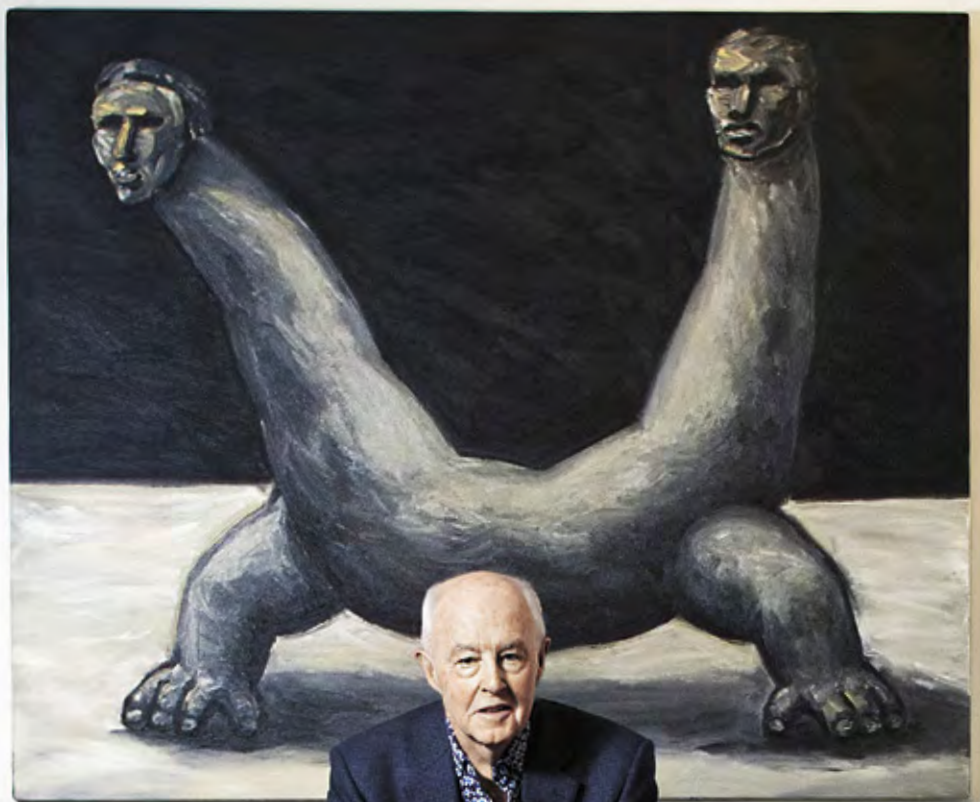




THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

FOR ALUMNI AND COMMUNITY SUMMER 2014

# CONTACT



In this issue:  
**Volunteering**  
**For the students**  
**Active at work**



# CONTACT

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## COVER IMAGE:

Alumnus Bill Bowness (see p. 36) has donated \$1 million to support UQ establishing an Australian-first Telerehabilitation Clinic to assist people with stuttering and other communication and physical disorders, and provide Bowness Family Foundation Young Achievers Scholarships. For Bowness, contributing to his alma mater is consistent with a desire to “give kids who might not otherwise make it the opportunity to prosper”. For exclusive related content, download the *Contact* app.

Behind Bill Bowness:

Peter Booth

*Untitled (Man)* 1985

Oil on Canvas, 137x168 cm

© Courtesy of the artist

Photo: Darren Howe Photography



## + REGULARS

### 06 UPDATE

Director of Alumni and Community Relations Gina Wheatcroft discusses results from a recent UQ alumni survey.

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Ten years have passed since *Pig City* was released, offering a chronicle of Brisbane music and politics emerging from the Bjelke-Petersen era.

### 47 REMEMBER WHEN

The Institute of Modern Languages has celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## + CONTACT APP



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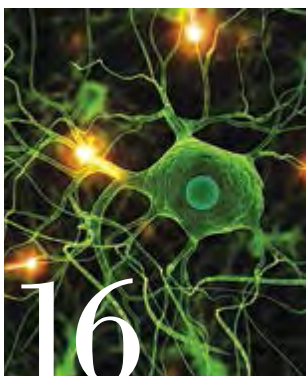
SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS





A photo from UQ Advantage Grant recipient Amelia Barlow's (pictured top right) volunteering trip in Cambodia, where she applied her keen interest in healthcare to give back to others. "To be able to work with the community to improve healthcare and immerse myself in the Cambodian culture was life-changing," she shared with *Contact*.

## + FEATURES



### LIVING WITH CHRONIC PAIN

Chronic pain is in focus at one of four new research centres at the Institute for Molecular Bioscience.



### UQ CELEBRATES EXCELLENCE

Inspirational alumni have been recognised in UQ's 2014 Alumni Awards, including Dr Alex Markwell.



### ACTIVE AT WORK

Dr Nicholas Gilson discusses the health effects of being sedentary at work, and encourages us to get active. Time for those stairs!



### SPOTLIGHT ON CHINA

UQ has about 114 agreements with more than 50 Chinese partners, and over 3000 alumni in China. The relationship is underpinned by respect.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I note with interest the Message from Chancellor John Story and the excellent feature "Courage and Sacrifice" in the recent issue of *Contact*. This prompted me to inform you of the Chinese ANZACS Exhibition at the Chinese Museum in Melbourne, which will run until mid December as a contribution to

You can still download the app version of the *Contact* Winter 2014 edition, including the special feature, "Courage and Sacrifice".

the commemoration of the centenary of WWI. Whilst we have not found any direct connection of these



Chinese soldiers to the University; nevertheless, there were Queenslanders amongst them. The most notable were two highly decorated Chinese – Australian soldiers, Caleb Shang of Cairns and Billy Sing of Clermont (see *The Courier-Mail*, 23 April 2014). As the Volunteer Researcher for this exhibition, I am its distant link to the University of Queensland, being a 1965 graduate of the UQ Medical School.

**Edmond Chiu AM**

Bachelor of Medicine/  
Bachelor of Surgery – '65



The war memorial plaque.

As usual, I enjoyed reading the Winter 2014 issue of the alumni magazine, *Contact*. However, your article on the old Customs House building in Eagle Street, Brisbane, made me wonder what has happened to the war memorial plaque that was dedicated to customs officials who died during the war (either WW1 and/or WW2). It originally hung in the foyer, but when visiting the building in 2010, I noticed the plaque had been taken down and was resting against the wall.

**Dr Allen Petrey**

Bachelor of Science – '69,  
Bachelor of Veterinary Science – '72

*Editor's note: Thank you for your letter. The war memorial plaque is located on the Riverside level of Customs House, adjacent to the stairs.*

I read with interest *Contact's* articles about the Fryer library, John Denis (Jack) Fryer and other history ("Courage and Sacrifice") in the recent edition. Congrats to all *Contact* staff for lifting the current magazine way out of the ordinary. My son Ian Godwin has a Chair in what was once called the Ag Science faculty, and two of his brood, Melissa and Harry, are grads, as is my wife Janice (née Vicarioli).

There's also a Sterling connection through daughter Leith (then) Godwin (Bachelor of Occupational Therapy '08), now Leith Sterling, a former senior administrator with Education Queensland, Anglicare, and now with the Benevolent Society (Youth Protection, Aged Care), and her sons currently enrolled at UQ: Tom Sterling (Business/Arts, Journalism major) and

Oliver Sterling (Journalism/Arts, Political Science major). Oliver is one of my mob, and writes on socio-political issues for *Semper*. Hence, UQ has been something of a lighthouse in our family. I ply them with my *Contact* copies to keep them aware that UQ has a long and distinguished place in Queensland's development.

My first job aged 15 was as a junior clerk in November 1949 (read "mail-boy") at UQ's then main location at the bottom of George Street. St Lucia was under construction and housed just a few faculties. I've written now and then about those early days when John Douglas Story was Vice-Chancellor, and where we all enjoyed the pristinely quiet location in the former State Governor's elegant Helidon freestone residence. The front ballroom in November was stacked with

boxes of junior (including mine!) and senior public examination papers awaiting the markers' fatal pens. Sacrilege for that hallowed dance and dine place, once coveted by Brisbane and Queensland's social wannabees. Out front was a lovingly manicured kidney lawn — a great place to sit and eat your lunchtime sangers.

**Doug Godwin**

(Bachelor of Arts) – '63

**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: Office of Marketing and Communications, Level 7 JD Story Building, St Lucia Campus, The University of Queensland, QLD 4072**

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# A DEFINING ROLE



**A**s 2014 draws to a close, it is worth reflecting on how decades of deliberate work by UQ people, including alumni, are bearing fruit for multitudes worldwide.

Among the beneficiaries are approximately 350,000 families in 25 countries who have experienced the Triple P Positive Parenting Program this year alone, and countless people whose medical diagnosis has been assisted by UQ-derived technology in magnetic resonance imaging machines.

The cervical cancer vaccine, Gardasil®, has provided protection to millions of people as the number of doses distributed worldwide has climbed above 170 million; and the Nanopatch needle-free vaccine platform, developed by a past Young Alumnus of the Year, is under investigation for potential use in the World Health Organization's anti-polio arsenal.

While these are some of the headline outcomes of UQ effort, the collective contribution of our alumni equates to an influence beyond measure. We celebrate some exemplars in our annual Alumni Awards and in these pages, where we

also reflect on how members of our community deepen the imprint they make via their careers when they also act as volunteers. They bring to mind these words from one of the great leaders of my lifetime, the late Nelson Mandela: "It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead."

While past graduates are continually raising the bar for achievement and impact in all areas, I am willing to predict that it will not be long before the benchmark is set even higher by our current students and new graduates, including the 11,000-strong class of 2014.

So what does the future hold for prospective alumni, the students who are yet to begin their careers at UQ and forge connections that will serve them for life? At the time of writing, a package of reforms is before the Australian parliament, and by the time you read this you may have the advantage of knowing the results of an intense national debate over the direction of higher education.

Key proposals include significant cuts to government funding for domestic undergraduates, deregulation of domestic undergraduate fees and changes to the student loan repayment scheme. On the last point, university leaders, including myself, are lobbying for a softening of the government's stance, because we see evidence that it will disadvantage groups of graduates including women who take time out of the workforce to have children.

Whatever parliament agrees to, UQ must not compromise on quality. If, as seems inevitable, there is a continuation of the pattern of governments decreasing per-student funding and deregulating undergraduate enrolments, we will face tough decisions. These will cover issues including the size of the student community and the value of UQ qualifications.

UQ had 40,500 students in 2009 and this year we had more than 50,000. People across the institution have expended colossal energy to offer a high-quality student experience throughout, and to maintain excellent research standards. One of many returns on their effort was UQ landing more research funding in 2013 than any other Australian university, and maintaining our status well inside the top 100 of the world's tens of thousands of universities.

Added to this is the wonderful generosity of alumni and others who recognise that an income stream is essential for offering a "needs blind" UQ Advantage to clever and committed young people, and for nourishing the pipeline of transformative research.

In a borderless higher education market, where countries such as China continue to impress us with their quality and to offer appealing collaborative opportunities, our alumni community will have a defining role in how UQ succeeds in addressing the big issues nationally and globally.

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

# ALUMNI INSIGHTS



**Director of Alumni and Community Relations Gina Wheatcroft discusses the results from a recent survey showing UQ alumni want to be more involved.**

**T**he years spent at university are some of the best of our lives. The degrees we choose, the clubs we join, and the friends we make along the way influence our personal and professional paths for many years.

After earning degrees and moving on, some alumni maintain close links with their alma mater, while others do not.

But how successful have we been to date in engaging our alumni, and how can we improve?

We decided to find out by undertaking an extensive Australian-first alumni survey. It not only helped us understand our strengths and weaknesses, but also ranked us against 34 leading institutions in the US, including MIT, Stanford University and Penn State.

UQ ranks very well against the best in the world in terms of research and teaching, and we need to compare our efforts to engage and benefit our alumni against global leaders.

