rynne said another issue addressed was the confusion between junior and performance sport.

"Winning at a junior level does not necessarily translate to winning at a senior level. Children do best when they participate in a variety of different sports, rather than specialising too early into specific positions or sports."

The research recommendations also focused on ways to reduce the costs of junior sport, which Rynne said was more of a barrier to participation than ever before.



## HARNESSING LEG POWER

Optimising leg power in elite athletes is the aim of a new three-year research study being conducted by UQ's biomechanics research group in partnership with the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

Leg power refers to the explosive strength needed by athletes to perform fast, forceful movements in performance sports that generally require high amounts of energy (e.g. rowing, cycling, swimming).

Lead investigator Professor Andrew Cresswell said little scientific research had been done on the variables that optimise leg power in athletes.

"While various coaches have their own 'hunches', we still don't know the precise

scientific recipe to optimise leg power, particularly on an individual and sport-specific level," he said.

"What we're aiming for are legs that can produce more power and without injury."

Cresswell said the first stage of the study would seek to understand leg power more generally, while the second stage would look at the leg power required for specific sports and by athletes of different shapes and sizes.

In addition to Cresswell, the research team includes Dr Glen Lichtwark, Dr Dominic Farris and Scott Brennan from UQ, and Dr Nick Brown from AIS.

## SWELL TIMES FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH

Surfing, an iconic sport loved by many Australians, played a key role in a recent research project that looked at the impact of sport on Indigenous youth.

The research, a joint venture between the School of Human Movement Studies, the Australian Sports Commission and the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation, was conducted at various coastal regions across Australia, with support from Surfing Australia. Principal investigator Dr Steven Rynne said the research had found that surfing had a strong alignment with Indigenous culture and provided many positive benefits.

"Surfing, and sport in general, has the capacity to bring people together," he said.

"It helps Indigenous participants connect with land and culture, and also to their

community and their peers.

"This is especially important for youth who feel isolated and disconnected from others."

However, Rynne said the research also found that sport was not a cure for all social problems, and that positive effects took time to be revealed.

"Sport can do some amazing things but it doesn't do them automatically. It needs careful planning and the involvement of some good people to make it happen," he said.

Rynne said the findings from the project were wide-ranging and would benefit not only surfing but also other Indigenous sporting programs.

**To find out more about UQ's sport research, visit [hms.uq.edu.au](http://hms.uq.edu.au)**





# LEARNINGS FROM A LEGEND

Success can be judged in many ways, but it would be hard to argue that alumnus and Australian rugby legend John Eales AM doesn't belong at the top of its list.

**H**eld in the highest esteem not only for his countless achievements on the sporting field but also in business boardrooms and within the community, John Eales AM is an example of how the qualities of toughness, leadership and modesty are not mutually exclusive.

After graduating from UQ with a Bachelor of Arts with a double major in Psychology in 1991 (where he represented the University in cricket), Eales became a household name when he broke into the Australian Wallabies rugby union side the same year.

A Rugby World Cup winner in 1991 and 1999, Eales represented his country in 86 tests, including 55 as captain. Other achievements included three Bledisloe Cups, two Tri-Nations, and a British and Irish Lions series victory.

As testament to his success, Eales was made a Member of the Order of Australia for services to the community and rugby in 1999, inducted into the Australian Institute of Sport's "Best of the Best" in 2001 and into the International Rugby Board Hall of Fame in 2007.

Success has also stayed with Eales in the business world. He is currently a board member for Australian Rugby Union and Flight Centre, a consultant to Westpac, and in May 2013 joined the Thiess Advisory Board.

He is also the author of two books titled *Learning from Legends* – one focusing on business and the other on sport – and writes for *The Australian Financial Review*.

Eales spoke with *Contact* about his time at UQ and how sport helped him develop the qualities he needed to succeed.

**Your achievements both on and off the field are impressive. How has your experience playing sport helped you in your career?**

I could not begin to count the different ways sport has helped me in my life, and I am not just talking about the elite level. Some of my best friends and closest business contacts to

this day are people who I played with at the club level, and there is a great affinity you feel when you see them, even after a long absence.

**Why is university sport so special?**

A sports club is a platform that promotes equality. It does not matter whether you are the star international player or the part-timer who competes in fifth grade, there is the sense that everyone belongs. University sport is exactly like that, and that is one of the most exciting things about participating.

*“If you are physically fit, healthy and active, then it is going to give you enhanced results elsewhere in your life, including your studies.”*

**What impact do you think sport has on a student academically?**

If you are physically fit, healthy and active, then it is going to give you enhanced results elsewhere in your life, including your studies. Being part of sports and the wider UQ community helps to build a person's feeling of self-worth. I know from my own experience that when I feel better about myself, I perform better in many other areas of my life.

Succeeding at university takes a different type of discipline than what a student needed at school. A lot more responsibility is put on a tertiary student's shoulders in terms of being responsible for their own actions, attending lectures and getting assessment in on time. Sport teaches you some of those disciplines.

**Do you think participating in university sport leads to better engagement with the uni?**

When a student first gets to university, it is often the first time in their life that they are truly making decisions for themselves and carving out their own pathway. When they choose to participate in university sports and clubs, they are making that decision based on their own wants and goals, rather than those of their parents. That is a significant moment in someone's life.

When you make the decision to be part of that team, then you are also making the choice to be an active part of the larger university community.

**Do you feel closer to UQ because you played sport here?**

Definitely. Because of the people you interacted with on a regular basis, the bonds you shared, and everyone you met by being involved in the wider university community, you definitely feel closer.

**Can university sports play a larger role in the overall sporting landscape in Australia?**

University sport is an under-utilised asset in Australia, there is no doubt about that. I think there is a real opportunity to develop varsity sports again, and the evidence of what can be achieved is seen in what former South African rugby captain Francois Pienaar achieved with that nation's Varsity Cup. The Varsity Cup is so successful in getting people involved and as a breeding ground for the code that they are expanding it to include some Olympic sports.

I think it comes down to understanding how varsity sports can fit into current structures, but also in how creative they can be in providing alternative pathways through to high performance.

**What are your thoughts about university sport in Australia? Email us at [contactmagazine@uq.edu.au](mailto:contactmagazine@uq.edu.au)**

# TRANSLATING SUCCESS

**With an exciting pipeline of licences and start-ups, UQ's main commercialisation company, UniQuest, has tremendous potential for even greater global impact.**

**By Dr Dean Moss, CEO of UniQuest Pty Limited**

**T**here is debate within governments and the community on how to create the optimum environment for stimulating entrepreneurship and innovation, and the role of universities in that environment. While we may not be able to isolate the precise formula for success, when it happens, success can be pretty spectacular.

People usually look to the United States for examples of how universities can be

successfully involved in entrepreneurship and innovation. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) story is one such success story. MIT is responsible for creating 20 to 30 new companies annually, and its alumni are credited with creating 900 new businesses a year. As at 2009, the net result of this economic activity was 25,800 companies founded by MIT alumni. This equated to 3.3 million staff and annual world sales of US\$2 trillion, making it the world's 11th largest economy (Kauffman Foundation Study 2009).

While we can't point to that level of success (yet), I believe UQ is ahead of the curve in entrepreneurship, innovation and commercialisation, with a tremendous track record of commercialising its research outcomes through UniQuest, its main commercialisation office. Over the past 10 years, UniQuest has spun out more than 70 technologies within companies, and has successfully licensed some of the most significant technologies created within Australian universities. The net result for UQ has been to create global impact from research outcomes and create social and economic benefits on a much greater scale than any other Australian university.

The global impact of the Gardasil vaccine is astounding in its effect on controlling disease associated with human papillomavirus infection. The associated reduction in cost burden of disease is a multiple of the original investment in research that Professor Ian Frazer and the late Dr Jian Zhou pioneered, and which Frazer continues today. Likewise, the successful commercialisation of the Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) system developed by Professor Matt Sanders and his colleagues at UQ's Parent and Family Support Centre has had a profound effect on parenting skills globally. The program has been translated into 20 languages and is now available in more than 20 countries.

Other opportunities in the commercialisation pipeline are also set to make a profound impact on human health and wellbeing. The Nanopatch, developed by Professor Mark Kendall and his team at the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, and commercialised through UniQuest start-up company Vaxxas Pty Ltd, is

set to revolutionise vaccine delivery, while QRx Pharma Limited and Spinifex Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd, both UniQuest start-ups, are developing treatments for neuropathic and inflammatory pain based on the world-class research of Professor Maree Smith from the School of Pharmacy.

Joining this stable of commercial opportunities addressing significant unmet medical needs is Professor Ranjeny Thomas from UQ's Diamantina Institute (pictured right), who is the driving force behind another UniQuest start-up company, Dendright Pty Ltd. Dendright recently signed a research and development collaboration and option-to-license agreement with US-based Janssen Biotech, Inc. to develop and commercialise Dendright's innovative immunotherapy for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.

These commercialisation case studies and others have helped foster a UQ culture that values intellectual property protection and promotes the key role researchers themselves play in determining its successful exploitation. Researchers such as Frazer and Sanders have become role models to numerous aspiring innovators around them.

The world is now more connected and companies no longer expect to thrive through innovation if they don't look outside their organisational boundaries. This has led to more companies partnering with other organisations, including universities, to expand their research and development programs. To take greater advantage of this opportunity, UQ and UniQuest are now more closely aligned to engage with industry.

UniQuest is also engaging directly with entrepreneurs. We are working more closely with the UQ Business School by actively involving students and staff in project-based commercialisation activities. A natural extension of this is the activities of ilab, the Queensland Government technology incubator now run by UQ through UniQuest. ilab is reaching out to innovators and entrepreneurs and providing mentorship and disciplined thinking to help get their "twinkle in the eye" of an idea a step closer to market.

There is much that alumni can do to help UQ and UniQuest in our mission of fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. You may

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



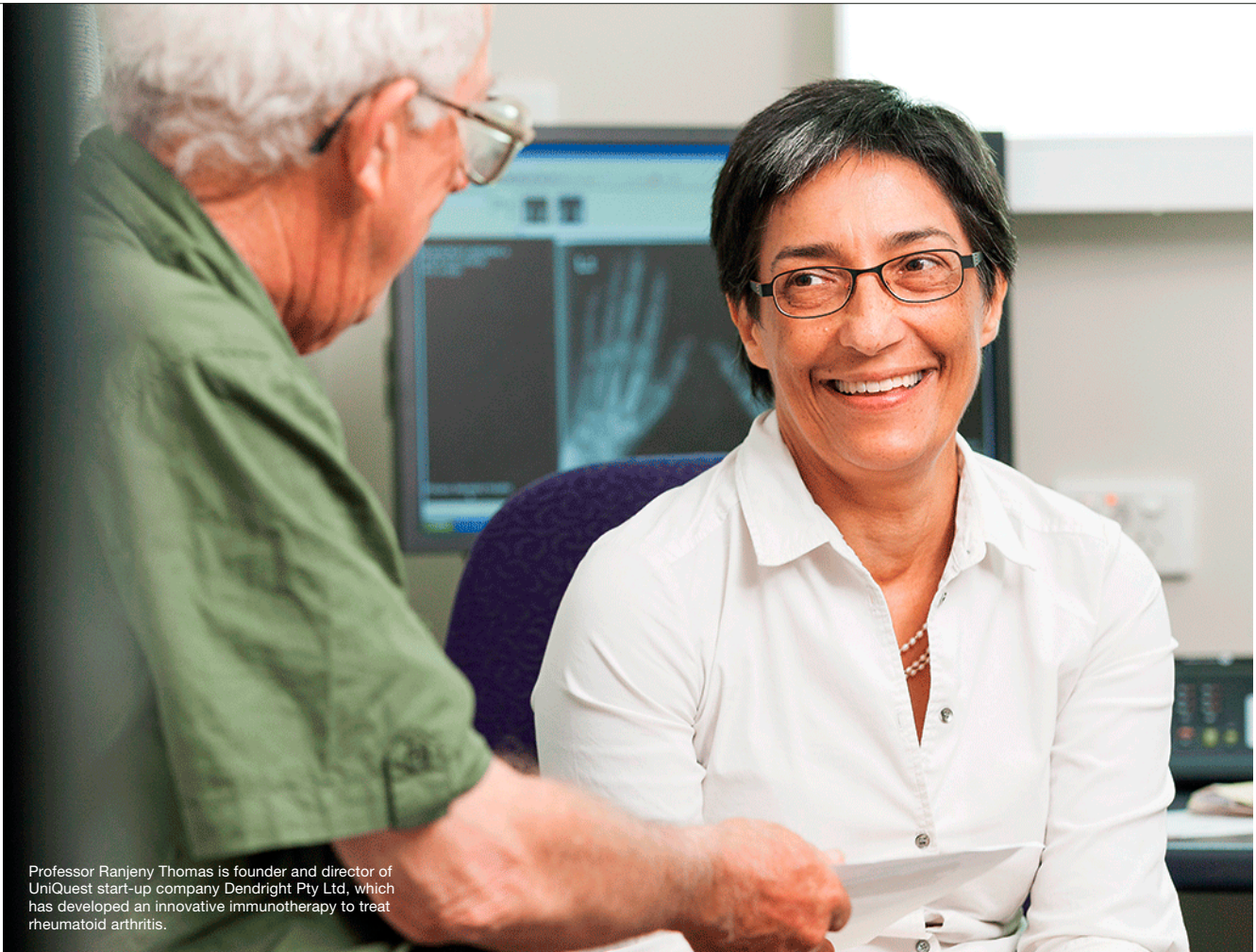
As the recently appointed CEO of UQ's main research commercialisation company, UniQuest, Dr Dean Moss (PhD '94) is responsible for the strategic and operational management of the commercialisation of expertise and

intellectual property originating from UQ.

With 30 years' experience in science, universities, business, management and commercialisation in Australia, the USA and UK, Moss has been Managing Director or a senior manager in a number of health and biotech companies worldwide, including Agen Biomedical, Binax, Launch Diagnostics, AMRAD Corporation, United Drug, and his own successful start-up business in the UK, York Medical Technologies.

He has also been a member of the Investment Committees of Uniseed, the Medical Research Commercialisation Fund and KiwiNet, New Zealand's pre-seed accelerator fund, and has assisted in raising over \$100 million of venture investment.

**For more information about UniQuest, visit [uniquet.com.au](http://uniquet.com.au)**



Professor Ranjeny Thomas is founder and director of UniQuest start-up company Dendright Pty Ltd, which has developed an innovative immunotherapy to treat rheumatoid arthritis.

have business contacts and networks that could engage with UQ. Some of you may have started businesses of your own, and we would love to hear about your success, as well as your possible interest in being business

mentors for our aspiring entrepreneurs.

Innovation, entrepreneurship and commercialisation are about connections, and we welcome the involvement of you, the UQ alumni, in our network.

**app** • Download the UQ Contact app to find out more about the successful Triple P program.

# GROWING IDEAS

**Initiated and funded by the Queensland Government, and now a division of UniQuest, ilab supports early-stage, high-tech companies through the first few years of development.**

**S**ince its inception, ilab has incubated more than 120 start-up companies and helped them raise over \$70 million in grant and investment capital to fund their growth.

ilab Entrepreneur-in-Residence Mark Bathie (Bachelor of Information Technology '99), who founded tech start-ups CVSDude and freegler.com, draws on his own experience as an entrepreneur to



Mark Bathie

help those in the program bring their ideas to life.

"As someone who has gone through the experience of building a new enterprise, I know how hard it is without support," Bathie said.

"ilab and UQ are providing an invaluable environment which allows aspiring entrepreneurs to test their ideas with the guidance of the ilab team, mentors and advisors.

"I'm excited to be involved and really enjoy watching the participants grow and learn."

**To find out more, visit [ilabaccelerator.com](http://ilabaccelerator.com)**



# UQ'S BEST OF THE BEST

## ALUMNI AWARDS 2013

**Fifteen alumni were recognised for a diversity of achievements at the 2013 Courting the Greats alumni awards ceremony held at Customs House in October.**

**C**elebrating accomplishments in professional leadership, community service and academic excellence, this year's award recipients represent a range of disciplines including the arts, science and medicine, commerce, philanthropy, engineering, social justice and academia (see a full list of 2013 award recipients overleaf).

Presented since 1992, the alumni awards were updated and expanded this year to more comprehensively reflect the range of alumni achievements and the positive impact they are making in Australia and throughout the world.

"Increasing interactions with alumni are improving the University's awareness of the expanding range of areas where our graduates have a positive influence," President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Høj said.

"These awards showcase and celebrate the impact of our alumni around the world, and we felt we needed to recognise that more broadly."

The broadened awards include the new *Vice-Chancellor's Alumni Excellence Awards* and *Indigenous Community Impact Award*, as well as the established *International Alumnus of the Year* and *Distinguished Young Alumni Awards*. Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc. also presented their awards – *Alumnus of the Year* and *Graduate(s) of the Year*.

The 10 recipients selected by UQ were nominated and endorsed by their peers, and selected by an awards committee headed by the President and Vice-Chancellor.

"We had a strong pool of nominees from our community of 205,000 alumni, so to narrow it down to just 10 was difficult. I am not complaining, because reading all the nominations did provide a welcome opportunity to explore the varied achievements of our alumni and to learn more about them," Professor Høj said.

The annual alumni awards are an important part of the University calendar, giving UQ an opportunity not only to salute the greats, but also to celebrate the many thousands of alumni who collectively make UQ great.

They also serve as inspiration for current and future students, showing what can be achieved with a UQ degree, personal dedication and support from the global alumni network.

**Nominations for the 2014 Alumni Awards are now open. To nominate a UQ alumnus, please complete the nomination form enclosed or visit [alumni.uq.edu.au/uq-alumni-awards](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/uq-alumni-awards)**

**To see a list of current and past alumni award winners, visit [alumni.uq.edu.au/uq-alumni-awards](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/uq-alumni-awards)**

**app • Download the UQ Contact app to view images from the awards ceremony.**

## VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ALUMNI EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Recognising the significant contributions made by alumni in their local communities and beyond.

### Professor Adèle Green AC

Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery '76; PhD in Social & Preventative Medicine '84

Professor Adèle Green AC has made significant contributions nationally and internationally throughout her 25 years of cancer research, dedicating herself to understanding the preventable causes of cancer and educating the public on how to control and prevent them. She has inspired and mentored many students through her melanoma research, and as a senior scientist and former Deputy Director at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR). Currently serving as Head of the Cancer and Population Studies Group at QIMR, her work focuses on the impact of environmental factors on melanoma and genetic factors in the development of the disease.



*“One of the greatest rewards of public health research is being able to ask big-picture questions about some of the major chronic diseases in our country.”*

### Ms Kathy Fagg

Bachelor of Chemical Engineering (Honours) '82

Kathy Fagg has held senior leadership roles across a diversity of Australian business sectors including banking, engineering and logistics. Since the beginning of her professional career, she has been active in encouraging women to technical and leadership positions, and has used her professional skills to advocate for change and improvement in the business world and the wider community. Fagg is currently a member of the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia and chairs the Melbourne Recital Centre. She is also on the Council of Chief Executive Women, the Business Advisory Council of World Vision and the Victorian Development Board of The Hunger Project (Vic).



*“I think many engineers are builders at heart. In my case, I enjoy working with people and organisations, not just things.”*

### Mr Robert Andrew Creeth Brice AM

Bachelor of Commerce '65

Andrew Brice AM is the co-founder of the online travel booking service Wotif.com. He is also the co-founder of the endowment fund UQef, which supports scholarship and research programs including the Young Achievers Program, the Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research and the Frank Finn Scholarships for Business School students. As a scholarship recipient in his early academic career, Brice feels deeply about investing in the next generation and giving young people the opportunity to make the most of their talents.



*“Individuals make things happen, and all should be given that opportunity.”*

Andrew Brice AM was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in 2011 by The University of Queensland.

### Mr Graeme Wood AM

Bachelor of Economics '72; Master of Information Systems '98

Graeme Wood AM co-founded groundbreaking online travel booking service Wotif.com in 1999, and its success has allowed him to give back to the community in a number of ways. These have included co-founding the endowment fund UQef; establishing Wild Mob, which helps protect Australia's most threatened species and ecosystems; and establishing Artology, which supports youth development and social change through the arts. Wood's philanthropic support also helped establish UQ's Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research and the recently opened Global Change Institute Living Building, a world leader in sustainable design, construction and operation.



*“The biggest difference I can make is encouraging, coercing and convincing people to challenge the status quo.”*

Graeme Wood AM was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in 2011 by The University of Queensland.

## DISTINGUISHED YOUNG ALUMNI AWARDS

Recognising young alumni (35 years or younger) whose early accomplishments inspire and provide leadership to students and all alumni.

### Dr Chelsea Bond

Bachelor of Applied Health Science (Honours) '01;  
PhD in Population Health '07

*"I'm motivated by an agenda of bringing Indigenous voices, knowledges and experiences to our understanding of health and health improvement."*

Dr Chelsea Bond has worked within community, government and university organisations to improve Indigenous health in urban and rural communities across South-East Queensland.



Bond is a respected member of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in Inala and holds a number of leadership roles through her work and in her community.

### Ms Lizzie Brown

Bachelor of Environmental Engineering '02

*"Humanitarian engineering is becoming a truly global movement and education of the next generation of engineers is key."*

Lizzie Brown is the CEO of Engineers Without Borders (EWB), a not-for-profit organisation with 10 years experience creating systemic change through humanitarian engineering. Her leadership and passion has inspired a movement of members,



volunteers and engineering companies to strive to create change in areas such as clean water, sanitation, energy and engineering education across seven countries.

### Ms Julie McKay

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Business Management '04

*"I am inspired by women who, despite facing poverty, violence and lack of access to opportunities, continue to want to play an active role in making our societies stronger for future generations."*

Julie McKay is the Executive Director of United Nations Women Australia, working to promote women's rights, economic security and political participation. With experience in both corporate and non-



government organisation sectors, McKay works to support positive partnerships between the community, private sector and government to tackle the complex issues surrounding gender inequality.