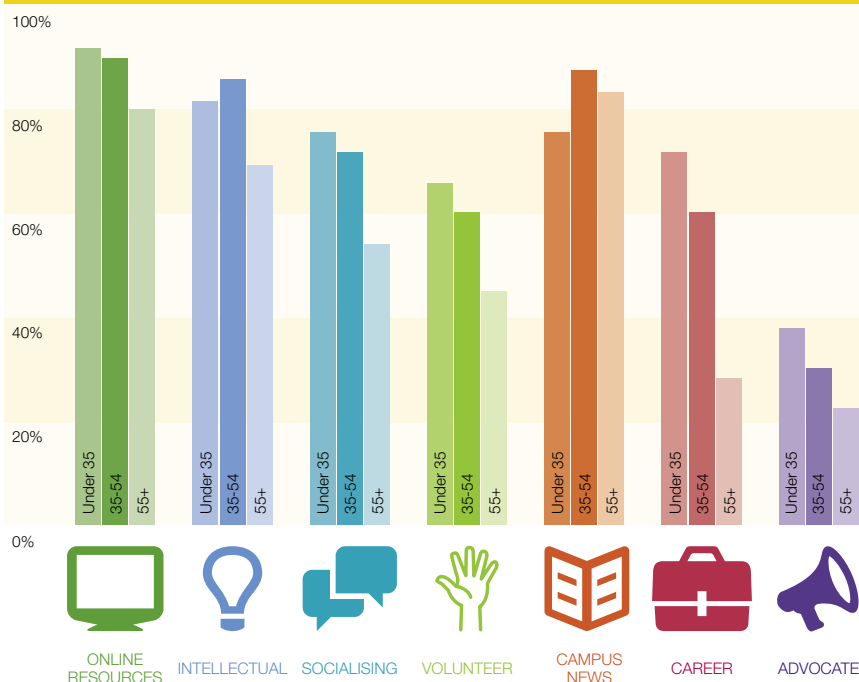
***“At UQ, we are committed to engaging with our graduates and enhancing the bonds you have with the University. Thank you for your feedback.”***

It also allowed us to find out more about your preferences for staying involved with UQ (see the graph, below). While we can't list all the results here, we are pleased with most of the feedback, have paid close attention to areas for improvement, and have learned a great deal that will shape alumni relations programs in the future.

What is clear is that our alumni community want to be more involved. Over 91 per cent feel pride in their degrees, but only 29 per cent feel part of our community. Clearly, we need to ensure more of you — our valued alumni — feel a lifelong connection to UQ and your peers. Many of you want to learn more about what is happening on campus, the impact UQ is having in the community, and opportunities that exist to volunteer (see p. 14), socialise with other graduates and access resources to benefit your daily lives. The feedback provided in 2014 is shaping our program for 2015 and beyond. We look forward to connecting with many more of you.

**To get the latest University news, invites and offers, update your details at: [alumni.uq.edu.au/update-your-details](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/update-your-details). To share your stories, email us at [advancementnews@uq.edu.au](mailto:advancementnews@uq.edu.au).**

## ALUMNI PREFERENCES FOR BEING INVOLVED WITH THE UNIVERSITY, BY AGE



***“Alumni who feel part of the UQ community are the most likely to have favourable feelings about the University, want to engage with it, and participate in positive word-of-mouth communication.”***

**UQ alumni are interested in staying involved in the University in different ways, with trends in preferences by age group.**





# WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS

## SUMMER DAYS AT UQ

This summer, why not 'go back to uni' while students take a break?

- Organise the kids or get friends together and visit the beautiful UQ lakes for a picnic. The lakes are free to the public, and easily accessible by bike and public transport. Ride over the Eleanor Schonell Bridge, take the bus to UQ lakes or hop on a CityCat.
- UQ Gatton's War Memorial Pool has a long history. It initially opened in 1954, after a community effort with staff, students and volunteers to dig out the pool. The Olympic-sized pool was redeveloped in 2011 and is open to the public, providing a great place to get fit or cool off this summer.
- Consider visiting the Global Change Institute. The award-winning \$32 million building meets the world's most advanced levels of sustainability, and the public are invited to have a look. **Free tours of the building run regularly and can be booked at [gci.uq.edu.au](http://gci.uq.edu.au).**



## DISCOVER ANCIENT HISTORY: *A STUDY IN STONE* EXHIBITION

Now open at the RD Milns Antiquities Museum, *A Study In Stone: The History of Epigraphy* runs until May 2015. The exhibition showcases burial inscriptions from the Greek and Roman worlds. *A Study In Stone* offers a glimpse into the lives of ancient people.

**Open 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, with free admission.**  
**For details, phone +61 (0)7 3365 3010 or visit [uq.edu.au/antiquities](http://uq.edu.au/antiquities).**

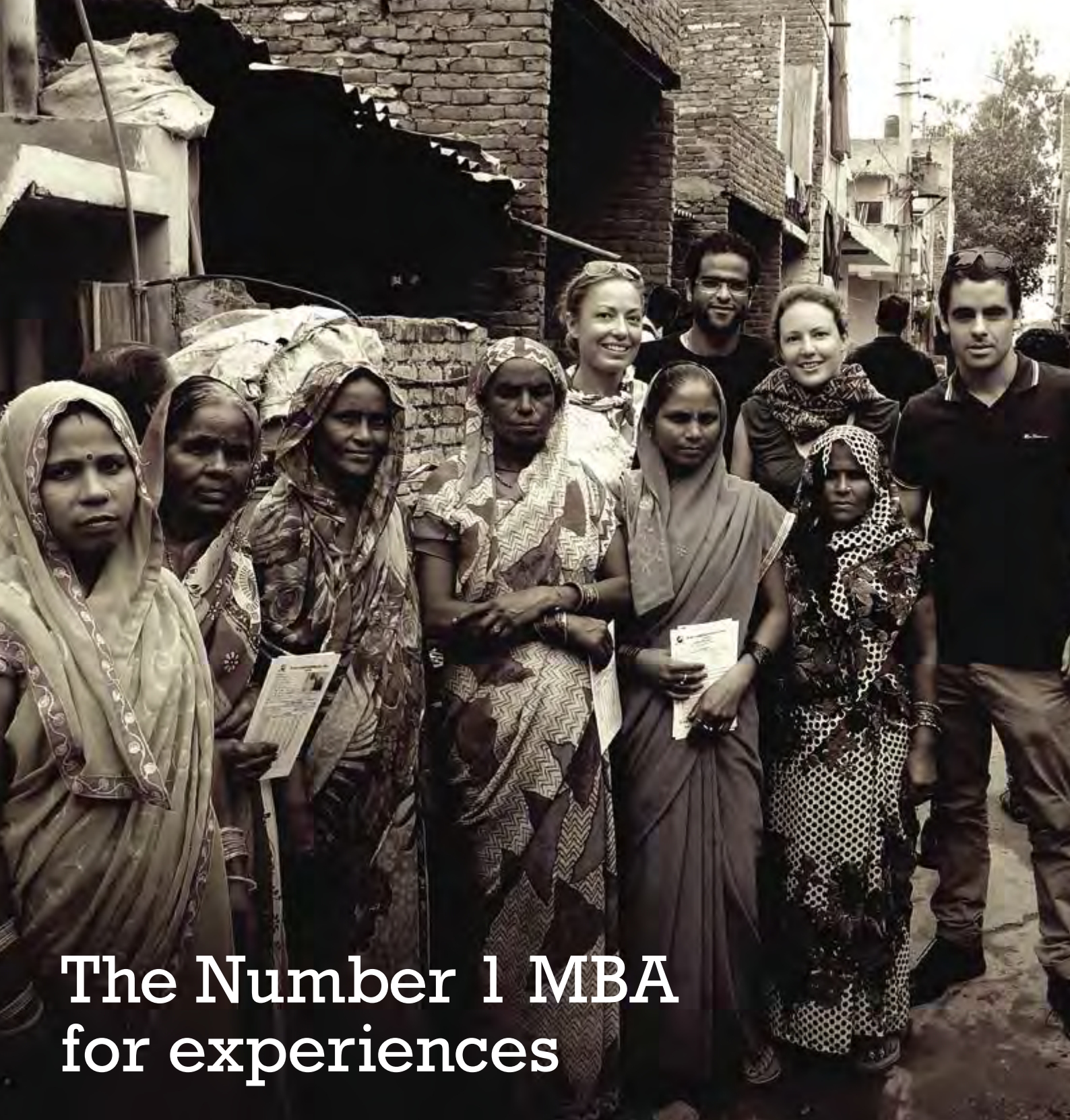
## UNION COLLEGE 50 YEAR REUNION

On 24 July 2015, Union College will commemorate its 50th anniversary at St Lucia campus. All Union College alumni are invited to join in a week of activities from 18 July that will culminate with a gala ball on 24 July 2015.

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







# The Number 1 MBA for experiences

The UQ Business School MBA program is ranked Number 1 in Australia by The Economist and AFR BOSS Magazine for many good reasons. One is that our MBA students engage in new business thinking in learning environments that extend far beyond the classroom. Inspiring experiences, like an immersion trip to India to work with a micro-charity in the slums of Delhi, that prove business matters in ways you never imagined.

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# VOLUNTEERING: SOCIETY'S HELPING HAND

If there was a tonic that increased your personal satisfaction with life, willingness to trust others and level of community engagement, would you take it? These are just some of the benefits of volunteering, as UQ students, alumni, staff and members of the UQ Senate share with *Contact*.



The intrinsic value of giving time – volunteering – was eloquently captured by Ralph Waldo Emerson when he said, “It is one of the beautiful compensations of life, that no man can sincerely help another without helping himself.”

It might be for this reason that more than a third of Australians, or over six million people, volunteer, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

In Queensland, about two in every three residents are engaged in some form of formal or informal volunteering each year, with sport and physical recreation bodies, community groups, religious organisations and parenting and youth organisations all benefiting from an intrinsic gift of time. According to *Volunteering Australia*, Australians donate 713 million hours of time annually, with a desire to make a difference and a sense of purpose providing inspiration.

The spirit of volunteering was epitomised by the 55,000 plus “mud army” of volunteers who assisted during the 2011 Brisbane

and Queensland floods. At a time when many victims were burdened by despair, the willingness of others to put on gumboots and plod purposefully through murky, debris-laden streets and homes to help friends, neighbours and strangers with the recovery effort showed genuine altruism.

While the economic contribution of volunteers has been recognised, the impact of freely offering assistance leaves a more indelible impact on the world we live in each day.

Clare Pullar, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Advancement), said volunteers play an integral role in society.

“Volunteers help to make society work,” she said.

As the adage goes, “Give, and you shall receive,” with research compiled by the Queensland Government showing volunteers are more satisfied with their lives, more involved in community activities and more likely to trust others. Involvement and interest in volunteering can vary throughout the lifespan, with people aged 45–54 volunteering most regularly, according to ABS data.

The same research suggests young people most frequently choose to volunteer for sport and recreation groups.

The UQ Advantage Award program officially recognises students who participate in experiences outside the classroom.

The UQ Advantage Grant scheme provides financial assistance to support students with participating in co-curricular activities. In 2013, the UQ Advantage Office provided 456 grants for co-curricular activities in 44 countries, with volunteer and internship placements at Walt Disney World and the Uni Capitol Internship Program in America, JapanTravel in Japan, Manchester Museum in the UK, Engineers Without Borders in Cambodia, NBN News in Australia and the United Nations Development Program in the Philippines.

“Tremendous opportunities are available, such as volunteering to assist community groups, doing mentoring and tutoring, taking on leadership positions in clubs and societies, and assisting international aid organisations,” said Pullar.



## VOLUNTEERING: SOCIETY'S HELPING HAND

*“The kids at Pumamarca School were the most kindhearted, generous and happy children I’ve ever met. My time with Peru’s Challenge was the most rewarding experience of my life, and I would do it all again in a heartbeat.”*

**Laura Frederiksen, UQ student**

Laura Frederiksen, Bachelor of Science student and science mentor, received a UQ Advantage Grant to volunteer at Pumamarca School in Peru last year, travelling to a mountainous village and teaching children English and about computers, sport and hygiene, as well as engaging in construction and gardening activities.