### Mr Tim Munro

Bachelor of Music '99

*"My life is interval training for music: crazed, diverse activities separated by just enough rest to barely catch my breath!"*

Two-time Grammy Award winner Tim Munro is currently travelling the world as flautist in the Chicago-based sextet eighth blackbird, performing at major venues in North America, Europe and the Asia Pacific and receiving international recognition as one of the foremost ensembles in the world



today. Munro also finds time to teach and mentor upcoming musicians and is in high demand as an experienced writer and speaker on music.

## INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

Recognising an alumnus whose outstanding contribution to Australian Indigenous communities has improved outcomes for Australian Indigenous people and contributes to reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

### Mr Kev Carmody

Graduate Diploma in Education '81

*"We exist in a symphony of sounds, and all music and lyrics essentially come from a non-written oral tradition."*

Kev Carmody is an Aboriginal singer-songwriter who has achieved great musical success during his career. His much-loved song *From Little Things Big Things Grow* was released with co-writer Paul Kelly in 1993, and he was inducted into the Australian

recording industry Hall of Fame in 2009. Carmody is also a respected advocate of the tradition of rural, oral storytelling and history, and is widely recognised not only as a tireless performer but also as one of Australia's leading Indigenous voices.



## INTERNATIONAL ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Recognising and honouring the outstanding achievements of an international alumnus who has realised distinction in their chosen field and whose accomplishments enhance the prestige of the University.

### Dr Ana Charles

Master of Public Health '05

*"I help others to pursue their dreams regardless of age, gender or professional pathway. This is part of the skill I gained while studying at UQ: to think broadly yet act locally."*

Dr Ana Charles is the Provincial Coordinator of the Ariel Foundation in Mozambique, which works to increase and support countries to expand HIV programs and empower local partners. She was formerly coordinator of the Elisabeth Glaser Paediatric AIDS Foundation, which works to eliminate paediatric AIDS by providing education, care and treatment for people living with AIDS. Charles

has been working to prevent paediatric HIV and AIDS since 2010 and has worked for the Mozambique government in public and environmental health. Currently she is Head of the Mozambique-Australia Alumni Association, known as "AMEA". She is widely respected for her leadership, passion and versatility, and for her work in helping people live healthy, productive lives.



## ALUMNI FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND INC. AWARDS

### ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Awarded by Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc.

### Dr Chris Anderson

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) '75;  
Diploma of Organisational  
Psychology '75;  
PhD in Anthropology '84

*"I help to raise awareness of the implications of development, to understand the cultural context."*

A talented anthropologist, business leader, linguist, museum director, and Indigenous community and environmental advocate, Dr Chris Anderson's diverse career has made a positive difference to numerous Indigenous communities throughout the world, ensuring their equality and ethical treatment in working

with large organisations. Currently serving as the Americas Director, Communities & Social Performance for Rio Tinto, Anderson continues to develop and advocate for social responsibility at the highest levels of international business.

**Please visit the Alumnus of the Year Award at [uq.edu.au/alumni](http://uq.edu.au/alumni)**



## GRADUATE(S) OF THE YEAR

Awarded by Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc. for academic merit



### Mr James Bennett

Bachelor of Science (Physics) '12  
Graduated with First Class Honours and the University Medal



### Ms Talia Pettigrew

Bachelor of Arts '11  
Bachelor of Science (Hons) '12  
Graduated with First Class Honours and the University Medal



### Mr Patrick Doolan

Bachelor of Science (Mathematics) '12  
Graduated with First Class Honours and the University Medal



### Mr Scott Fisher

Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical and Aerospace) '12  
Graduated with First Class Honours and the University Medal

# PORTRAIT OF AN ARTIST

Brisbane's rich artistic and philanthropic traditions are reflected in the UQ Art Museum's recent purchase of Jon Molvig's *Joy Roggenkamp* 1963.

The acquisition of Jon Molvig's *Joy Roggenkamp* 1963, made possible through the generosity of Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc. and alumna Veronika Butta (Bachelor of Arts '89), sees a major painting by a significant Queensland artist enter the UQ Art Museum's collection.

UQ Art Museum Director Dr Campbell Gray said Molvig was an "inspirational teacher, revered by his students".

"The art classes he ran in the mid-1950s at St Mary's Anglican Church, Kangaroo Point, were a magnet for Brisbane's aspiring artists, including Joy Roggenkamp OAM, Andrew Sibley, Gordon Shepherdson, John Aland and Mervyn Moriarty. Molvig's lifelong friendship with Roggenkamp dates from this period."

Molvig's own career flourished at this time, with exhibitions at the Macquarie Galleries, Sydney and the Museum of Modern Art and Design, Melbourne. In 1955, he succeeded for the first time in having an entry accepted for the Archibald Prize, having submitted work to it since 1952.

"For Molvig, the Archibald proved an elusive prize but, as portrait painter, he was determined to win it," Gray said.

"His painting of Roggenkamp was his 11th attempt, and he persisted until he won it with a portrait of Charles Blackman in 1966."

Roggenkamp's vivacious personality made her the perfect foil for Molvig's expressionist style. From the 1940s, she was an energetic member of Brisbane's

artistic circles and was active in the development of contemporary art in Queensland.

Under Molvig's guidance, she had adopted an expressive style that suited her flamboyance; something Molvig has captured in his portrait. Roggenkamp's showy black hat and patterned dress, painted in animated brushstrokes, signify the ebullience with which she embraced life.

While the portrait did not win the judges over, it was critically acclaimed. The celebrated critic Robert Hughes asserted it was "the obvious winner" and afforded "the one real pleasure in the exhibition".<sup>1</sup>

Molvig's premature death in 1970, just before his 47th birthday, was heralded as the end of an era by his one-time student Phyllis Woolcock: "This is post-Molvig Brisbane. There is no other way to describe the creative gap and, for some, the leaderless limbo in the art scene since [his] death".<sup>2</sup>

Gray said the portrait and related materials were a significant acquisition for the museum.

"With the purchase of this painting, supported by donors, and the gift of related sketches and Roggenkamp's dress by her widower Mr Ross McCowan, UQ Art Museum has acquired a body of work that speaks of the esteem in which Jon Molvig continues to be held," Gray said.

"It's a substantial acquisition of culturally significant material that will be a resource for our students into the future."

The painting, sketches and dress are the focus of a special display celebrating the contributions of donors to UQ Art Museum in the current exhibition *New 2013: Selected recent acquisitions*, which runs until 15 December 2013.

"*New 2013* showcases a selection of artworks that have entered The University of Queensland Art Collection over the past 18 months," Gray said.

"As a special highlight of the exhibition, we have devoted a gallery to donated works, which has been rotated three times over the course of the show."

Six students from a range of disciplines worked with the exhibition's curator, Associate Director (Curatorial) Michele Helmrich, to select works and establish thematic groupings. *Joy Roggenkamp* 1963 is currently on display as part of the final rotation, *Assuming the feminine*.

"We're delighted to have the opportunity to recognise our donors in this way, and to give students from across the campus the chance to participate in our exhibition program," Gray said.

**New 2013 continues until 15 December 2013. For more information, visit [artmuseum.uq.edu.au](http://artmuseum.uq.edu.au)**

1. Robert Hughes in Betty Churcher, *Molvig: The Lost Antipodean* (Ringwood, Vic: Penguin Books Australia Ltd, 1984), 106.

2. Phyllis Woolcock in Glenn R Cooke, *A time remembered: Art in Brisbane 1950 to 1975* (South Brisbane: Queensland Art Gallery, 1995), 63.



**Left:**

**Jon Molvig** (1923–1970)  
*Joy Roggenkamp* 1963  
 oil on board  
 122.5 x 98.5 cm  
 Collection of The University of Queensland. Purchased with the assistance of Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc. and Veronika Butta, 2012.  
 Photo: Carl Warner  
 Reproduced courtesy Otte Bartzis

**Below, from left:**

**Jon Molvig** (1923–1970)  
*Study for 'Joy Roggenkamp'*  
 c.1963  
 oil on newsprint  
 21.0 x 18.5 cm  
 Collection of The University of Queensland. Gift of Mr Ross McCowan in memory of his wife Joy Roggenkamp OAM, through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program, 2012. (Pending)  
 Photo: Carl Warner  
 Reproduced courtesy Otte Bartzis

**Jon Molvig** (1923–1970)  
*Study for 'Joy Roggenkamp'* 1961  
 charcoal on paper  
 76.5 x 51.0 cm  
 Collection of The University of Queensland. Gift of Mr Ross McCowan in memory of his wife Joy Roggenkamp OAM, through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program, 2012. (Pending)  
 Photo: Carl Warner  
 Reproduced courtesy Otte Bartzis

**Phillipa Gowns** (active 1950s–1960s)  
*Dress worn by Joy Roggenkamp in her portrait by Jon Molvig 1963*  
 printed cotton  
 Collection of The University of Queensland. Gift of Mr Ross McCowan in memory of his wife Joy Roggenkamp OAM, 2012.  
 Photo: Carl Warner



# CONSERVING OUR FUTURE

**UQ researchers are leading the world in a new way of looking at conservation, with a focus on the economics of saving Australia's unique biodiversity.**

**By Professor Hugh Possingham, Director of UQ's Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Science**

**S**ome readers may be surprised to learn that biodiversity conservation science has become one of the world's fastest growing areas of research, with more than 40 research journals of international standing.

UQ is no slouch in this field, with our environmental and ecology capabilities ranked fifth in the world in last year's Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for

World Universities (released by the National Taiwan University), and in the top 10 globally in the 2013 QS World University Subject Rankings.

While much of this growing research field is focused on the ecology of rare and threatened species and ecosystems, our work at the Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Science is leading the world in a new way of looking at conservation.

Using economic, statistical and mathematical tools, we ask and answer questions such as: Should we sell some national parks so we can build a better system of protected areas? How many times do we need to fail to find an invasive pest or weed before we can be confident that it has been successfully eradicated? Are resources spent on monitoring species and ecosystems delivering value for money?

Our research is tightly linked to solving real management and policy problems. For example, our freely available software Marxa is used by more than 100 countries to build most of the world's systems of protected areas, both on the land and in the sea.

Marxa helps governments meet their international commitments to conserve biodiversity, while at the same time minimising the impact on industries and people who use the land and sea for agriculture, mining, forestry, fisheries and other activities. Most of the world's marine reserve systems have been designed by Marxa, including the no-take areas in our own Great Barrier Reef, where both commercial and recreational fishing are strictly prohibited.

More recently, our work with the Australian Government has delivered a

scientifically rigorous but easy-to-use approach to determine biodiversity offsets. Biodiversity offsets are the management actions that companies and governments must take to ensure their impact on threatened species and ecosystems ultimately deliver improvements in the environment. This work is now federal policy and is being used across the country.

Another important area that we are working with governments on is helping them understand how to allocate their conservation resources to ensure the greatest possible outcome for the world's threatened species.

Currently, most conservation dollars are spent within 100 kilometres of where they are raised, and the choice of which species to save is often based on charisma and how close the animal is to extinction. This in a highly inefficient way of choosing which animals and plants to save, and is leading to extinctions that could be avoided.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, there are currently around 1140 threatened mammal species around the world, and many more non-mammals. However, only around 80 mammal species are used by international non-government organisations (NGOs) to raise funds for conservation. These so-called "flagship" species, such as lions, rhinos and pandas, appeal to a broad audience and enable conservation groups to achieve considerable success with their sponsorship programs.

This begs the question: if money is being raised for 80 charismatic species, what happens to the other 1060 threatened mammal species and 19,000 threatened plants, birds, reptiles, frogs, insects and

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Professor Hugh Possingham is Professor of Mathematics and Professor of Ecology at UQ, a 2013 ARC Laureate Fellow and Director of UQ's Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Science.

He sits on many committees and advisory boards outside the University, including the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists.

Possingham also directs two \$15 million research centres: the ARC Centre of Excellence for Environmental Decisions, and the National Environmental Research Program Environmental Decisions Hub.

**To find out more, visit [ceed.edu.au](http://ceed.edu.au)**



#### THREATENED

##### **Tasmanian Devil (Sarcophilus harrisii)**

A devastating disease that causes facial tumours has led to the decline of more than 90 per cent of adults in high-density areas, and 40 to 50 per cent in medium-low density areas.



#### THREATENED

##### **Bridled Nailtail Wallaby (Onychogalea fraenata)**

Threatened by land clearing, feral predators and exotic grasses, it's believed that only around 1000 of these critically endangered animals now exist in the wild.



#### THREATENED

##### **Orange bellied parrot (Neophema chrysogaster)**

On the brink of extinction, this Australian parrot, which only breeds in south-west Tasmania, has been ranked as one of the world's rarest and most endangered species. Image: Chris Tzaros



#### THREATENED

##### **Southern Corroboree Frog (Pseudophryne corroboree)**

This critically endangered species has declined steadily since the mid-1980s and there may now be as few as 50 adults left in the wild. Image: David Hunter OEH

*“As well as conserving our unique biodiversity for future generations to enjoy, there are economic benefits stemming from smart conservation decisions.”*

obscure species? Is our dedication to endangered animal icons such as tigers and pandas leading to the further demise of other species such as fungi, bats and invertebrates – species that, while certainly not as charming, are nevertheless vitally important for our ecosystems?

The reality is that at current levels of funding, it is not possible to save all threatened species. However, a systematic approach to choosing which ones to save will help ensure that a limited budget can achieve the best possible outcome.

To assist with this, our researchers have developed an evaluation method that allows governments to estimate the cost to secure a particular species. This method is currently being used by New Zealand and New South Wales governments to allocate millions of dollars of funds to cost-effective conservation actions.

Of course, this is only part of the puzzle. Decisions regarding the best way to allocate resources among species depend a lot on what our society values. For example, what value do we place on different species? Would we be comfortable with the extinction

of one species, if it meant promoting recovery in another?

Values are a social issue, and the public therefore has a critical role in determining how limited conservation resources are spent. While our research provides the knowledge and tools to help inform decision-making, it is not our role to tell people what to do with their money. We teach people how to use smart economic sense, but ultimately the decisions regarding how conservation money is spent is the responsibility of our governments and conservation organisations, who in turn should be guided by what the public wants to achieve with the available budget.

Unfortunately, nationally and internationally, there has been little public discussion about this important topic. Such discussion is critical, particularly in Australia, where we are responsible for about five per cent of the world's species diversity, despite only having about 0.3 per cent of its population. And although we are a rich country, we are losing species as fast as much poorer tropical countries.

As well as conserving our unique biodiversity for future generations to enjoy, there are economic benefits stemming from smart conservation decisions.

Australia's natural heritage generates tens of billions of dollars each year for the economy, plus ecosystem services such as water filtration, pollination, soil health and nature-based recreation. Investing in biodiversity conservation is therefore an investment in our economic future.

**For details on how you can support the UQ Biodiversity Conservation Fund, visit [uq.edu.au/giving/science](http://uq.edu.au/giving/science)**

**app • Download the UQ Contact app to view a video about how UQ is helping to conserve Australia's native wildlife.**

# SPOTLIGHT ON UQ IN INDONESIA

**UQ's long-standing relationship with Indonesia has been further strengthened by the signing of two student exchange agreements and plans for a UQ office in Jakarta.**

UQ's relationship with Indonesia was forged in the 1950s, when the University first began welcoming Indonesian students, predominantly sponsored by the Australian Government as part of the original Colombo Plan.

Since then, UQ's relationship with Indonesia has gone from strength to strength, with Indonesia now considered one of the University's most important partner countries.

With deep academic links and shared interests, UQ has developed strong relationships with some of Indonesia's best universities and research organisations, as well as government and non-government agencies.

These relationships were further strengthened during the University's fourth consecutive Senior Executive Mission to Indonesia earlier this year, which saw UQ sign student exchange agreements with Universitas Indonesia and Universitas Gadjah Mada, the country's two major universities.

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Debbie Terry, who led the delegation, said the agreements would help set up students for global careers.

"What we want to do as an institution is not only encourage more of our students to study overseas, but to increase the numbers who go to Asia," she said.

"That's absolutely essential in the Asian Century, and Indonesia is key – it's a strong economy, it's our nearest neighbour to the north, and it's incredibly important in the region.

"There are also many Australian companies and organisations that have links into Indonesia. In a global workforce, having

had that experience of studying in Asia and understanding Asian societies and cultures will mean our students are very well placed."

Professor Terry said the University's efforts would also be strengthened by the federal government's commitment to send more students to Asia to study through its new Colombo Plan.

"Indonesia has been part of UQ's internationalisation for a long time, but the fact that the Australian Government is so committed makes it so much easier for us to seek to further strengthen those ties," she said.

Another outcome of the mission was identifying and furthering opportunities for research with key Indonesian partners, including the Indonesian Institute of Science, the Eijkman Institute of Molecular Biology and Bogor Agricultural University.

UQ already has a long history of research collaboration with Indonesia and is the only Australian university listed in the top 20 global universities to co-publish with Indonesian academics.

According to Professor Terry, Australia, and particularly Queensland, shares many of the challenges that Indonesia faces, such as sustainable agriculture, tropical health, sustainable mining, and the strength of coastal ecosystems – areas that UQ excels in.

"We are one of the top co-publishers in the world, but easily number one in Australia, and it's because there are mutually beneficial research links," she said.

"Many of our strengths in research relate to the very areas that are core to Indonesia's future, and indeed are core to the future of the region."



Above: Guests at the 2013 UQ Alumni Reception in Jakarta.

Below: From left: Dr David Engel, Deputy Head of Mission, Australian Embassy Jakarta; Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Debbie Terry; and Dr Tedjo Sasmono, Research Investigator, Eijkman Institute of Molecular Biology, at the 2012 UQ Indonesia Partnership Award Ceremony.



Main: Dr Chris Brown from UQ's Global Change Institute conducting research in the mangroves of Raja Ampat. Photo by Meg Saunders.

Such strengths include environmental science, and agriculture and forestry; disciplines in which UQ is currently ranked in the top 10 in the world in the QS World University Subject Rankings.

Professor Terry said the University also had a strong role to play in helping Indonesia's capacity building efforts.

"Our Indonesian partners are very interested in building the next generation of scientists and academics, and that's something we are deeply committed to," she said.

A number of initiatives are helping to achieve this, such as the UQ Indonesia Partnership Awards, which are aimed at bringing bright minds from Indonesia and Australia closer together, and a recent agreement for a joint masters in environmental management with Bogor Agricultural University.

UQ's office in Jakarta, expected to open later this year, will further support the University's research, education and engagement activities in Indonesia. Professor Terry said the office could be co-located with the State Government's new Trade and Investment Queensland Centre, also due to open in Jakarta in late 2013, enabling the University to contribute to a whole-of-Queensland approach to Indonesia.

"It's about coordinating our presence in Indonesia and ensuring that we deal systematically with a range of different projects and teaching," she said.

"This represents a substantial commitment, and many initiatives will flow from this to the benefit of Queensland and Indonesia."

# UQ INDONESIA PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

The UQ Indonesia Partnership Awards were introduced in 2012 to foster collaboration between UQ and Indonesian alumni and partner organisations.

Open to staff and PhD students at UQ or Indonesian partner institutions, the awards support collaborative research by providing up to AU\$5000 to cover travel and living costs for reciprocal visits of up to 12 weeks.

The awards are an extension of the UQ Indonesian Alumni Awards that were established in 2010, and members of Indonesia's more than 1600 alumni are particularly encouraged to apply.

PhD student Yusuf Aziz Amrulloh from the School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering was one of eight award recipients in 2012, chosen from more than 30 nominations.

In collaboration with Drs Rina Triasih and Amaliya Setyati from Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), and supervised by Dr Udantha Abeyratne from UQ, Amrulloh's research involves analysing the sounds in a child's cough to diagnose pneumonia, which is particularly useful in poor and remote areas.

Amrulloh said the award had greatly assisted the research, the findings of which were recently published in the prestigious journal *Annals of Biomedical Engineering*.

"Thanks to my scholarship, I was able to visit UGM to initiate the second phase of data acquisition and to interact with UGM researchers," Amrulloh said.

"The research has now reached a productive phase, with several joint research papers published in international journals.

"I am very appreciative to UQ for the valuable contribution towards my doctoral research."

**To find out more about the UQ Indonesia Partnership Awards, visit [uq.edu.au/study/scholarships](http://uq.edu.au/study/scholarships)**

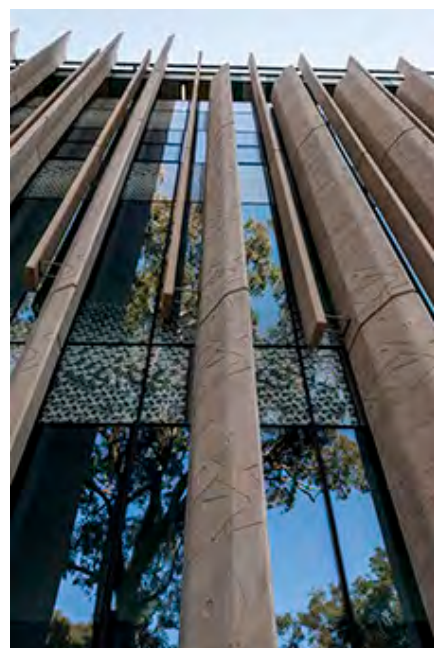


Yusuf Aziz Amrulloh was one of eight Indonesia Partnership Award recipients in 2012.

# SUSTAINABLE TEACHING



Advanced Engineering Building



Centre for Advanced Imaging

**UQ's building program scaled new heights in 2013 with the completion of three major developments at St Lucia campus.**

**T**he \$138 million Advanced Engineering Building, the \$38 million Global Change Institute Building and the \$52 million Centre for Advanced Imaging are exemplars of UQ's ongoing commitments to state-of-the-art teaching and research spaces, as well as the highest standards of sustainable design and operation.

Property and Facilities Director Alan Egan said the University prided itself on the architectural expression of its built environment, which reinforced the natural beauty and appeal of the various campuses.

"Every building is unique and reflects the values of excellence in design for research and learning," he said.

"The principles that guide building development across the entire UQ estate are an amalgam of sustainability, low lifecycle costs, flexibility and adaptability, a human scale which encourages social interaction and, above all, good contemporary design."

Sustainability in particular is a key consideration in the construction and design of buildings at UQ.