“This experience opened my eyes to the poverty that many children on this planet are subjected to, and how volunteering can make a difference in their lives,” said Frederiksen, who found time to discover the lost world of the Inca Trail and Machu Picchu on the trip.

“I have a new sense of appreciation for how fortunate we are in Australia with so many opportunities for education. Volunteering has broadened my horizons and sparked a desire to make a difference in the world.”

In addition to fresh perspectives, volunteering helps students develop practical

life skills – such as leadership, communication and problem-solving – that are perceived by employers to be well regarded by employers.

Bronwyn Miles, Bachelor of Speech Pathology student, gained valuable experience during a life-changing trip volunteering for Antipodeans Abroad in Kathmandu, Nepal.

“I was lucky enough to work at a school for children with disabilities (SERC) from ages 2–18 for three weeks, before undertaking health promotion facilitating basic hygiene practices, including hand washing and oral hygiene, in various orphanages and schools.

“At SERC, I worked closely with the assistant speech language pathologist in delivering speech pathology services, and provided her with resources and ideas for therapy. During the health promotion week, I conducted lessons on hand and oral hygiene, along with another volunteer.



Memories of a lifetime: photos from volunteering trips shared by UQ students Amelia Barlow, Bronwyn Miles and Laura Frederiksen. The students received UQ Advantage Grants and travelled to Cambodia, Nepal and Peru to assist local communities.





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## US CONNECTIONS



The University of Queensland in America, Inc. Foundation allows alumni, friends, corporations and foundations in North America to make tax-deductible donations to support UQ.

"Engagement needs to be regionally driven," said Executive Director, Khatmeh Osseiran-Hanna.

Brian Macnish (Bachelor of Laws '76), a Foundation board member who is the Managing Principal of New York asset management firm Craven Capital LLC, wants US-based alumni to have the opportunity to form friendships and reflect on their UQ days.

"Our social and networking events are geared towards creating strong personal relationships and interactions," he said.

**Visit <https://northamerica.uq.edu.au> for more information.**

"This experience definitely helped me with my clinical problem solving skills. It has made me extremely grateful for education and our employment opportunities in Australia."

Many UQ alumni are actively engaged in encouraging volunteering.

Zoe Black (Master of Business Administration '11) previously volunteered for the RSPCA, where she now works in Business Partnerships.

Black, who is a member of the UQ Young Alumni Advisory Board (see "Young leaders support society", page 12) has recently engaged with a UQ lecturer, Dr Tim Kastelle, about a new initiative she has co-founded, the Happy Paws Happy Hearts Foundation, which supports elderly people visiting the RSPCA and engaging with animals and one another to avoid social isolation issues on both sides. More than 100 Psychology students have volunteered so far.

Dr Neil Paulsen from UQ's Business School said in seeking to gain leadership skills, students should consider how they can make a meaningful contribution to society.

"The questions are: 'How do you respond to the challenges at your doorstep? How do you contribute by assisting those less privileged, and how do you demonstrate leadership within the same communities in which you do business?'"

Dr Paulsen said this is what led the Business School to establish the Social Economic Engagement Program (SEEP) (see "Business in Kenya", right), which connects MBA students to community projects and allows them to hone their leadership capacity. The program is just one example of how UQ fosters a strong culture of volunteer involvement during an alumnus' career.



## BUSINESS IN KENYA



Over 40 per cent of people in Kenya live on less than \$1.25 a day, according to the UN's 2014 Human Development

Report. Richard O'Quinn, an MBA student, is providing assistance by volunteering through the UQ Business School's Social Economic Engagement Program (SEEP).

SEEP offers students an opportunity to apply professional expertise and classroom knowledge to projects in the community sector.

With other students, O'Quinn is helping the Edmund Rice Foundation with a business strategy to extend opportunities for people in Nairobi to access finance to start small enterprises.

"A small loan can enable people to break the poverty cycle," said O'Quinn.

**Visit [business.uq.edu.au/social-economic-engagement-program-seep](https://business.uq.edu.au/social-economic-engagement-program-seep) for more information.**



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# YOUNG LEADERS SUPPORT SOCIETY

Some of UQ's most promising young leaders are engaging recent graduates through the Young Alumni Advisory Board.



Director, Alumni and Community Relations, Gina Wheatcroft, said the Advisory Board was a new initiative to help find meaningful ways to connect with young alumni.

"It makes sense to have young alumni speaking to other young alumni — they offer great insights about how we can best support graduates," said Wheatcroft.

"Our board members are an exceptional group of people who are already successful in their respective fields, bringing lots of energy, professional knowledge and ideas."

Board members receive reciprocal career development opportunities, such as connecting them to mentors and leadership development workshops.

Graduate transitions are a priority, along with fostering philanthropy, enhancing the student experience and offering value-add services such as resume and career advice.

Board member Leighton Crisp (Bachelor of Economics '10) was recently recognised as one of Australia's top young managers. Outside work, Crisp is a Brisbane Polo Club Ambassador and previously founded a volunteer committee at the Brisbane German Club.

"As a student, I thought more could be done to help graduates transition into the workforce,

so I decided to do something to change this when I was offered a chance," said Crisp.

In addition to their involvement on the board, many of the participants have volunteered in other ways.

David Harrison (Bachelor of Computer Science '06) co-founded Mammoth Media in 2002 and has since returned as a mentor for budding entrepreneurs through UQ's ilab accelerator program.

Ebrahim Khalil (Bachelor of Engineering '14) has held an honorary role as a Brisbane International Student Ambassador, using social media and digital tools to promote the experiences of international students.

Elizabeth George, who graduated as Class Valedictorian (Bachelor of Pharmacy '13), has been a student mentor, and travelled to Bangladesh in January to volunteer for Symbiosis International, an organisation that aims to alleviate poverty.

In addition to co-founding the Happy Paws Happy Hearts Foundation, Zoe Black is Acting Chair of Hear for You, an Australian organisation that provides support for deaf teenagers, and Vice President of Business Communicators Queensland.

**For a full list of current Young Alumni Advisory Board members, visit [alumni.uq.edu.au/students-and-young-alumni](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/students-and-young-alumni).**



Above: Zoe Black, Young Alumni Advisory Board member and co-founder, Happy Paws, Happy Hearts Foundation, with a puppy at the RSPCA.

## A LIFETIME OF GIVING BACK

**Adjunct Associate Professor Noel Williams volunteers on the UQ Chemical Engineering Advisory Board and the UQ Dow Centre Advisory Board, is a past Chair of the Institution of Chemical Engineers Board in Australia and a past Governor of the American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore. It is all in a day's work for an alumnus who has had a lifetime of giving back.**



Even while Williams (Bachelor of Engineering '74) rose up the ranks of The Dow Chemical Company (Dow) during an illustrious career spanning nearly four decades, he still found time to volunteer.

Williams lived in America, Asia and Australia during his career, and was formerly President of Dow in South-East Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

He has always valued social capital, as embedded in Dow's citizenship approach.

The company partners with leading non-profit organisations to support the societies in which it operates. Dow was the first corporate partner for Habitat for Humanity, an organisation that works with families to build new homes or rehabilitate or repair existing homes. The partnership started in 1983, and Williams soon put his hand up to volunteer. He has also volunteered on a board for a Melbourne housing program.

"I have gained great satisfaction in building houses for Habitat for Humanity in Thailand and Vietnam, as well as chairing a board that led to the construction of low-cost inner city housing for at-risk young people in Melbourne," he said.

In 2012, the University received a \$10 million donation from Dow to establish the

UQ Dow Centre for Sustainable Engineering Innovation. Williams is the Dow-appointed representative on the UQ Dow Centre Advisory Board, in addition to being a member of the Advisory Board for the School of Chemical Engineering.

"The boards have been great, and I have been able to contribute in terms of connections with industry," he said.

So, what has motivated him to volunteer throughout his life?

"Volunteering is all about people and connections with people," he reflected.

"That is where the benefit is, whether you are involved in a mentoring program helping students or are involved with staff. There are lots of alumni who want to get involved, and it is just a matter of getting the connections."



# CONTRIBUTING TO UQ



Members of the UQ Senate (left to right): Dr Zelle Hodge AM, Margaret Brown, Charlie Sartain, Dr Jane Wilson and Michael Zivcic.

**Two doctors and a former lawyer, CEO and Student Union President are among the dynamic faces behind the UQ Senate. They share what inspires them to volunteer with *Contact*.**



UQ alumna Dr Zelle Hodge AM (Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery '73) received a Commonwealth Scholarship

to study Medicine before the Whitlam Government abolished university tuition fees in January 1974, while Deputy Chancellor Dr Jane Wilson (Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery '81) enrolled in the same program years later, in 1976.

"There are two things that drive me to contribute to UQ," reflected Wilson.

"Firstly, being grateful for the opportunity to obtain my medical degree for free; and secondly, attending Harvard and reflecting my experience at UQ was just as good.

"I have been involved in not-for-profit organisations for most of my working life. I see it as part of my responsibility to give back and to promote greater equity for those who have not been lucky enough to grow up with the same opportunities for a good life."

Hodge is similarly appreciative. "The scholarships enabled students who were often the first in their families to attend university, opening education up to many people who otherwise would not have been able to afford to go," she commented.

Wilson's older daughters and son have studied at UQ, and she hopes her younger daughter will enrol after completing Year 12. Education has been similarly important in the Hodge household: Hodge's husband, daughter and son-in-law have all also

studied Medicine at UQ. Reflecting on the value of volunteering, Hodge noted attitude matters with understanding why we should give back to society.

***"As a GP, I see people whose lives are so demanding they have neither the time nor the energy, but they still give back in other ways. You always get more than you give, and you are in it to help other people."***

**Dr Zelle Hodge AM**

Renewal with how you contribute is important too, she reflected. "You need new enthusiasm and energy, but you also have a responsibility to give other people opportunities and to make sure they are nurtured."

Former CEO of Xstrata Copper Charlie Sartain relies on his business nous to advise the Senate Finance Committee and Honorary Degrees Committee. "It is personally very satisfying to be contributing to the University with my experience gained

from quite a different background, and to be involved with such a diverse group of people represented in the Senate," he said.

As a graduate representative and member of the Senate Risk Committee, Michael Zivcic (Bachelor of Engineering/Bachelor of Science '12) embodies the very renewal to which Hodge refers.

The former Student Union President aspires to be a "good representative of young alumni" on the governing body.

*The University of Queensland Act 1998* empowers the 22-member team, led by the Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor, to appoint staff, and manage and control the University's affairs, property and finances.

Margaret Brown (Bachelor of Laws, Honours '82), a retired competition and intellectual property lawyer, was appointed by the Senate in 2010. She was "delighted" at the opportunity, and is acutely aware of the responsibility that underpins the honorary position.

"While it is a pro bono role, in that it is unpaid, the governance role of the Senate and senate members is quite onerous. It is not a matter to be taken lightly, and this is the same for all volunteering and pro bono work — you need to take it just as seriously as paid work," said Brown.



**Download the *Contact* app to read more about the UQ Senators' experiences with volunteering.**



# VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT UQ



With over 215,000 alumni worldwide, more than 48,000 students, nine research institutes and six faculties, there are many ways you can volunteer at UQ.

## GUEST LECTURES AND CAREER TALKS

Many schools and faculties host lecture series for students and alumni. Contact a particular school or faculty for details. Visit [uq.edu.au/departments](http://uq.edu.au/departments) for links to UQ faculty information. You can also contact the Alumni Office on +61 (0)7 3346 3166 or email [uqalumni@uq.edu.au](mailto:uqalumni@uq.edu.au) to discuss ideas for how you might participate in guest lectures or career talks at UQ.