The Advanced Engineering Building (AEB), designed by Mark Roehrs (Bachelor of Architecture (Second Class Honours) '86) and Richard Kirk (Bachelor of Design Studies '87; Bachelor of Architecture (First Class Honours) '92), features a number of initiatives designed to reduce the building's energy consumption, including 100kW of rooftop solar panels, solar hot water systems, and an energy-saving cooling system that uses the thermal stability of a heavy concrete tunnel to pre-cool the air before it enters the building.

Other features include sustainable building products, mixed-mode air conditioning and bicycle facilities. The building's energy-saving features can be measured in real time, meaning the AEB is literally a living laboratory for engineering students.

As headquarters for UQ's Global Change Institute (GCI), the GCI Building is a project that showcases UQ's commitment to sustainable design, construction and operation. It was also designed by Roehrs in partnership with Robert Keen from Hassell Architects.

Constructed over two years, the building harnesses solar lighting, best-practice construction techniques and materials, natural ventilation, rainwater storage and recycling to be one of the first in Australia to meet the standards of The Living Building Challenge – a certification program that defines the most advanced measure of sustainability in a human-made environment.

With 100 per cent of its power generated from solar energy, the building aims to be in natural ventilation mode for 88 per cent of the year and consume only 40 per cent of the energy target set out in the Green Building Council

of Australia's benchmark for educational facilities. It also represents the first structural use in Australia of geopolymers concrete, a low-carbon product.

As well as being a triumph of innovative design and sustainable operation, the AEB and GCI are embodiments of the power of philanthropy.

GHD – an international network of engineers, architects and environmental scientists spearheaded by alumnus Des Whybird (Bachelor of Civil Engineering '74) – gifted \$2.5 million towards the AEB's 500-seat GHD Auditorium, and the GCI was made possible by a \$15 million gift from alumnus and Wotif.com co-founder Graeme Wood AM (Master of Information Systems '07, Honorary Doctorate of Economics '11).

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Advancement) Clare Pullar said philanthropy had played an important role in the development of UQ's world-class infrastructure.



Global Change Institute Building

"UQ has benefited from major acts of philanthropy throughout its history, beginning with the Mayne family's gift in the 1920s which helped establish St Lucia campus," she said.

"The Atlantic Philanthropies' investment in four of our major research institutes was key in the establishment of much of our biomedical infrastructure, and alumni have been keenly supporting significant developments in more sustainable learning and engagement environments.

"We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of private benefactors such as Graeme and Des, and for support from governments and industry, which enable us to continue to develop outstanding learning and research facilities to benefit future generations of students and the wider community."

One such facility is the new Centre for Advanced Imaging (CAI), also based at St Lucia campus. Managing the most comprehensive range of magnetic resonance instrumentation in the southern hemisphere, the CAI is the only facility of its type in Australia, and one of only a handful in the world.

The centre serves as the headquarters for the National Imaging Facility, which has received more than \$4 million in federal government funding under the Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy funding scheme. It was designed by John Wardle Architects in association with Wilson Architects.

All three buildings are welcome additions to the University's landscape, ensuring UQ continues to be a world-class environment in which to study and conduct research.

## THE DON NICKLIN BUILDING

Described as "larger than life", the late Professor Don Nicklin (1934–2007) taught and inspired generations of chemical engineering students.

In June this year, the Chemical Engineering Building at St Lucia campus was officially named after Nicklin, an alumnus (Bachelor of Applied Science (First Class Honours) '57) and former Dean and Pro-Vice-Chancellor who had an enormous influence on chemical engineering at UQ, and on the broader profession both in Australia and overseas.

"Professor Nicklin had an amazing presence and oozed leadership," said Professor Peter Halley, Acting Head of the School of Chemical Engineering.

Halley remembers Nicklin as a "great family man" who was equally at home talking to government, industry and undergraduate students.

"My recollection of Professor Nicklin as my lecturer in first-year thermodynamics was his handy tips on life (like how to treat your significant other well) intermingled with thermodynamics – engineering and life skills taught at once," he said.

Professor Mark Kendall from UQ's Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, and leader of the Nanopatch needle-free

vaccine delivery device, also has fond memories of Nicklin.

"He delivered my very first UQ lecture as an undergraduate engineering student in 1990," Kendall said.

"He was inspiring and entertaining. He got across the idea that you can enjoy what you are doing while being a leader in the field."

Professor Bill Clarke, Remondis Chair and Director at UQ's Centre for Solid Waste Bioprocessing, was a tutor in Nicklin's thermodynamics class in the late 1980s.

"Don appeared at most 'tutes' and took over proceedings," Clarke said.

"He could hold the attention of the class like no-one else, very rarely writing on the board, as he explained why processes went one way and not the other."

Following his retirement in 1994, Nicklin continued his association with the University as Emeritus Professor, sharing his profound knowledge and experience in a number of ways.

His significant contribution to UQ is remembered not only through the naming of the Don Nicklin Building, but also through the Nicklin Medal, which was introduced in 2009 to recognise individuals for their exceptional practical contribution to chemical engineering.

President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Hoj (far right) with Professor Don Nicklin's family (from left): grandchildren Anna, Sam, Hannah and Lucy; daughter Jane; sister-in-law Penny; and wife Joanna.



# LIFE IN THE FAST LANE



With a 70-year athletics and coaching career under his belt, Tony Booth OAM is not showing any signs of slowing down.

His passion and dedication to his charges still sees him standing beside the track at St Lucia campus at least three afternoons a week, sharing his wealth of knowledge and experience with the young athletes he coaches.

It's a place he knows better than most, having trained at the track since the 1940s. It was there that he forged his impressive athletics career, winning the Queensland State 100-Yards Championship in 1949 – a performance that earned him a UQ Blues Award.

In 1954, he became only the third intervarsity athlete to win the 100, 220 and

440-yards titles in any one year since the inception of the competition in 1897. That same year he was awarded life membership of The University of Queensland Sport Union (now UQ Sport) for service to the Athletics Club (where he served as Captain from 1950 to 1954) and to university sport generally.

As part of the first cohort of students to study at St Lucia campus, Booth (Diploma in Physical Education '59) has witnessed the University and its sporting facilities dramatically transform.

"As a student here in the first intake in 1949, I trained on what was called the Number 3 Oval, which is now Oval 5, where the running track is," he said.

"There was also a cricket field and field that was used for rugby training, but never for competition at that stage.

"Since then, of course, there has been a major improvement in facilities. Now, UQ is one of the best sporting campuses in the country, if not the best sporting campus."

Booth is well qualified to make such an assessment, having visited many university campuses during his career. As a former selector for the Australian Universities Sports Association and its Chef de Mission at the World Student Games in Tokyo (1967), Mexico City (1979) and Bucharest (1981), Booth has made a significant contribution to track and field athletics in Australia – a contribution that saw him awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in 1994.

However, it's his role as a coach where his impact has been felt most strongly.

As a National Senior Track and Field Coach since 1968, and former athletics coach at Church of England Grammar School (1956 to 1979), Brisbane Grammar School and Brisbane Girls Grammar, Booth has coached thousands of young athletes, who he credits for "keeping him young".

"They are my elixir," he said.

Alumna Barbara Wilson (Bachelor of Arts '77), who competed at the 1976 Olympic Games in track and field and whose daughter was trained by Booth in the early 90s, says Booth knows "just how much and what type of work to put into young athletes".

"Tony has the ability to make each of his athletes feel special," she said.

"It is quite inspiring to watch the deep, respectful affection these young people hold for him.

"Just as amazing is the large number of reunions to which Tony is invited, decades after his athletes have passed from his care. He always remembers a face, a name and, quite amazingly, performances, no matter how many years ago.

"Tony Booth has been, and continues to be, a true gift to UQ athletics, as well as the wider athletics community."

Below: Tony Booth OAM with some of the young athletes he coaches at St Lucia campus (from left): Lauren Frawley, Pascale Wehr, Josephine Aue, Jack Bruce, Sarah Bellchambers, Bree Inwood, Libby Jacques and Georgina Hill.

Inset: Booth competing in the 4 x 110-yards relay at St Lucia campus in 1952.





Dr Mark Loane AM and his team at the Cape York Health Project treat hundreds of patients in remote communities each year.

# AN EYE FOR OPHTHALMOLOGY

At a time when newspapers and television shows are often filled with people who seek fame and fortune for actions that have little benefit for anyone other than themselves, alumnus Dr Mark Loane AM (Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery '77) stands quietly apart from the crowd.

Quietly, not only because of his modesty despite a mountain of achievements, but also because too much individual attention may hurt the long-term sustainability of a project that has profoundly touched the lives of hundreds of Indigenous Australians.

"The more heroic you become, the less chance you have of being replaced," Loane was once quoted as saying, and it is imperative that he eventually be replaced.

A rugby legend who played 28 rugby tests for Australia, as well as leading UQ to a Grand Final victory in 1979, Loane now specialises in glaucoma, cataract surgery and general ophthalmology.

For the last 15 years, he has been the head of the Cape York Health Project,

which provides eye health services to remote communities in Far North Queensland.

The program brings health professionals to small communities several times a year to treat hundreds of locals, while sending cases that require surgery to a central location where they are operated on over the course of one week each September.

"It is a hub-and-spoke system that has been very effective not only in Cape York, but in other areas in Australia, where similar programs are doing fantastic work," Loane said.

"We do assessments in communities such as Cooktown, Lockhart River, Laura and Hopevale, which form the spokes, and send cases that need surgery each year to Weipa, which is the hub.

"We have reached a lot of the population up there. Between May through to October, which is outside of the cyclone season, we have someone from our program in that region about every three weeks.

"In my most recent trip, I saw between

120 and 130 people, and we then booked 80 cases of surgery."

Despite the success the program has achieved, Loane says its future relies on a sense of collective responsibility rather than the efforts of any individual.

"All of these things are cooperative efforts. Programs have to evolve and change, because the people who are involved change.

"Governments change, expectations change, and you have to keep flexibility all the time, as communities don't stay the same, nor does where the funding comes from."

While sports and medicine have their obvious differences, Loane says the lessons learnt on the rugby field have been invaluable in his current endeavours.

"Sport teaches you a lot about compromise, how to get along with other people and persistence. When it comes to structure, there really isn't much difference between rugby and what we are doing in Cape York."

**With a successful career in investment banking, Matt McLennan believes in the importance of giving back to society.**

**A**s a key decision-maker at a major fund in New York responsible for \$81 billion under management, alumnus Matt McLennan (Bachelor of Commerce (First Class Honours) '91) knows all about the value of investment.

He says one of the most important investments anyone can make in their lifetime is one that gives back to society.

"We live in a time when people feel very entitled, and I think that if you look at the greatest societies of prior generations, they had people who felt a sense of civic duty," McLennan (pictured right) said.

"If you are truly thinking about long-term success, then you are thinking about your children, and your children's children, and what kind of world you want them to live in. Without philanthropy, you can't contribute to that vision.

"Supporting things you think are worthwhile is important. We need to steer away from the culture of believing that it is the government's responsibility to provide for everyone all the time."

As well as being the head of the Global Value Team at First Eagle Funds, McLennan is also a member of The University of Queensland in America Inc. foundation board.

He and other board members work diligently to strengthen and expand research, education, business and philanthropy partnerships through the more than 8000 alumni living in the US and Canada.