## ALUMNI EVENTS AND CLASS REUNIONS

Many alumni are interested in reconnecting with their peers through reunion events, which are organised and led by alumni volunteers. Examples include groups such as Classes of '89 Veterinary Science and '64 Law, and the UQ Gatton Past Students Association Inc. For details, contact the Alumni Office on +61 (0)7 3346 3166 or email [uqalumni@uq.edu.au](mailto:uqalumni@uq.edu.au).

## NETWORKS, BOARDS AND LEADERSHIP

Many schools, institutes and research centres seek the input of alumni and industry on advisory boards. Advisory boards ensure research and education programs meet current industry needs. There are also several UQ alumni networks in Australia and overseas. For details about opportunities and how you might get involved, contact the Alumni Office on +61 (0)7 3346 3166 or email [uqalumni@uq.edu.au](mailto:uqalumni@uq.edu.au).

## CLINICAL EXPERTISE

More than 2800 clinicians, including hospital registrars and private and general practitioners, volunteer to teach students in the School of Medicine. The School of Medicine is seeking more alumni to help with the Objective Structured Clinical Exams (OSCE). Year Two and Four medical students rotate through stations set up with clinically-based scenarios and simulated patients. Exams are held in October and November each year and interested alumni can contact Dr Margo Lane on phone +61 (0)7 3346 4846 or email [m.lane5@uq.edu.au](mailto:m.lane5@uq.edu.au). Alumni are generous in providing teaching and learning support across many other faculties and schools as well, such as the School of Dentistry. For details about how you may be able to get involved, contact a school or faculty directly. Visit [uq.edu.au/departments](http://uq.edu.au/departments) for links to UQ faculty information.

## MATES@UQ FAMILIES PROGRAM

Mates@UQ matches international students with local residents and families for social outings and get-togethers such as barbecues, dinners and trips to local sporting events or landmarks. The program is open to residents of Brisbane. For details, phone +61 (0)7 3365 1283, email [mates@uq.edu.au](mailto:mates@uq.edu.au) or visit [uq.edu.au/student-services/matesuq](http://uq.edu.au/student-services/matesuq).

 Download the **Contact** app to find out more about the **Mates@UQ Program**.

Visit [alumni.uq.edu.au/volunteer](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/volunteer), contact the Alumni Office on +61 (0)7 3346 3166 or email [uqalumni@uq.edu.au](mailto:uqalumni@uq.edu.au) for more ideas. You can update your details with the Alumni Office at [alumni.uq.edu.au/update-your-details](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/update-your-details).

## MENTORING AND STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

Many disciplines have programs in place to connect current students and recent alumni with a more experienced alumni mentor. The School of Economics and the Business School have a Career Mentor Program for final-year students. For details, phone +61 (0)7 3365 4222 or email [careers@bel.uq.edu.au](mailto:careers@bel.uq.edu.au). The Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology has a MEET a Mentor Program. Applications for 2015 open in early March. For details, visit [eait.uq.edu.au/meet-mentor](http://eait.uq.edu.au/meet-mentor).





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# LIVING WITH CHRONIC PAIN

**Four new collaborative research centres at UQ's Institute for Molecular Bioscience will strengthen efforts to understand and treat chronic pain, inflammation, superbugs and rare diseases.**



A near-fatal motorbike accident has been a precursor to years of silent suffering for UQ staff member Kristine Blencowe, who is one of the 20 per cent of Australians living with chronic pain.

"Chronic pain isn't like other diseases — there are no visible symptoms and it's hard to measure, which makes treatment a constant challenge," shared Blencowe (pictured above), an Industry Placement Officer in the School of Agricultural and Food Sciences. To manage her pain, Blencowe follows a strict self-care schedule involving regular physiotherapy, acupuncture, naturopathy, massage therapy, chiropractic and exercise therapy visits; as well as daily use of a TENS machine that produces pain-relieving electrical pulses. Her treatment routine, she said, does not fully alleviate her symptoms.

"Currently, there are not many options if you suffer from chronic pain. It really just comes down to your pain threshold and what side effects you're prepared to live with," she said.

Chronic pain can vary widely, and generally encompasses pain that extends beyond the expected healing time of an injury. It may accompany cancer and chronic illnesses such as arthritis or lupus, and includes neuropathic pain, acute lower back pain, complex regional pain syndrome, and phantom pain. Phantom pain is when pain sensations occur for a limb or organ



Neuropathic pain.

## A SNAPSHOT OF PAIN

### Discovering new painkillers

Familiar painkillers, or analgesics, such as paracetamol and aspirin, do not always work well in managing pain. Also, stronger painkillers, such as morphine, must be injected and are usually highly addictive. At the IMB Centre for Pain Research (CPR), we are looking at animal venoms — such as those found in centipedes, spiders and cone snails — and other natural substances to develop new and more effective painkilling drugs.



**1 in 5**  
Australians suffer from chronic pain

### Pinpointing pain targets

Understanding how pain targets behave within pain pathways, right down to the molecular level, is a new area in pain research. By examining the structures of these molecules, CPR scientists are working to improve the effectiveness of painkilling drugs, as well as to prevent addiction and the unpleasant side effects associated with current drugs.



**\$34 billion**  
annual cost of treating chronic pain in Australia

### Mapping pain pathways

How the body feels pain is still not well understood. At the CPR, our research maps the complex pain pathways within our body. This will help us to better understand what can cause chronic pain. It will also help us to uncover new pain pathways in the body that could be targeted by painkillers.



**15** UQ scientists dedicated to investigating pain treatments in the Centre for Pain Research

that is not physically part of the body. This lingering pain, for instance, can trouble war veterans for months or years after limbs are amputated following combat.

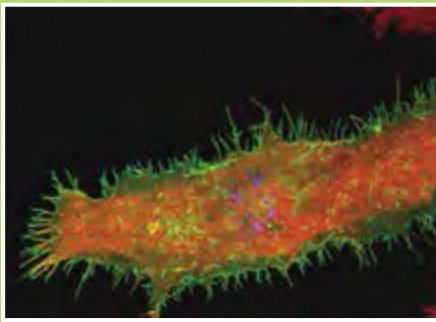
The burden of chronic pain is not well understood across Australian society, as confirmed by Vice-President of Chronic Pain Australia and Research Officer at UQ's Centre for Clinical Research Excellence in Spinal Pain, Injury and Health, Dr Mandy Nielsen.

"Pain is one of the most misunderstood and undertreated diseases in our community.

"It costs the economy \$34 billion each year," said Nielsen.

UQ's Institute for Molecular Bioscience (IMB) has a new Centre for Pain Research, with researchers aiming to understand how our body feels pain. The centre is playing a vital role in bringing the state's





Inflammation.

## INFLAMMATION RESEARCH AND DISEASE

**I**nflammation plays an essential role in detecting and eliminating danger, repairing tissue damage, and returning our bodies to normal health. Uncontrolled or dysregulated inflammation, however, can aggravate diseases such as inflammatory bowel disease, hepatitis, arthritis, asthma, dementia, psoriasis, diabetes and cancer.

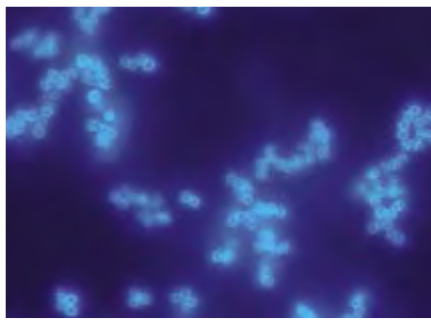
IMB's Centre for Inflammation Research and Disease brings together basic research with drug discovery and development. This unique multidisciplinary approach allows the centre's researchers to discover the molecular and cellular processes of inflammation, understand how inflammation progresses to disease, and transfer this knowledge into new drugs — as well as repurposing existing drugs — to prevent and treat inflammatory diseases.

The centre is also focused on developing new technologies, such as biosensors, to track the migration and status of inflammatory cells and mediators, which can help identify new drug targets and guide the development of new diagnostics.

"Inflammation acts as the body's alarm system during infection and injury, and is essential for the body's healing processes," explained Centre Director, Associate Professor Matt Sweet.

"We also know that genetic and environmental factors can trigger uncontrolled inflammation, causing significant pain and suffering to those affected.

"Understanding how inflammation becomes dysregulated is so important to our efforts to develop more effective anti-inflammatory drugs."



Superbugs. Photo credit: Joanna Adie.

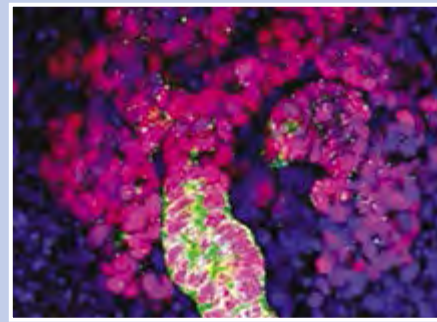
## SUPERBUGS

**T**he World Health Organisation has declared antimicrobial resistance, or superbugs, to be one of the greatest threats to human health. Resistance to antibiotics is a growing global problem in treating infections, resulting in illnesses lasting longer and increasing costs to the healthcare system. IMB's Centre for Superbug Solutions is working to understand the chemistry and biology of infections. With this knowledge, centre researchers can discover new drugs and redesign existing drugs to improve effectiveness and help save lives.

"New treatments are urgently needed to prevent a return to the pre-antibiotic era, when even simple infections caused death," said Centre Director, Professor Matt Cooper.

***"Superbugs cost the Australian economy in excess of \$1 billion each year, while bacterial infections kill more than 170 Australians each week."***

The centre brings together clinicians, chemists, microbiologists and pharmacists from around the world who are developing faster and more accurate diagnostics to help doctors identify superbugs and give patients the right drug the first time. They are also fast-tracking the development of new antibiotics to treat multidrug-resistant bacteria that cause skin infections, sepsis, pneumonia, tuberculosis and urinary tract infections.



Rare diseases - Developing kidney cells (Little Lab).

## RARE DISEASES

**D**id you know around 80 per cent of rare diseases are caused by mutations in our genes?

The Centre for Rare Diseases, which is a collaboration between IMB and UQ Diamantina Institute, aims to identify the genetic mutations causing the diseases, confirm the link between mutations and the diseases, recreate individual patient mutations in cell and animal models to better understand what has gone wrong in affected cells and tissues, and use this information to help diagnose and treat patients living with rare diseases.

Director of the Centre for Rare Diseases, Professor Melissa Little, said rare diseases are more common than the name suggests.

"There are more than 8,000 known rare diseases and around 250 new rare diseases are discovered every year," said Little.

"While each may be rare, together rare diseases are common, affecting more than 1.2 million Australians — including 400,000 children — and 70 million people globally.

"Many rare diseases — such as cystic fibrosis, Huntington's disease, and some cancers — are chronic and life-threatening, and often begin in childhood. They can affect any organ in the body and frequently affect more than one."

Researchers at the centre are working with clinical and research colleagues around the world to investigate a range of rare diseases, including diseases of the brain, heart, kidneys, reproductive system, skeleton, muscles and vasculature.

**The centre will host an event in February 2015 to mark Rare Disease Day. Follow IMB on Facebook ([facebook.com/InstituteForMolecularBioscience](https://www.facebook.com/InstituteForMolecularBioscience)) for event details.**

pain specialists together for the benefit of patients, with the intent of creating better treatments.

"Through research, we can gain a better understanding of how the body feels pain and, in partnership with pain specialists, source solutions to major problems people living with pain face, said Centre Director, Professor Richard Lewis.

"For example, we know many painkillers aren't effective, and have a number of unpleasant side effects."

Chronic pain is often experienced privately; with an expectation pain should generally not have a negative ongoing impact on a person's life without an obvious, tangible cause. There is also a social stigma. Those unfamiliar to

pain may muse: "Is it a cry for help, or could the person be exaggerating?"

"It can be very difficult, at times, for people who have not had a personal experience with chronic pain to understand and accept the condition and what it means," confirmed Blencowe.

"You may never get better from chronic pain, and it becomes a part of your everyday life."

For some, symptoms continue for years. In addition to physical pain responses, distress and depression are common emotional effects.

Family, friends and carers can also be adversely impacted in seeking solace for a loved one. A desire to improve the quality of life of people living with chronic pain is first and foremost in the minds of the international

research team involved with the IMB's Centre for Pain Research.

"This is such an important area of public health and there is so much we are still yet to learn about this complex condition. We hope that, through a multidisciplinary approach to pain research, we can discover new treatments that are urgently needed to improve quality of life for people living with pain," said Lewis.

**For support about living with chronic pain, visit [chronicpainaustalia.org.au](http://chronicpainaustalia.org.au).**

**To discover more about IMB's new research centres and how you can contribute to learning and research efforts, visit [imb.uq.edu.au/research-centres](http://imb.uq.edu.au/research-centres).**

# UQ CELEBRATES EXCELLENCE

## UQ ALUMNI AWARDS 2014



The annual Alumni Awards recognise and promote the outstanding achievements and impact alumni have in the community, both in Australia and overseas.

Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Høj welcomed award winners at a ceremony at the St Lucia campus in October, with a new category to recognise a successful alumnus who attended a UQ residential college.

"Our awardees give the wider UQ community many examples worth emulating," said Professor Høj.

"They are the flesh and blood evidence that the UQ vision of knowledge leadership for a better world is attainable."

UQ selected 13 of the recipients, including five for the Vice-Chancellor's Alumni Excellence Awards, five for the Distinguished Young Alumni Awards, an International Alumnus of the Year, an Indigenous Community Impact Award and the Colleges' UQ Alumni Award.

The recipients were nominated and endorsed by their peers and selected by a committee led by Professor Høj.

The Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc. selected four award recipients, including an Alumnus of the Year and Graduate(s) of the Year.

Each Graduate of the Year achieved a GPA of 7.0, and received First Class

Honours and the University Medal, reflecting tremendous dedication to their areas of study. The event also saluted UQ Sport's Sportswoman of the Year and Sportsman of the Year.

Chancellor John Story was on stage to congratulate the 2014 Alumni Award winners, including the Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc. winners; and also congratulated UQ Sport's Sportswoman of the Year and Sportsman of the Year. Award-winning journalist and commentator, UQ alumna Madonna King (Bachelor of Arts '85), hosted the event.

In addition to the Courting the Greats ceremony in Brisbane, US-based Matthew McLennan (Bachelor of Commerce '91), a recipient of a Vice-Chancellor's Alumni Excellence Award, and Warren Hogarth (Bachelor of Engineering '02, Bachelor of Commerce '04, PhD in Chemical Engineering '06), winner of a Distinguished Young Alumni Award, were recognised at a US awards ceremony in San Francisco.

Director, Alumni and Community Relations, Gina Wheatcroft, said all of the recipients were as proud to be connected to their alma mater as UQ was of their distinctive

accomplishments. "UQ is where they started their road to success, met lifelong friends, and had such a positive experience, so maintaining that connection is important to them," she said.

"The University is extremely proud of their achievements and is committed to supporting all alumni with pursuing excellence and giving back to society."

Previous winners have included Academy Award-winning actor, Doctor Geoffrey Rush; lauded author, Doctor David Malouf AO; Dow Chemical Company Chairman President and CEO, Doctor Andrew Liveris AO; Laureate Professor Peter Doherty AC FAA FRS; leading melanoma researcher and Professor Adèle Green AC; and Wotif.com founders Doctor Graeme Wood AM and Doctor Andrew Brice AM.

**Nominations for the 2015 Alumni Awards are now open. To nominate a UQ alumnus, please complete the enclosed nomination form or visit [alumni.uq.edu.au/uq-alumni-awards](http://alumni.uq.edu.au/uq-alumni-awards).**

**app** Download the UQ Contact app to view photos from the ceremonies.



# VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ALUMNI EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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



## Dr Gabrielle Persley AM

**Bachelor of Science – '70**

**Master of Science – '74**

**PhD in Microbiology – '80**

Dr Gabrielle Persley grew up in 1950s Queensland, and her father would drive her and her two brothers past The University of Queensland's St Lucia campus each Sunday. In Persley's family, education was considered imperative, "not only for a better life, but a life in which you could contribute to others," she said.

It may have been this priority — steadfastly instilled during their formative years — that led all three children to graduate from university.

Persley's heritage is strongly linked to the University, and it was her grandfather, a Horticulture lecturer, who planted the trees that line the Gatton campus today. Persley believes studying at UQ meant she was learning from academics at a top science university.

Having worked towards her career path since childhood, she recalled: "The night I got my PhD is the only known family photo of my Dad smiling."

Persley attributes her opportunities to the University's innovative staff, including her mentor Chris Hayward, who eventually supervised the PhD she undertook in Nigeria. Since then, she has worked as a researcher and senior advisor at some of the world's premier agricultural and biotechnical agencies. She has also worked for the Australian Government's aid agencies, forging strong links between the government and international science and development communities.

Persley is now the Research Project Director at the Crawford Fund Australia, working with UQ's Global Change Institute and with the International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi, Kenya. She said it is a great honour to receive an alumni award, because it represents how much she wanted an education and what it means to her family.



## Ms Julieanne Alroe

**Bachelor of Economics – '75**

When it came time to choose a path for her future, a high-school career counsellor told Julieanne Alroe she could be a teacher, a nun or a nurse. Yet, having spent her childhood growing up in Hendra and watching planes fly overhead each day, Alroe suspected her choices were broader.

In the 1970s, she enrolled in a Bachelor of Economics at UQ in the hope of occasioning further options for her future.

It was during her university studies that Alroe began to read about the aviation industry, which struck a chord and conjured memories of days spent looking up to the skies from her backyard.

Following her graduation, Alroe worked towards a career in aviation, soon discovering a fondness for infrastructure that she has had ever since.

Alroe remembers that, at the time, a young woman with an economics background was an anomaly in the aviation industry, "but they sensed enthusiasm and interest, and people were happy to share knowledge and help me learn".

Her current role as CEO and Managing Director of Brisbane Airport Corporation, which she has held since 2009, poses significant responsibility, with more than 20,000 people using the airport each day.

"It is important that everything works well. It is about processes, and the experience of the customer," she said.

Having begun her career in Sydney, Alroe believes there is something special about returning to her hometown and being recognised by her University.

"I didn't set the world alight academically, but I always knew I would be good when I actually got to do it — so it's validating to be recognised by your university," she said.



## Mr Andrew Buckley

**Bachelor of Engineering**

**(Honours) – '80**

While some people shy away from a challenge, Andrew Buckley takes obstacles in his stride.

"Learning how to deal with challenges is a good developmental tool," he said.

Having retired as CEO and Managing Director of infrastructure and environmental services company Cardno in early 2014 — after 17 years in the top role — Buckley has met his share of challenges. He believes UQ afforded him a ticket to learn the fundamentals of engineering.

"When people see UQ on your CV, they think 'good degree'," he observed.

During his exceptional career, Buckley has worked in Western Australia, the US and Africa before returning to Brisbane to take the helm of Cardno. In his position at the firm, Buckley was responsible for leading

Cardno from a 200-employee company to one with more than 8000 staff members. He joined the firm in 1997 and, since the company was listed on the ASX in 2004, market capitalisation has grown from \$30 million to almost \$1 billion.

Professionally, Buckley has always balanced commercial decision-making with a personal concern for community development and environmental preservation. He maintains a presence in the business world as a part-time Executive Chairman of CMI Limited, a mining and automotive products company.

Since his university years, Buckley has maintained the close network of friends that he established during his time at UQ. These days, his eldest son is studying Mechanical Engineering at UQ.

Of his Alumni Excellence Award, Buckley commented, "I'm honoured that people think I deserve this recognition — it's fantastic and I'm chuffed."

## VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ALUMNI EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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



### **Mr Matthew McLennan**

**Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) – '91**

As an influential investor and Head of Global Value for First Eagle Investment Management, New York, Matthew McLennan manages a portfolio of more than \$93 billion in assets and represents more than two million clients around the world. And yet, McLennan did not follow a strategic or linear career path, but one that was brought about by passion.

"The river may meander but it eventually reaches the sea," he said.

Despite multiple setbacks, McLennan has been successful throughout his career. He believes UQ offered him a platform from which he could push himself intellectually.

Originally from Montville, Brisbane once felt like the "big smoke" to McLennan, who recently took his daughter to see UQ's St Lucia campus. He said the University has

put him in good stead, and that he has fond memories of his UQ days.

McLennan maintains a strong interest in education. He is on several boards and advisory committees for not-for-profit organisations and higher education institutions, including the Harvard School of Public Health and The University of Queensland in America, Inc. Foundation. He provides support to the University's Australian Institute for Business and Economics and sponsors the Matthew McLennan and Richard Howes Outstanding Honours Collaboration Scholarship.

McLennan's involvement with the University has grown in recent years and he has been inspired by the open-minded nature of the current Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Peter Høj, who he described is a "great culture-carrier for UQ". He said receiving a Vice-Chancellor's Alumni Excellence Award conferred a great sense of responsibility.



### **Mr Ian Kemish AM**

**Bachelor of Arts – '82**  
**Bachelor of Arts (Honours) – '87**

The notable foreign service career of Ian Kemish AM has afforded him the opportunity to see and work in many countries around the world. His distinguished record of diplomatic service, business advocacy and philanthropy has led him to Europe, Asia and the Pacific, and provided him with opportunities to make a positive impact on the lives of people in Papua New Guinea (PNG), where he spent many years during his childhood.

Kemish has served as a senior advisor to the Australian Government on global affairs and as an Australian Ambassador to Germany. He played a central role in Australia's responses to international crises, such as the September 11 attacks and 2002 Bali bombings.

Time studying a Bachelor of Arts and an honours degree gave Kemish enhanced career prospects. He maintains UQ's reputation helped him gain access to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Kemish served as the Australian High Commissioner in PNG and is the patron of the Kokoda Track Foundation, an Australian philanthropic organisation that endeavours to repay the people of PNG for assistance provided to Australian troops during World War II.

In his current role as a Strategic Advisor on Asia Pacific Government Relations at Exxon Mobil Corporation, Kemish uses his regional knowledge to discuss possibilities for power and energy solutions. He believes his job provides stimulus to keep learning, and is pleased to continue developing his professional relationship with UQ as an Adjunct Associate Research Professor.

## DISTINGUISHED YOUNG ALUMNI AWARDS

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



### **Ms Tarni Cooper**

**Bachelor of Veterinary Science (Honours) – '10**

For Tarni Cooper, humanitarian and international veterinary scientist, a university subject entitled 'Famine in the Modern World' helped her realise the interconnectedness of the wellbeing of people and their livestock in communities around the world.

Cooper is motivated to combat issues of inequality and is passionate about social change.

Cooper was Valedictorian and won the Dr John Gibbs Biosecurity Memorial Prize for her studies at UQ.

She attributes early opportunities she received to the help of her UQ mentor, Dr Darren Trott.

"Career-wise, Darren saw something in me and just believed in that. Even though his work is different to mine, he trusted that I could do the job," she reflected.

"Learning is a process of trying and reflecting, and

learning from people you are working with."

Cooper said receiving a Distinguished Young Alumni Award has given her and fellow winners the chance to encourage today's students.

Cooper is finalising a tenure with the International Livestock Research Institute, where she began working as an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development in Kenya. Her next goal is to undertake a PhD in communication for social change at UQ.



## Dr Warren Hogarth

**Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) – '02**

**Bachelor of Commerce – '04**

**PhD in Chemical Engineering – '06**

Citing his father as a key inspirational figure in his life, Dr Warren Hogarth said that following in his dad's footsteps and enrolling in a Bachelor of Engineering at UQ was an easy decision.