"I think it's important for members of the alumni community to ensure UQ remains a great choice for students. The University is not just for people from Brisbane, but for anyone, anywhere, looking for the best higher education institutions in the world," he said.

"It is fundamentally important to realise that we are not just a citizen of any one location – we are citizens of the globe.

"After a while, the boundaries blur – you stop being parochial and start looking for excellence wherever it is you can find it."

Born in Papua New Guinea, raised in Queensland and now working in North America, McLennan has experienced life within many different cultures, and his advice on how to choose a career pathway stays the same regardless of location.

"Many people take advice from their parents and from mentors about what they should or should not do in their lives, but in most disciplines it takes a decade or more of hard effort to achieve any degree of mastery, and you're only going to apply yourself to something that you feel passionate about," McLennan said.

"I think that any professional setting can be very humbling. You always face setbacks, so identifying something that you genuinely feel passionate about is very important."

**To find out more about UQ's activities in North America, visit [northamerica.uq.edu.au](http://northamerica.uq.edu.au)**

As *Contact* went to print, the University announced that Matthew McLennan was donating \$1 million to The University of Queensland in America Inc. to support the Australian Institute for Business and Economics and a new scholarship at UQ's Faculty of Business Economics and Law.

# INVESTING IN SOCIETY





# NEW ENERGY LEADERSHIP

**In his role as The Dow Chair in Sustainable Engineering, Professor Eric McFarland will drive UQ research and education into some of the world's most pressing sustainability challenges.**

**P**rominent US energy expert Professor Eric McFarland will join the University next year to lead the new multi-million dollar Dow Centre for Sustainable Engineering Innovation.

To be known as The Dow Chair in Sustainable Engineering, McFarland will commence the five-year post in the first quarter of 2014. As inaugural director, he will drive UQ research and education into some of the world's most pressing sustainability challenges, such as the need for cleaner energy, clean water and conservation.

McFarland said he was looking forward to the challenge.

"This is a fantastic opportunity to build something important for the global community with an outstanding team of colleagues at a great university," he said.

"I am very much looking forward to the challenge and I'm honoured to have been selected."

McFarland is currently a member of the Faculty of Chemical Engineering at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and President and CEO of Urban Electric Power, a spin-out company from the Energy Institute of The City University of New York.

Previously a Professor of Nuclear Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he received his PhD, McFarland also has a Doctor of Medicine (MD) from Harvard Medical School. Over the course of his career, he has been a start-up team member of several technology companies, including Symyx Technologies, where he was a founding technical director.

President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Høj said McFarland's commitment to the centre reaffirmed its potential to provide solutions to significant state, national and global challenges.

"Eric's decision to move to UQ is a further sign that Queensland and Australia have the capacity to deliver innovation with global applications – particularly if industry invests in high-quality R&D and works closely with universities," Professor Høj said.

The centre is a progressive initiative that joins UQ's research expertise in energy, water and sustainability with its world-class science and engineering education program. It is part of a groundbreaking \$10 million science and engineering partnership between UQ and The Dow Chemical Company (Dow) announced last year – the first agreement of its kind between Dow and an Australian university.

At the time the agreement was announced, Andrew Liveris, President, Chairman and CEO of The Dow Chemical Company (Bachelor of Engineering '75 (First Class Honours), Honorary Doctorate in Science '05) described Dow and UQ as "natural partners".

"The University's strategic intent and core strengths in science and engineering align well with those of Dow," he said.

"Dow's culture of discovery and innovation, a focus on advanced manufacturing and new markets, and a commitment to sustainability are closely matched by the new initiatives driven by global sustainability challenges that are defining UQ's strategic direction."

An advisory board of industry, government and academic experts, investors and leaders, will support McFarland in his role as The Dow Chair.

**To find out more, visit [dowcsei.uq.edu.au](http://dowcsei.uq.edu.au)**

**app • Download the UQ Contact app to watch a video about UQ's collaboration with The Dow Chemical Company.**

# UQ AND WAR

## WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

The world wars, Korean and Vietnam wars had a significant impact on many UQ families and collegiate communities. The University is keen to hear your stories about how World War I and subsequent conflicts affected you and your family.

**I**n 2014, the world will mark 100 years since the outbreak of World War I. Throughout the year and those to follow, the University will commemorate the courage and sacrifice of those who served, as well as the suffering and devotion of their loved ones waiting at home.

The world wars are central to the UQ story. The fledgling University's commitment to World War I was considerable – from a small community of staff and students numbering just 263 at the war's start, 154 actively served and a further 22 were engaged in munitions or other work. Of those who served overseas, 32 did not return and another died from his injuries.

During the wars, there was a dearth of men on campus, and the years after saw an influx of mature-aged ex-servicemen. This was particularly marked after World War II. During this conflict, the Forgan Smith Building served as the headquarters for General Sir Thomas Blamey, Commander in Chief of the Australian Military Forces and Commander of Allied Forces in the South West Pacific Area under the command of General Douglas MacArthur.



Alumnus John Denis (Jack) Fryer (Bachelor of Arts '23) who died of injuries sustained in World War I. Image courtesy of the Fryer Library (which is named in Fryer's honour).

Please let us know how war and conflict has impacted and shaped your own experiences and family history by emailing [contactmagazine@uq.edu.au](mailto:contactmagazine@uq.edu.au), phoning us on +61 (0)7 3346 3916, or writing to us at Alumni and Community Relations, Level 7 JD Story Building, The University of Queensland, QLD 4072.

Your reflections, comments, letters, photographs or any other memorabilia may then be included in special editions of *Contact* and our alumni website.

# HELPING HANDS FOR EQUINE RESEARCH



Working with horses is a dream come true for Honours student Jazz Skinner.

**T**he opportunity to apply theory to real-life situations is a dream come true for Science Honours student Jazz Skinner, who is spending her Honours year studying horse nutrition at UQ's Equine Precinct.

The world-class precinct, located at Gatton campus, is one of the most comprehensive horse-related facilities in Australia, featuring reproductive laboratories, dressage and show-jumping arenas, and even a mechanical horse-walker.

"I have always been passionate about horses and pursuing a career in the equine industry," Skinner said.

"UQ was the obvious choice for me with its fantastic facilities and lectures, and it has allowed me to further my interest in the science of equine nutrition."

Equine science encompasses nutrition, reproduction, exercise physiology and health, as well as the welfare and behaviour of horses. As an undergraduate student, Skinner had the opportunity to work with her own horse, in conjunction with expert instructors and lecturers.

A recent donation from equine feed and supplements company Agricure aims to encourage and support students such as Skinner to continue their research in equine science.

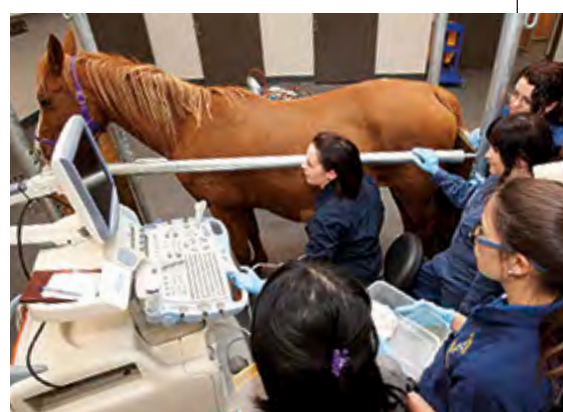
The donation was inspired by Agricure's continuing involvement in the Australasian Equine Science Symposium, a UQ Equine Science initiative.

"Our team was inspired by the research undertaken by Professor Wayne Bryden and Dr Judy Cawdell-Smith, who are both heavily involved with the symposium," Agricure co-founder Dr Ray Biffin said.

"We feel that the work being done at UQ is worth investing in. People like Wayne and Judy are leaders in their fields, and we want to encourage postgraduate study in equine science. The donation was made primarily to assist graduates like Jazz reach their potential."

"We can see the value of the research currently being undertaken at the school and the significance it holds for the industry now and in the future."

Bryden and Cawdell-Smith are supervising Skinner's Honours year, where she is examining the role vitamin K plays in bone development in horses.



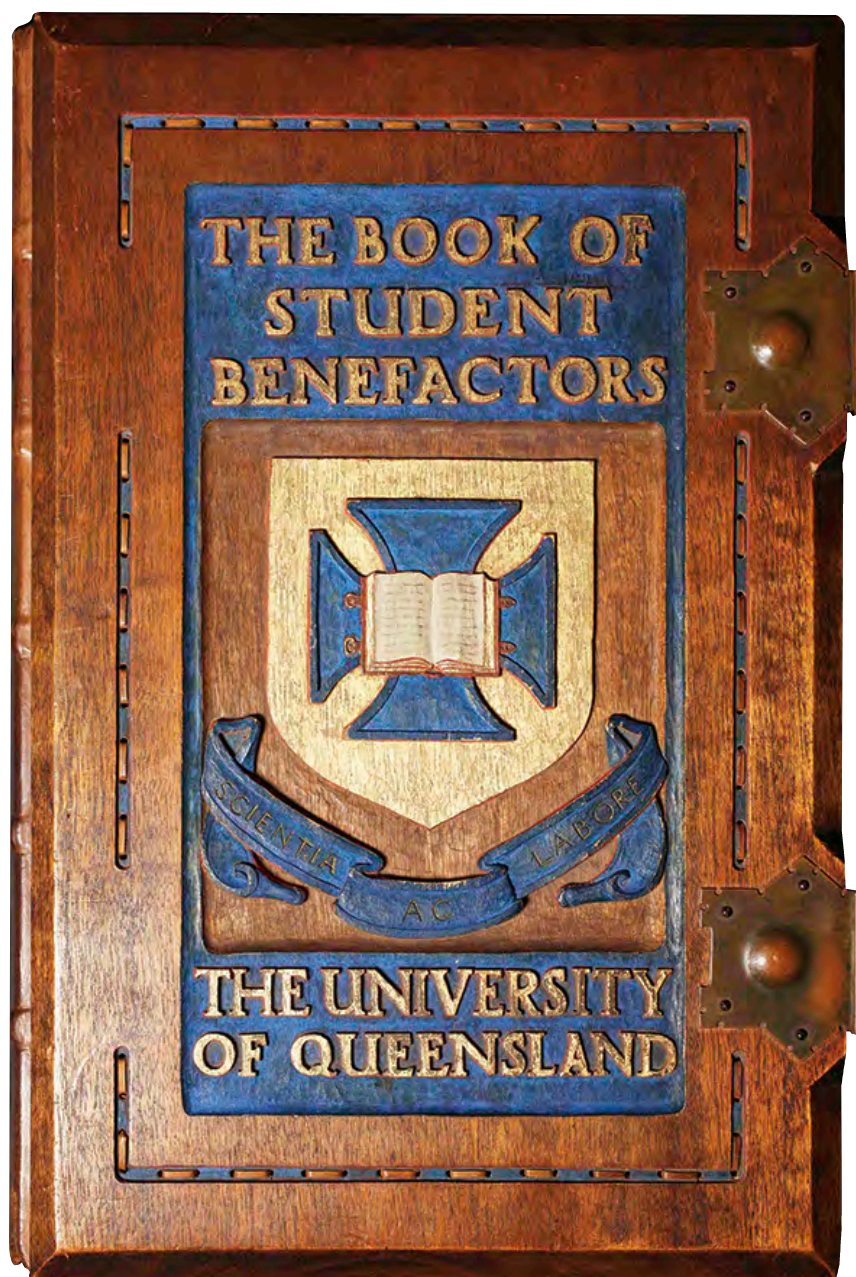
Students examining a horse at the world-class Equine Precinct at Gatton campus.