Having completed three degrees at UQ, including a PhD in Chemical Engineering,

Hogarth has formed strong ties with the University. He values the relationships he maintains with his former lecturers and mentors.

Hogarth is a Venture Capitalist and Partner at Sequoia Capital, a firm in Silicon Valley. He has worked across areas as diverse as solar energy, bioinformatics and 3D printing in the science and technology sectors.

"I love taking the seeds of ideas and helping them grow," he reflected.

Hogarth was a Fulbright Scholar at Princeton University, and earned an MBA from Harvard. His expertise has placed him on the board of directors for many companies, including Guardant Health, Comprehend Systems, SV Bio and Future Advisor.

Of his award, Hogarth said he is excited by UQ celebrating the successes of people who have come through the ranks.

He considers it to be humbling to be recognised in the group.



## Dr Alex Markwell

**Bachelor of Science – '98**

**Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (First Class Honours) – '02**

It was during high school that Dr Alex Markwell decided she could combine her love of biology and languages by studying medicine, and at 17 she began her scientific studies at UQ.

Markwell's parents are also UQ alumni – her mother studied physiotherapy, while her father undertook engineering studies

and an MBA. Markwell and her husband, Anthony Allan, met while studying science at UQ, with Allan going on to complete his Bachelor of Pharmacy. The couple's wedding photos show them smiling, celebrating the moment on the manicured lawn of the Great Court.

Today, Markwell is a dedicated clinician, medical advocate and educator, who makes a positive difference to her profession. As an Emergency Physician at The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and

Greenslopes Private Hospital, she strives tirelessly to assist patients, as well as to improve learning and working conditions for doctors. Her goal is "to improve education, training and leadership in emergency medicine".

She was the youngest president appointed to AMA Queensland; is a respected clinician, academic reviewer and public speaker; is a Senior Lecturer with the UQ School of Medicine; and is a qualified company director.



## Ms Luisa Ryan

**Bachelor of Arts – '02**

**Bachelor of Social Science (Honours) – '03**

**Graduate Certificate in Applied Law – '11**

A lifelong eagerness to travel may have spurred Luisa Ryan's dedication to international issues. Ryan's experiences abroad began with an exchange to Japan at 12, followed by exchanges through UQ to France and Poland, which, she said, "got the ball rolling with my international career".

Today, Ryan is the Best Practices Officer for the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and aspires to find new solutions to peacekeeping issues.

Ryan's parents both studied at UQ, and it is here, she said, she developed research skills she has relied on during her career. Previously, Ryan was awarded a Rotary Peace Fellowship and graduated with a Master of Journalism and Mass Communication, and a

Graduate Diploma in Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2011.

Ryan has formerly worked for International Crisis Group, World Vision, AusAID (now the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade), Australian Red Cross Queensland, International Rescue Committee and the Australian Civilian Corps. She hopes her award will inspire UQ students who want to conduct humanitarian work to pursue their dreams.



## Mr Carl Smith

**Bachelor of Science – '12**

**Bachelor of Journalism (Honours) – '13**

Those passionate about sciences will often name famed scholars on their list of inspirations – but for award-winning science journalist Carl Smith, his mother is at the top of this list. Smith, whose mother is the geneticist who sparked his interest in science and media, works for the ABC in Canberra.

"I am inspired by communicating science in a way that shows just how exciting it is," he said.

After commencing his degree at UQ, Smith discovered a passion for communication while working at the University radio station, and soon switched to a dual degree in science and journalism. Before long, he was running the station, which prepared him for a career at the ABC.

Smith was named "Best New Journalist" at the Optus

IT Journalism Awards in 2014, and has previously received Clarion Awards and an Ossie Award. His work has included an interview with the head of NASA and stories about topics from Antarctic volcanoes to robots and the human body.

Smith is also involved in scientific research, and his work on the genetic traits associated with human physical fitness has featured in international journals.

"I wouldn't have accomplished any of this without UQ's support," he said.



## 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.



### Professor Megan Davis

**Bachelor of Arts – '97**  
**Bachelor of Laws – '99**  
**Duchesne College – 93–95**

For many, working toward a position at an esteemed organisation, such as the United Nations (UN), can be a long journey. Yet, the UN is precisely where Megan Davis began her bright career. Professor Davis is a Director at the Indigenous Law Centre at the University of New South Wales, a Commissioner of the NSW Land and Environment

Court and a UN expert member of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples. During her final year of her studies at UQ, Davis won a UN Fellowship, and was soon completing her final-year exams in Geneva.

Davis is involved in many advocacy programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Despite her many successes, she said the most rewarding aspect of her career is seeing the impact she's able to make working directly with communities.

"It is a great honour to be recognised for what you do in your community – especially by UQ, which is part of my identity," she reflected.

Davis lived at UQ's Duchesne College during her studies, and believes her studious path was meant to be.

"I always knew I was going to go to UQ.

"It is regarded as the top university in the state and it was important to my mum that I went there because she had studied there," she said.

## INTERNATIONAL ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

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



### Professor Endang Sukara

**PhD in Microbiology – '89**

Professor Endang Sukara is an acclaimed scientist who, over the course of his extensive career, has kept sight of what he considers most important in life.

"I want to continue to promote the harmony between nature and humankind," he said.

A passionate advocate for scientific learning, biodiversity and conservation, via the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Sukara was recently elected to

be a member of the Bureau for Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for the Conference of the Parties of CBD.

Through a UNESCO Program, Sukara is also establishing more biosphere reserves in his homeland of Indonesia to promote harmony between conservation of natural resources and development.

Much of Sukara's life has been dedicated to promoting science and research, and he has held several significant leadership roles. He was previously the Vice Chairman of the Indonesian Institute of

Sciences, assisting the Indonesian President in furthering research and development in the areas of science and technology.

Sukara has published more than 150 scientific papers about biodiversity and conservation, and has taught at universities across Indonesia. He has been a strong supporter of UQ since receiving his doctorate more than two decades ago.

He said graduating from UQ gave him confidence in the field of microbiology.

"Every step of my life is a learning process. Only by learning can we continually improve our lives," he reflected.

## COLLEGES' UQ ALUMNI AWARD

Recognising an alumnus who has made an outstanding contribution to UQ and a Residential College, and continues to make a positive impact on the wider community, nationally or internationally.



### Mr Malcolm Snow

**Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning (Honours) – '78**  
**International House 75–77**

During the mid 1970s, Malcolm Snow rushed home from a UQ Open Day. His mother – who studied physics at UQ – recalls her son returning that day, excitedly, having become convinced that town planning was in his future.

He described realising that this discipline was the perfect intersection between his interests of design and community.

Now a passionate urban planner with a commitment to changing the future for the better, Snow has spent his career selecting roles that allow him to fulfil his vision for cities.

Snow has worked on high-profile urban strategies and developments in Australia and abroad, including the Glasgow urban renewal program, the Central Melbourne revitalisation strategy and Brisbane's post-Expo '88 South Bank.

"I feel very strongly that cities need to be inclusive places for people to reach their full potential," he said.

Snow is the Chief Executive of the National Capital Authority in Canberra, and lends his expertise as a leader and advocate for charitable, philanthropic and community groups.

He continues to maintain close ties with International House, describing his college as "an environment consistent with the rest of the world – that of a big global village".

He feels UQ's reputation has helped him throughout his career, alongside principles imparted to him by an early mentor, Professor Lewis Keeble.



## Alumni Friends of the University of Queensland Inc. Awards

### ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Awarded by Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc.

#### Doctor Sallyanne Atkinson AO

Bachelor of Arts – '67  
The Women's College – '60

Regarding her award, Doctor Sallyanne Atkinson AO said: "It means an awful lot, because studying at UQ was my first step into adulthood.

"I feel embedded in UQ. The University is strongly connected to my family — my three sisters and three of my children are all UQ graduates, and my

granddaughter is now at The Women's College."

Following an unusual path to graduation, Atkinson took up full-time work as a reporter for Brisbane's *The Telegraph* during her degree, then studied by correspondence from Sydney, and completed her studies as an expectant mother.

In 1985, she was elected Brisbane's first female Lord Mayor.

"During my early days in local government, UQ was

a wonderful resource for research, which is something I encouraged students to do," she reflected.

Atkinson has previously held the roles of Australia's Senior Trade Commissioner to France and the Queensland Government's Special Representative to South-East Asia.

Atkinson is the Chair of The Women's College Council and Chairman of the Queensland Brain Institute Advisory Board.



### GRADUATE(S) OF THE YEAR

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

#### Mr Aaron Brooker

Bachelor of Engineering  
(First Class Honours) – '13  
St Leo's College – 10–12

As a Graduate Engineer at Parsons Brinckerhoff, Aaron Brooker has had the opportunity to work on diverse projects from Brisbane to the Middle East.

The dedicated Civil Engineering student achieved a grade point average of



seven for his entire course of study at UQ. He was also awarded a University of Queensland Medal.

Speaking about the studies that led to his current role, Brooker insists that the teaching staff at UQ cannot be faulted.

"The quality of their instruction has given me the confidence to tackle the problems I now face every day at work," he said.

Speaking about winning his award, Brooker commented, "It is humbling and inspiring to be recognised alongside some of the best alumni the University has produced.

"It is a source of inspiration to see what other alumni have achieved, and what I could aspire to."

Brooker was previously awarded the 2010 John Black Prize, the 2010 Phillip Dimmock Memorial Bursary,

a 2011 Newcrest Engineering Scholarship, the 2011 C.H.V. Harding Prize in Transportation Engineering, the 2011 C.N. Ross Prize, the 2012 Walter Bruce Darker Scholarship, the 2012 Exxon Mobil Achievement Award, the 2012 RACQ Prize in Highway Engineering, the 2012 Sir Thomas McIlwraith Engineering Scholarship, and the 2013 Richard Spencer Hopkins Prize in Civil Engineering.

#### Mr Morgan Lewis

Bachelor of Engineering  
(First Class Honours) – '13

Although Morgan Lewis did not set out to achieve a grade point average of seven for his entire course of study, this is exactly the result the hard-working student's dedication led to. Having majored in the fields of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, he was awarded a University of



Queensland Medal and has been recognised by The Hawkin Scholars program. Lewis believes UQ provided useful industry connections and afforded him strong problem-solving skills, which, he has learned,

are necessary to think and learn on the job.

Lewis is now a Mechanical Engineer in the oil and gas services group of GHD, and is

grateful to his alma mater for his career opportunities.

"UQ is well recognised in the industry and students are well received by employers," he said.

For Lewis, a highlight of his studies was completing an exchange in Illinois, USA, through UQ Abroad.

"I would certainly encourage UQ students to study overseas — it was a very rewarding experience," he said.

Lewis was previously

awarded the 2010 UQ Excellence Scholarship, the 2010 John Black Prize, the 2012 Henry Maddick Scholarship, the 2012 James Dowrie Memorial Prize, the 2013 GHD Pty Ltd Scholarship in Mechanical Engineering, the 2013 Alfred Henry Darker Scholarship, the 2013 Sir Thomas McIlwraith Engineering Scholarship, and the 2013 Institution of Mechanical Engineers Frederick Barnes Best Student Prize.

#### Ms Tayla Tatzenko

Bachelor of Biomedical  
Science (First Class  
Honours) – '13

Tayla Tatzenko, who achieved a grade point average of seven for her entire course of study and was awarded a University of Queensland Medal, is working towards her future dream of combining medicine with research.



"My undergraduate degree provided me with a wide variety of skills for my future and has helped me to figure out exactly what I want to do," she said.

Tatzenko is currently studying a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS). She said it was during her honours year that she gained exposure to the possibility of

research as a career.

"As a science student, you have direct access to world-class research facilities," she said.

Despite the challenges that come with studying Biomedical Science, Tatzenko said her studies have been very rewarding and she values the friendships she has developed at UQ. She is thrilled to be recognised as a Graduate of the Year.

"The award is unexpected,

but it's such an honour to be recognised by the University. I'm very excited," she enthused.