**Equine Science is part of the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences, based at Gatton campus. UQ is ranked first in Australia and seventh in the world for the subjects of Agriculture and Forestry in the QS World University Rankings.**

**For more information, visit [uq.edu.au/agriculture](http://uq.edu.au/agriculture)**

# BOOK OF TREASURES

*The Book of Student Benefactors is a work of art and labour of love rolled into one.*



**B**rimming with the names of hundreds of alumni, the almost 90-year-old *Book of Student Benefactors* is a treasured University record that charts the course and stories of its student benefactors from 1925 to 1983.

Made using methods from the Middle Ages, the book was donated to the University by the University Union in the 1920s to record the names of past and future students who donated money to UQ and the purpose of their gifts. At that time, it was the only book of its kind in British or Australian universities.

The book itself is a work of art. The Queensland maple panels that form the coloured, carved covers were a gift from the Queensland Forestry Department, and the book's parchment sheets were sewn in with silk thread. Pure beaten gold was used in the illuminations, and the kangaroo skin for the parchment was tanned by students from Sydney Technical College.

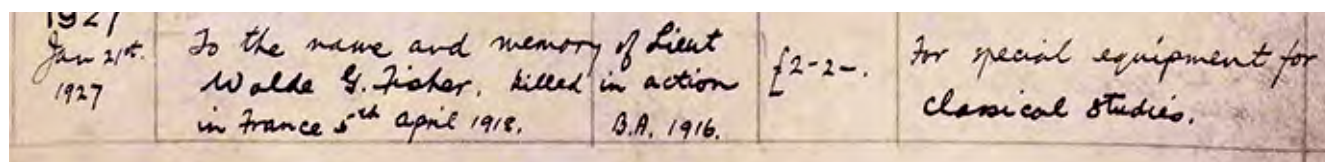
Two Sydney women – Eirine Mort and Nora Weston – were commissioned to prepare the book, with Mort designing, writing and illuminating the volume, while Weston prepared the binding, carving and Australian copper clasps.

Two months in the making, *The Book of Student Benefactors* was first displayed in the Great Hall of The University of Sydney at a 1927 ceremony, where the then-Duke of York, later King George VI, was conferred with an honorary Doctor of Laws.

The book was the brainchild of Dr Frederick Walter Robinson, a Professor of English and the man responsible for building the Australian literature collection today known as the Fryer Library. The library is named in honour of John Denis (Jack) Fryer (Bachelor of Arts '23), a gifted student who died of injuries sustained in World War I.

Many of the book's entries are a touching reminder of lives lost in battle. An example is the final entry on the bottom of page six which reads: *To the name and memory of Lieut Walde G. Fisher, killed in action in France 5th April 1918, B.A. 1916 – £2-2- for special equipment for classical studies.*

The *Book of Student Benefactors*' impressive cover (above), and (below) a donation dedicated to Lieutenant Walde G. Fisher, an alumnus who died in World War I.





Fisher graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honours) in 1916 and was awarded a Foundation Travelling Scholarship for 1917.

He enlisted instead and fought in World War I alongside many other young men, including fellow graduate Charles Wonderley (Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honours) '16). Both men died on the same day in 1918, just two years after graduating from UQ.

Fisher's story is one of many from *The*

*Book of Student Benefactors* that reinforce UQ's place in Queensland's history.

Thanks to a recent donation by five staff members from UQ's Advancement Office, the book's ongoing preservation has been assured, with the funds used to commission a special case to protect the book in University archives.

*The Book of Student Benefactors* has also been digitised and is available to view by downloading the UQ Contact app.

A donation by UQ Advancement staff (from left) Ruth O'Hanlon, Karen Van Sacker, Heather Watson, Stephen Holden and Jude Alldred has ensured *The Book of Student Benefactors* is preserved for generations to come.

**app** Download the UQ Contact app to view more entries from *The Book of Student Benefactors*.

## THANK YOU!

The University of Queensland would like to thank  
all our generous donors for their support

To see the donor honour roll go to [www.uq.edu.au/uqcontact](http://www.uq.edu.au/uqcontact)

# A LEARNING REVOLUTION

If you studied at UQ more than 15 years ago, or even more than 10 years ago, it's likely that your learning experience was very different from that experienced by students today.

Changing technologies and an increased focus on eLearning have contributed to a higher education environment that is evolving rapidly. Today, students have access to an array of technologies to assist their studies. They are no longer tied to a physical campus, and will often use technologies to access or enhance core educational services. At the same time, new devices and applications are continually being developed.

During a typical teaching week, more than 34,000 discrete staff and students use UQ's online learning management system each day to download lecture notes, watch lecture recordings, complete quizzes, contribute to discussions and submit assignments.

Students are also using their mobile phones and other devices to access learning materials on the go. The number of students who accessed their learning materials from iPhones, iPads and other smart devices doubled in 2013 compared to 2012, and this trend is expected to continue, with a recent University survey finding more than 97 per cent of students own at least one smart device.

The in-class experience is also changing. All learning spaces now have wireless capacity, allowing lecturers and tutors to engage directly with students' smart devices to enhance their learning experience. For those who can't make it to class, there are virtual classrooms that allow students to view lectures and attend tutorials from their workplace or home.

Perhaps the biggest potential for transformation, however, is the emergence of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), which many Australian and international universities, including UQ, have started to offer, or are in the process of developing.

In May this year, UQ announced it had joined the prestigious edX consortium, a leading provider of MOOCs. UQ is one of only two Australian universities (the other





*UQ is one of only two Australian universities to have been accepted into edX, a non-profit online education venture founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).*

being Australian National University) to have been accepted into edX, a non-profit online education venture founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

As at October 2013, the edX consortium comprises 29 prominent institutions, including the University of California, Berkeley; University of Washington; University of Toronto; Karolinska Institutet; Peking University; Tsinghua University; and Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. Membership is by invitation only, and the consortium is expected to limit its membership to around 40 institutions globally.

President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Høj said UQ's involvement in edX would do more than give people from diverse economic, social, geographic and educational backgrounds unprecedented access to courses developed by leading UQ teachers and researchers.

"Importantly, it will also allow us to explore new ways to enrich the on-campus student experience, and will enable a deeper understanding of how people learn.

"The *real* education revolution may in fact lie in what this mass participation in online learning can teach us about knowledge and creativity. The insights gained from MOOCs will mesh with another exciting new UQ venture, the \$16 million Science of Learning Research Centre, a national collaboration to be based at UQ.

"As well, engagement in MOOCs will enhance our global reputation, with implications for the currency of UQ qualifications, and our ability to attract both high-calibre partners and discerning international students."

Director of UQ's Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology (CEIT) Professor Phil Long is coordinating the development of UQ's MOOCs offering, with the inaugural four courses – known as UQx courses –

commencing from March 2014. The subjects have been selected to showcase some of the University's top areas of expertise, such as psychology and environmental science, in which UQ is positioned in the world's top 10 in the QS World University Subject Rankings.

Long said one of the key reasons UQ joined edX as opposed to any of the other MOOC providers was the group's strong focus on enhancing and enriching traditional campus-based education.

"Besides wanting to expand access to education for everyone, which is something UQ certainly supports, edX is also interested in how it will improve or impact the on-campus learning experience as much as the online learning experience," he said.

Ensuring that the advantages of massive online learning flow back to students on campus is a key priority for Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Joanne Wright.

"MOOCs provide a phenomenal opportunity to leverage technology-enhanced learning to benefit our students," she said.

"For example, MOOCs will build our capacity to use learning analytics and track learning patterns, which in turn will allow us to further develop our approaches to tuition and update our learning resources in real time."

The opportunity to collect data and gain greater insights into the online learning process, and to share those insights with consortium members, is one of the key benefits of UQ's involvement in edX.

Long believes the opportunity to collect data is "enormous" given the potential number of students involved in a MOOC.

"If we offer a large course once a year that has 1000 students in it, it might take us 10 years to have the same number of students that we might have in a single eight-week period in a MOOC. We can therefore do much more careful research to understand what aspects of learning and what patterns of material combined with what sorts of student capabilities lead to better learning."

Flipped classrooms, where content for

campus-based students is delivered primarily online, complemented by carefully designed face-to-face learning activities, have already been implemented at UQ across a number of disciplines, including engineering, psychology and science, with encouraging results.

Long said students who completed such courses performed just as well as those who attended the traditional lecture and were also better prepared for subsequent courses.

"Feedback from instructors who have taught students after they have completed the flipped class is that students are more engaged and more capable of doing the work they are teaching them," he said.

According to Long, there is overwhelming evidence to suggest that a well-designed online space, coupled with face-to-face activities where there are opportunities for interaction, debate and discussion, is "simply a better learning environment".

"I think it's well understood that the lecture has a place, but more as a motivational tool and a tool for sparking interest, rather than for acquiring knowledge. I expect the combination of online and active learning teaching models will become the norm, and that lectures will be done as an every-so-often thing for the purposes of exciting students about a particular topic."

Long believes online learning initiatives such as MOOCs also offer opportunities for alumni and community members to remain connected to the University and to continue their lifelong learning.

"MOOCs are particularly relevant for the alumni community because they allow alumni to continue to participate in the intellectual community of the University from wherever they live, and sample disciplines that they may not have had the opportunity to try when they attended UQ.

"It also gives them an opportunity potentially to contribute to the teaching environment as guest lecturers, tutors or mentors. There are many alumni who have a lot to offer our students in particular courses."

## UQX COURSES

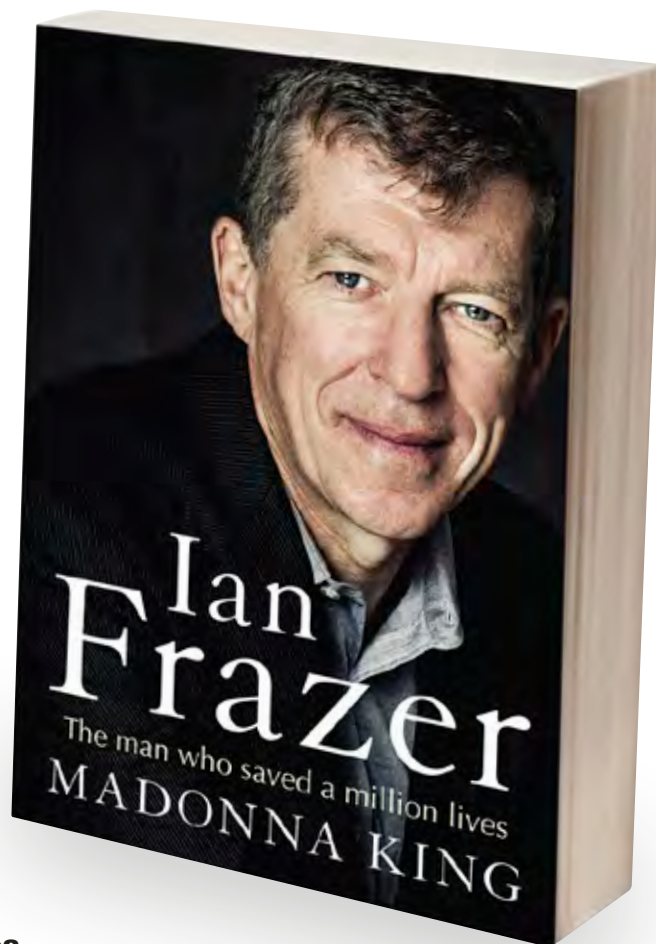
UQ will offer the following UQx courses commencing from March 2014:

- **Biomedical imaging** BIOIMG201, Professor Graham Galloway
- **Hypersonics – from shock waves to scramjets** HYPERS301, Professor David Mee
- **The science of everyday thinking** THINK101, Dr Jason Tangen
- **Tropical coastal ecosystems** TROPIC101, Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg

**1** • To find out more, visit [uqx.uq.edu.au](http://uqx.uq.edu.au)

# SAVING LIVES

*One of Australia's best-known scientists, Professor Ian Frazer is respected across the globe. Here, author and alumna Madonna King gives us a sneak peak of his extraordinary story, the subject of a new biography published by UQP.*



## **Ian Frazer: The man who saved a million lives** Madonna King

Professor Ian Frazer, not long after striking gold with the virus-like particle (VLP) that would lead to a cervical cancer vaccine, found himself rolling a dice to keep the family home.