Tatzenko was awarded the UQ Excellence Scholarship over four years from 2010–13, as well as the Dean's Commendation for High Achievement in all semesters from 2010–13. She won the School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences Academic Excellence Award in Microbiology and Parasitology in 2012.

# HARNESS YOUR ENERGY

**Contact spoke to UQ alumna Catherine Tanna about professional choices and lessons learned in an illustrious career.**

**C**atherine Tanna (Bachelor of Laws '84) is Managing Director of EnergyAustralia, which provides gas and electricity to more than 2.6 million customer accounts, and owns and operates a range of generation and storage facilities, including coal, gas and wind assets across New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. She is also a Director on the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia and a member of the Business Council of Australia. Prior to her role with EnergyAustralia, Tanna joined BG Group as Managing Director of QGC and Executive Vice President for Australia and China. She led the development of Queensland's first LNG Project before being elevated to the position of Chairman, BG Australia, where she was accountable for key stakeholder relations in Australia. Tanna has also had a long career with Shell and BHP Billiton.

**What are your memories of attending UQ, and were there any academics in particular who influenced you?**

At the risk of using expressions we hear our parents say and vowed never to use, "in my day" there was only one university in Queensland, so my very first memory is one of achievement at being accepted from regional Queensland to attend. My labour law lecturer gave me my first challenging work experience opportunity to take on part-time work as a tutor in labour law. This exercised my mind, demanded I develop good preparation and listening skills, and allowed me to move beyond typical survival part-time work in fast food or beverage service.

I was also lucky enough to be part of the cadre taught by Quentin Bryce, who has been a remarkable, inspirational role model for all of her students, not just women and for those who don't know her.

**Your initial qualifications were in law but your career has taken you away from the legal profession. What led to the change?**

In the 1970s, career choices were narrower. There was more gender bias than today and women studying sciences was relatively rare.

Choosing law was not a particular fit to strengths and areas of weakness, but a consolation and compromise from not choosing medicine, dentistry or other courses more favoured by my parents.

How very different life is today, yet I have no regrets. The course and subjects I did study provided an excellent foundation for life, both professionally and personally. I learned great skills of inquiry, and how to evaluate all aspects of a problem, look for precedents and focus on problem-solving.

**What attributes do you possess that have helped you in your career and what are the key lessons you have learned?**

It is important to understand yourself well, including what motivates you and what you stand for. You can then recognise when you make important decisions that shape career choices and how you operate each and every day.

Helpful attributes include being well organised practically and mentally; thinking about the impact and perspective of others, both those with you and those you are trying to influence; and being resilient, because there will be many days when things just don't go your way and you have to front up the next day and keep going.

**How will the resources and energy industries be shaped over the next 20 years?**

The energy sector has an amazing ability to reinvent itself. Just a decade ago, the US was planning to import liquefied natural gas as it looked to become a permanent long-term net importer of its high-energy needs. Now it is energy self-sufficient, in a dramatic turnaround.

Further downstream, distributed generation has grown faster than predicted and continues to become more affordable, while consumer behaviour is more energy efficient.

There are still some 1.5 billion people on our planet who do not have access to reliable energy. Our priority over the next 20 years should be correcting this.

**Has being a woman meant you have faced additional challenges, given the industries you work in?**

Women face additional challenges at work, regardless of the sectors in which we are employed. Our societal norms have shifted positively, but still have some way to go with adjusting for the expectations of women, particularly working mothers.

Even today, it is not unusual to be the only woman in a meeting. This slow pace of reform must disappoint the great people — women and men — who advocate for this to change.

**Do you see yourself as a role model to other women striving to reach senior management?**

I want all women to have the opportunity to realise their potential and not be hampered by gender in pursuing their careers. I have certainly been inspired by women who have achieved amazing things, including Quentin Bryce; Ann Pickard, head of Shell's operations in the Arctic (and known as the bravest woman in oil and gas); and Linda Cook, the CEO of Harbour Energy.

**Who has been a mentor to you or had a significant influence on your career?**

Three key mentors taught me my top three lessons in my career: to act like an owner, to be authentic and to not self-select out of opportunity.

**What advice would you give UQ students who are about to graduate, or alumni who are in the early stage of their careers?**

I pass on the advice from my mentors. If you are ever in doubt, imagine it is your own business and the future of your family depended on its success — you will then know the right thing to do.

Put yourself in the shoes of the person you are dealing with. If you treat that person as you would like to be treated yourself, you will do the right thing.





*“I want all women to have the opportunity to realise their potential and not be hampered by gender in pursuing their careers. I have certainly been inspired by women who have achieved amazing things.”*

Catherine Tanna, Managing Director, EnergyAustralia

# BREAKING THE CYCLE OF DISADVANTAGE

By Professor Janeen Baxter, Director, Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course, Institute for Social Science Research

**At the start of our lives, we are dealt a hand of cards. Can we reshuffle the deck?**

Some of us are born into families that provide the resources, care and support needed to develop productive, engaged and fulfilling lives. Others are not so lucky. Through no fault of their own, some start out with life chances already lagging behind those of more fortunate peers, by virtue of birth into poorer families with fewer social and economic resources.

Starting out with less may not matter if there is social mobility that allows children from poor families to move up the social ladder and access high-quality care, education and employment.

But Australia, like some other wealthy countries, is becoming more unequal. The gap between the rich and the poor is growing. Countries that are less equal also tend to have reduced social mobility. In these countries, not only are the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer, but their children are also increasingly following similar trajectories, with little mobility across the groups.

Much research has focused on inequality in terms of income or poverty. Yet disadvantage occurs across multiple domains, including income, housing, education, employment, health, social participation, leisure, crime, consumption and political inclusion.

Moreover, people experiencing disadvantage in one of these domains are highly likely to experience disadvantage in other domains. The problem is often compounded by what might be called deep and persistent disadvantage: the experience of more than one form of disadvantage over a prolonged spell of time.

Social scientists are unclear about how best to intervene to break the cycle of disadvantage. Nobel Laureate Professor James Heckman, from the University of Chicago, has convincingly argued investments should focus on the early years of life, before children reach the age of three and well before they enter school. It is more cost effective to intervene early to improve educational performance and human capabilities than to remediate at a later stage.

Investing in the capabilities of children today is the best policy to promote the capabilities of adults tomorrow. Having invested early, we need to continue to support disadvantaged families and children to ensure that early gains are not lost.

We also need to maintain and improve the overall quality of education for Australia to remain competitive in a world in which knowledge and capacity to keep learning and innovating matters more, not less.

Heckman's work has focused on the US, where demographic, social and political circumstances differ from Australia. In Australia, the number of children growing up in disadvantaged families is increasing, and income inequality has been rising since the mid 1990s.

We know there is a group of people who are repeatedly excluded from key aspects of social life, such as access to employment opportunities. Three per cent (465,000 Australians) were deeply excluded for five years or more between 2001 and 2010, and around one per cent (165,000 Australians) were deeply excluded for seven years or more. This sort of disadvantage can have devastating social and economic costs. Australian children who grow up in disadvantaged families are:

- four times as likely to be expelled from school
- almost three times as likely to go before a juvenile court
- twice as likely to be diagnosed with depression
- twice as likely to have used illegal drugs.

Findings from a recent Productivity Commission working paper suggest that falling into deep and persistent disadvantage is not a random process. Individuals who are in public housing, those who rely on income support, and those who experience unemployment are the most likely to experience deep and persistent disadvantage.

Other disproportionately affected collectives include lone-parent families, people with long-term health conditions or disabilities, Indigenous Australians, the poorly educated, migrants from non-English speaking

backgrounds and the elderly. Unsurprisingly, one of the most reliable indicators of deep and persistent disadvantage is long-term reliance on social safety net welfare payments.

Australia's social welfare payments are tightly targeted. They are intended to address gaps, rather than ensure everyone achieves a minimally acceptable standard of living. Social welfare payments do not prevent the inheritance or development of disadvantage over the life course, but are a safety net designed to support those who fall through the cracks.

The current system neither addresses how to prevent disadvantage nor detects it early enough to enable families and children to get back "on track", and live lives they would choose for themselves.

To address these issues and inform policies, a group of Australian social scientists is investigating:

- the mechanisms producing and perpetuating deep and persistent disadvantage in Australia
- what works in preventing and reducing deep and persistent disadvantage
- feasible and innovative evidence-based solutions that enhance life outcomes for all Australians.

The group, which I lead, has been funded by the Australian Research Council to establish a Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course (the Life Course Centre). It brings together leading researchers from UQ and the universities of Western Australia, Melbourne and Sydney, along with key government and non-government partners, and high-profile scholars from 16 international universities including Harvard, Cambridge, Singapore and Chicago.

Together, we will advance research targeted at reducing the intergenerational transmission of disadvantage.

**The Life Course Centre is administered by the Institute for Social Science Research at UQ. For more information, visit the Life Course Centre website at [lifecoursecentre.org.au](http://lifecoursecentre.org.au).**





In *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865), Alice meets three servants (the 2, 5 and 7 of Spades) in the Queen's garden. The playing cards are painting white roses red after a planting error, to avoid the Queen beheading them just because she doesn't like white roses.

In the classic novel, Clubs are soldiers, Diamonds are courtiers, Spades are gardeners and Hearts are children, in a literary example of differentiation of life chances determined by forces beyond an individual's control.



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Janeen Baxter is Professor of Sociology and Director of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course in the Institute for Social Science Research at The University of Queensland. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia and the Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality.

Her research focuses on family dynamics over the life course and gender inequality. She has recently published *Negotiating the Life Course: Stability and Change in Life Pathways* (Springer, 2013).

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# THE DARK OF ABSOLUTE FREEDOM

Philosophy and religion are interpreted with shades of light and darkness in  
*Lindy Lee: The Dark of Absolute Freedom* at the UQ Art Museum.



Lindy Lee (1954–)

*Fire and Water* 2006

Based on an original photograph by Rob Scott-Mitchell

synthetic polymer paint and wax on board, archival inks on pure cotton photorag paper

17 panels, overall 162.5 cm x 150.5 cm

Collection of The University of Queensland. Gift of Lindy Lee through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program, 2013.

Reproduced courtesy of the artist and Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney; Sutton Gallery, Melbourne; and 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong.

Photo: Carl Warner



Lindy Lee (1954–)  
*Bubhi and Me* 2009  
 inkjet print, Chinese ink and fire on paper  
 image/sheet 295.0 cm x 131.0 cm  
 Collection of The University of Queensland, purchased 2010 from  
 'The University of Queensland National Artists' Self-Portrait Prize 2009'.  
 Reproduced courtesy of the artist and Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney;  
 Sutton Gallery, Melbourne; and 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong.  
 Photo: Carl Warner

**L**indy Lee departed her hometown of Brisbane as a young artist in the late 1970s, travelling to Canada, Italy and the United Kingdom, where she studied at the Chelsea School of Art in London before returning in late 1980. The following year she moved to Sydney, where she continues to live and work. A little over a decade later, she turned her attention away from Europe to her parents' homeland of China.

By that time, she had already established a reputation as a significant Australian artist. The first major survey exhibition of Lee's work, *Lindy Lee: The Dark of Absolute Freedom*, is being presented by UQ Art Museum.

"Lindy Lee's work has resonated with audiences since the mid 1980s, conveying as it does such rich philosophical and spiritual qualities," said UQ Art Museum Director Dr Campbell Gray.

"The exhibition takes us on a trajectory from her early works in which Western art-historical portraits were repeatedly photocopied until they faded into black, through to her most recent extraordinary works of flung bronze that emerge from her practice of Zen Buddhism and meditation.

"Buddhism has been an essential component of her practice since she embraced it in the early 1990s, at a time when she was also exploring her Chinese heritage."

Upon arriving at the Art Museum, visitors are greeted by a row of red banners featuring Lee's mother as a young woman, while a large-scale installation, titled *Birth and Death 2003* and made up of Chinese "accordion books" featuring portraits of the artist's family, is displayed on the floor in a darkened gallery space.