He had scheduled an international papillomavirus conference on the Gold

Coast, without a budget or government or university funding, and with his reputation on the line, he resorted to begging.

The Scottish-born Australian immunologist asked companies to defer accounts, wrote the HTML language to create online booking forms, and then drove home to see his wife Caroline. Over dinner, he asked the woman he'd met at Edinburgh University 30 years earlier whether he could take out a second \$150,000 mortgage on their family home. She didn't blink.

The rest is history. But that story says so much about both Ian Frazer – who went on to snag almost every big science award as well as being made Australian of the Year – and the priority afforded to scientific research. He doesn't give up, as his students know; they've heard him ask "what else should you try?" over and over again.

It was the same question that Professor Frazer and his co-inventor, the late Dr Jian Zhou, spent years trying to answer at The University of Queensland, where they made their worldwide VLP discovery. And Ian Frazer will never forget the lessons he learnt along the way.

Governments see science in three-year blocks, between elections, and cancer, like other medical scourges facing the world, can't be cured quickly. That limits funding promises. But universities, where many of our top scientists work, can't hand over the millions, or even billions of dollars, needed to take a discovery to market.

No mouse ever thanked you for saving its life, Ian Frazer tells anyone who is interested, and that thinking is behind

the establishment of Brisbane's new Translational Research Institute. It will soon house 650 researchers under Ian's guidance, as CEO and Director of Research. It will allow scientists to focus on medical breakthroughs that can then be trialled under the same roof.

That option wasn't open to Jian and Ian, who had to hand over their discovery so that pharmaceutical companies could bankroll trials and develop an international manufacturing and distribution system.

Professor Frazer is now on the brink of discoveries in both skin cancer and genital herpes. By anyone's standard, a breakthrough in the treatment of herpes – which is also believed to aid in the transmission of HIV – will dwarf the cervical cancer vaccine. It's all part of a day's work for the scientist whose hobbies include cooking and jumping out of helicopters to race down virgin ski slopes.

He's the scientist you want working on your disease; the doctor you need in your corner. But he's also a generous philanthropist, a handy builder, a keen cyclist and a master in the kitchen.

As long as it involves creating something, Ian Hector Frazer will give it a shot. And for that, we should all be very grateful.

**For more information or to purchase a copy, visit [uqp.com.au](http://uqp.com.au)**

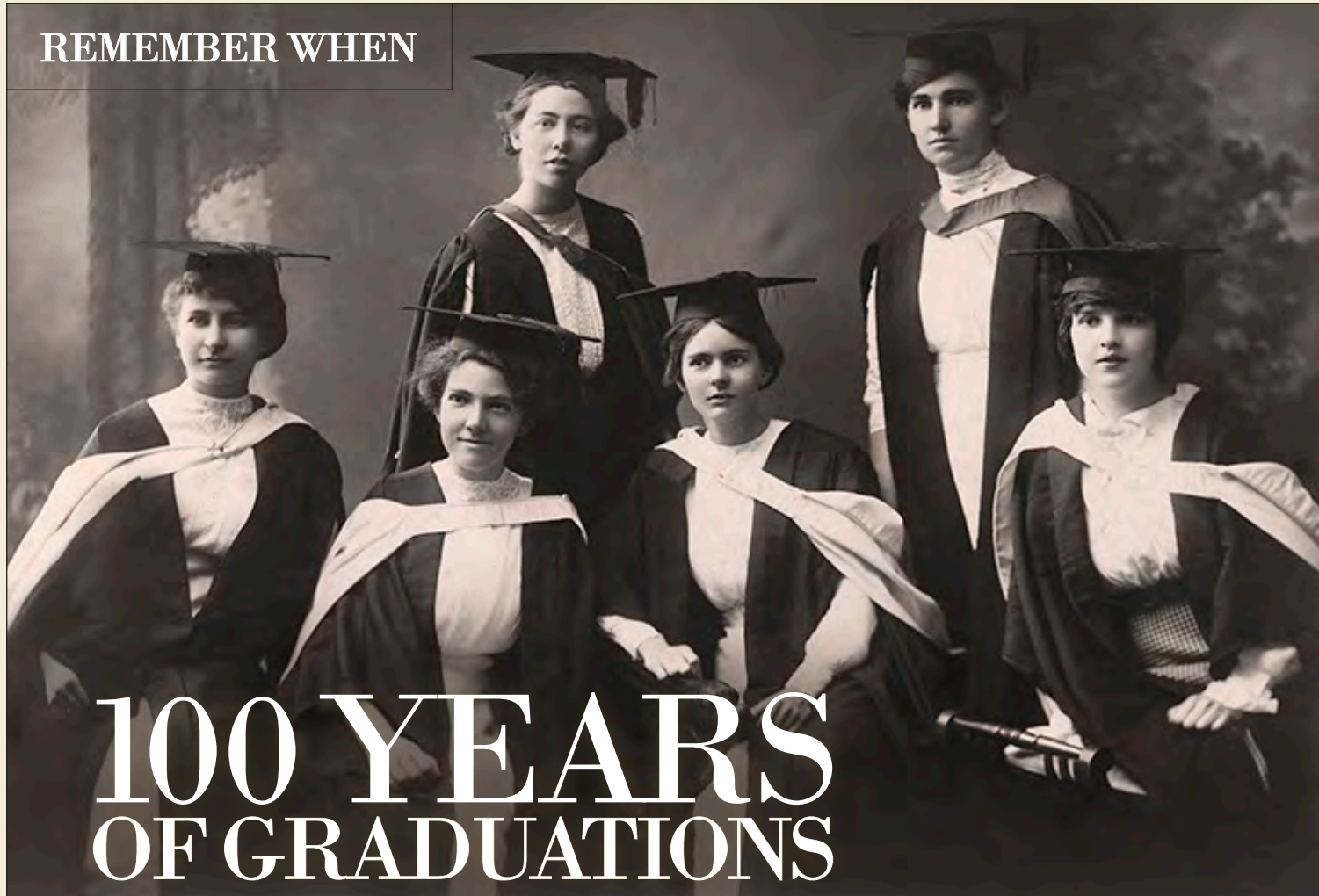
**app** • Download the UQ Contact app to read an extract from the book.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Madonna King, a UQ Arts alumna ('85), is an award-winning journalist, commentator and author. She has spent 25 years working as a journalist both in Australia and overseas. She also writes a weekly column for *The Courier-Mail*, sits on three not-for-profit boards, and travels to Australia facilitating and moderating events. This is King's fourth book.

REMEMBER WHEN



**Compared to the dignified occasions of today, UQ's inaugural degree conferral ceremony held on 11 June 1913 was a rowdy affair, according to at least one source.**

In his book *A Place of Light and Learning*, historian Professor Malcolm Thomis said early UQ ceremonies were events where “untamed spirits a little too much inclined towards rowdiness” prevailed.

“This practice was said to frustrate those who believed degree ceremonies would be conducted with dignity and decorum,” he said.

In all, five students (two women and three men) received their degrees – all Bachelors of Arts – at the 1913 ceremony. They were Philippa Kate Barkell (later listed as Mrs GH French of Roma), Jessie Elizabeth Dakin (Second Class Honours), William Gates, Robert Campbell Hamilton and Austin Thomas Desmond.

They were among the University's first cohort of 83 students, 23 of whom were women, enrolled in 1911. According to Harrison Bryan's book *The University of Queensland 1910-1960: An Essay Towards a History*, all five had started their degrees at other universities.

Technically, the very first University graduation took place in 1911; however, this was for graduates who had completed their degrees elsewhere and who were awarded *ad eundem gradum* after moving into the area – a common practice at that time.

The 1913 graduation ceremony was



Above: The inaugural graduation ceremony for The University of Queensland was held at the Exhibition Hall on 11 June 1911, where graduates who had completed their degrees elsewhere were awarded *ad eundem gradum* after moving into the area. Image courtesy of The University of Queensland Archives.

Top: UQ graduates who completed their studies in 1913, pictured at their graduation ceremony the following year. Image courtesy of Fryer Library.

held in the Central Technical College in the precinct of the then University grounds of Old Government House in the city.

Then Chancellor Sir William MacGregor's graduation ceremony speeches are reputed to have gone on all afternoon and into the evening. This, according to Thomis, could have explained the hijinks that followed, where restless audiences “amused themselves, as is the wont of students, by singing popular airs to which they added their own words”.

Little is known about the life and career of the first five graduates. Robert Campbell Hamilton went on to become principal of



Above: Sir William MacGregor, The University of Queensland's first Chancellor (1910–1915). Image courtesy of The University of Queensland Archives.

Warwick Technical College and High School from July 1914, according to an article in the *Warwick Daily News*. He served in World War I, joining in 1917 at the age of 36, and reached the rank of lieutenant. He also served as a UQ Senator from 1944 to 1949.

What is known is that these five graduates were the first of more than 205,000 world-class graduates who have since earned their degrees at UQ, and who continue to make an impact all around the world.

**app • Download the UQ Contact app to view more images from UQ's early graduations.**

# SHAPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

At UQ we provide our students with everything they need to excel in the classroom and beyond.

Sudanese-born Yassmin Abdel-Magied is someone who is driven to not only change her world, but the world around her. She founded Youth Without Borders – an organisation that empowers young people globally to implement positive change within their communities.

While at UQ, Yassmin completed a Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical), graduating with first-class honours, and fuelled her passion for motorsport by managing the UQ Racing Team. She has also received accolades for her humanitarian work, was named Young Queenslander of the Year, Young Australian Muslim of the Year and Young Leader in the inaugural 100 Women of Influence.

Yassmin's achievements were supported by the combination of our world-class facilities and programs, leading researchers, and industry partnerships. Imagine the difference having access to all of this could make to you.

**YOUR UQ. YOUR ADVANTAGE.**



GROUP OF EIGHT  
MEMBER



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THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

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