Prior to incorporating photographic portraits of her own family, Lee photocopied art-historical portraits by artists such as Goya, Rembrandt and Titian. Displayed either in a linear sequence or in a grid, the works have been acclaimed not only

for their beauty, but also for the way they speak to postmodern theories of originality and the copy.

In other large-scale works of the early 1990s, Lee scraped into a layer of black wax and pigment to reveal grand or heroic images from European paintings.

The way these images emerged from and disappeared into the dense black of photocopy ink or black wax bear witness to Lee's long admiration for the black paintings of Ad Reinhardt and the spiritual dimension of Mark Rothko's work.

"I only care about art in terms of that which is invisible within us," explained Lee.

"The movement in my psyche is toward lightness, but it is always grounded in the gravitas of darkness."

While black has been integral to her work, she explains her choice of colour has been very specific to existential questions, and is never trivial. Beginning with black, Lee has adopted a small number of pure colours over the years, including red, ultramarine blue, purple, orange and celadon green.

In the 1990s, Lee began to overlay a variety of expressive gestures to the surface of her grids. In 1995, an Asialink residence in Beijing allowed Lee to explore calligraphy and find a way of adapting its spontaneous mark for her own purpose, beyond its tradition.

The hot black wax and pigment she had overlaid across the image before scraping into it now appeared as an explosive splat or other dynamic mark that covered grid segments of photocopied image or pure colour. Grids were broken up and rearranged to allow such abrupt non-continuity.

More recently, Lindy Lee's 'flung ink' works have developed into sculptural forms made by throwing molten bronze on the foundry floor, with the pieces subsequently polished and exhibited on the wall in eloquent combinations. Two major flung bronze works and a series of her



new fire stone sculptures, made with Urban Art Projects, are included in the exhibition.

Fire has also been used to burn holes through sheets of metal and heavyweight paper, either with appropriated historical Chinese imagery or in abstract fields in which burnt voids of varying sizes are repeated across the surface, as if in an endless cosmos. The fire drawings are hung in series a small distance from the wall, and lit so the void and its shadow are integral.

Works are drawn from public and private collections, and from

The University of Queensland Art Collection. Funding has been received from the Visual Arts Board of the Australia Council and the Gordon Darling Foundation.

**Lindy Lee: The Dark of Absolute Freedom continues until 22 February 2015.**  
**For more information, visit [artmuseum.uq.edu.au](http://artmuseum.uq.edu.au).**

**app** Download the **Contact** app to view a video interview with artist **Lindy Lee**.

## DISCOVERY HIGHLIGHTS

The University's talented researchers are making a difference by finding solutions to global issues. To find out more about how you can contribute to the University's research efforts, visit [uq.edu.au/giving](http://uq.edu.au/giving)

### CORAL CRYSTAL BALL

Researchers from the Global Change Institute are hoping to look into the future of coral reefs with their new mesocosm experiment.

The team, led by Associate Professor Sophie Dove, has collected samples including coral, macroalgae and sea cucumbers from

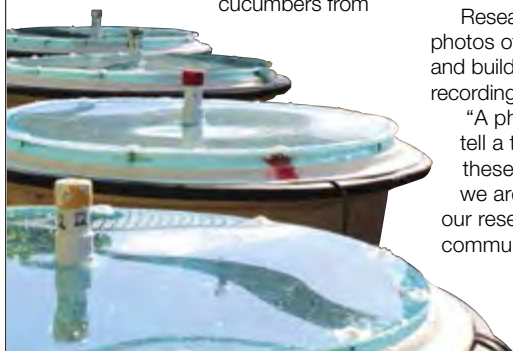
around Heron Island. They have then created the mesocosms, which are replica patch reefs constructed in specially designed tanks.

"We are attempting to experimentally determine how coral reefs might look by the end of the century under different CO<sub>2</sub> emission trajectories," said Dove.

The experiment will examine the effects on the mesocosms if CO<sub>2</sub> emissions continue at current rates, and what would happen if fossil fuel emissions were reduced by 2050.

Researchers will take photos of the reefs every week, and build time-lapse movies recording the changes over time.

"A photograph really does tell a thousand words, so these images are vital if we are to communicate our research to the broader community," said Dove.



### SCHIZOPHRENIA INSIGHTS

An international study has uncovered dozens of genetic sites associated with schizophrenia and could lead to new treatments.

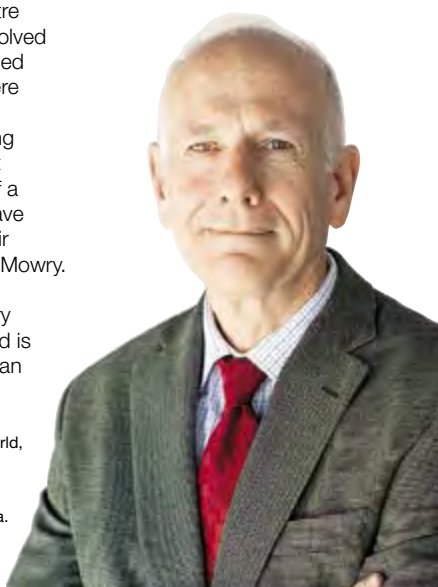
Professor Bryan Mowry from the Queensland Brain Institute and the Queensland Centre for Mental Health was involved in the study, which identified 108 sites, 83 of which were previously unidentified.

"These are very exciting findings that will no doubt bring hope to a quarter of a million Australians who have schizophrenia, and to their families and carers," said Mowry.

Schizophrenia affects approximately one in every 100 people worldwide and is estimated to cost Australian society \$5 billion a year.

Researchers from around the world, including UQ's Professor Bryan Mowry, have made an important breakthrough that could lead to new treatments for schizophrenia.

"The next steps will involve determining the functional basis of these genetic signals and how they interact together to cause illness, and then developing new therapeutic interventions," said Mowry.



Dr Felicity Meakins (left) assisting Gurindji rangers Helma Sambo and Ursula Chubb with recording equipment.

Photo courtesy of Brenda L Croft.

### CAPTURING HISTORY

The Gurindji people from the Northern Territory's Victoria River District might be best known for the Gurindji Strike, captured in Paul Kelly and Kev Carmody's classic song, "From Little Things Big Things Grow", but in the 1860s, they were victims of brutal massacres.

Now, Dr Felicity Meakins from the School of Languages and Comparative Cultural Studies is helping capture this history in the Gurindji people's own words. She is pictured (above) helping Gurindji rangers Helma Sambo and Ursula Chubb with recording equipment.

"We are now publishing a book for the general public that will feature historical accounts in Gurindji and English, with maps and full-colour photos of the sites, plus artistic responses to the stories by Gurindji artists," said Meakins.

Not only does the project aim to record these stories from this tragic period, but it will also help preserve the Gurindji language.

*"We hope these stories will become more well known, so they will never be repeated."*

Dr Felicity Meakins

### DRINKS UP

A new study has found young Australian women are drinking more than previous generations, leading to calls for increased public awareness.

The lead study author, Associate Professor Rosa Alati from the School of Population Health and the Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research, said women between 18 and 25 were five times more likely to drink at excessive levels than their mothers at the same age.

"Our findings suggest that previous studies may have underestimated how much more alcohol young women are consuming compared with the previous generation," she said.

"It may be time to consider more focused public health campaigns aimed at outlining the dangers of excessive drinking to young women."







Spinifex (*tridax*) grass has traditionally been a versatile material for Indigenous Australians, and is now being used to create cutting-edge materials.

Photo: Melina Gillespie, CMLR, 2010.

## BUILT WITH SPINIFEX

A UQ Spinifex research team are working with Aboriginal collaborators, led by Indjalandji leader Colin Saltmere, to determine which of 69 species of spinifex grass produce the best nanofibrils.

Professor Paul Memmott from the School of Architecture and the Institute for Social Science Research, and Professor Darren Martin from the Australian Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology have led the research team.

It has been discovered that spinifex grasses can easily be broken down into nanofibrils.

These are very small, needle-shaped cellulose fibres.

“What this means is that the grasses can be repurposed into hardy biomaterials that have the potential for many different purposes, including as medical textiles, carbon fibres and building fabrics,” said Memmott.

Once this is done, they want to establish a new sustainable industry in western Queensland to farm, harvest and bioprocess spinifex.

Spinifex grass has traditionally been a common building material for Aboriginal communities in arid and semi-arid Australia.

## TREASURE FROM TRASH

Reusing wastewater is an increasingly popular eco-friendly action, with many people using greywater to flush their toilets and water their gardens.

Associate Professor Damien Batstone and his team at the Advanced Water Management Centre are taking this a step further and producing fertiliser from wastewater and wastes.

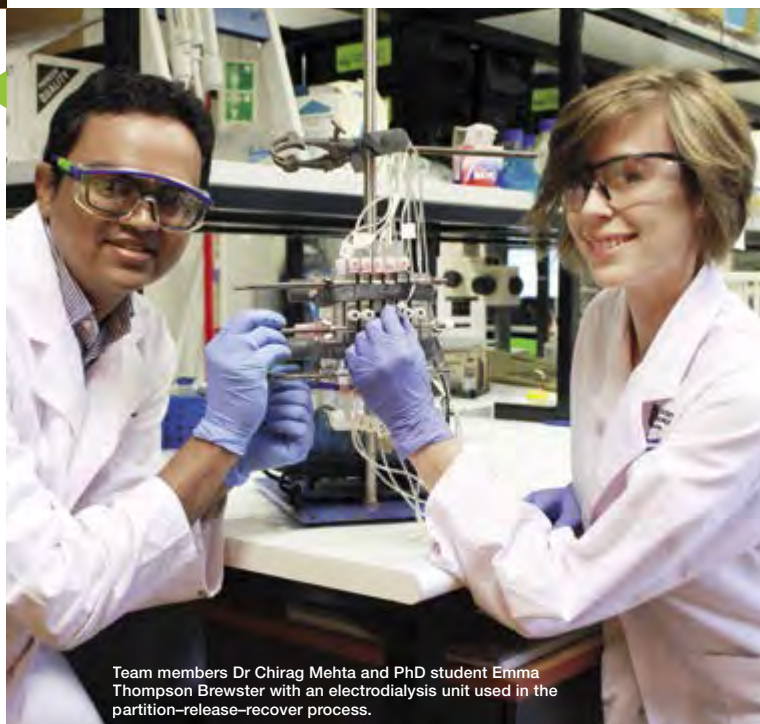
“The rising cost and shrinking availability of fertiliser has long been of concern to the agricultural industry. Current global use is also unsustainable from a resource and environmental impact perspective,” said Batstone.

Batstone and his team are currently in the trial phase of a

process to fertilise crops with minerals recovered from both domestic and agro-industrial waste streams.

Using technology such as the partition-release-recover method developed at UQ, Batstone estimates around 30 per cent of the net Australian fertiliser market can be recovered from Australian wastes. Globally, it is possible that the nutrient market for key macronutrients such as phosphorous and potassium could be fully addressed from waste streams.

“We have certainly found the treasure in wastewater trash, and look forward to an enriched future – both environmentally and sustainably,” said Batstone.



Team members Dr Chirag Mehta and PhD student Emma Thompson Brewster with an electro dialysis unit used in the partition-release-recover process.



The New Guinea Big-Eared Bat (*pharotis imogene*), photographed by Catherine Hughes and Julie Broken-Brow.

## ‘EXTINCT’ BAT FOUND

A species of bat thought to be extinct for 120 years has been rediscovered by UQ researchers.

School of Agriculture and Food Sciences students Catherine Hughes and Julie Broken-Brow were on a field expedition in Papua New Guinea when they caught a New Guinea Big-Eared Bat (*pharotis imogene*).

Researcher Dr Luke Leung said the last recorded sighting of the species was in 1890, when an Italian scientist collected the first and only specimen.

“We captured one individual about 120 kilometres east of the

only previous known locality at Kamali,” said Leung.

He said more research is needed to determine whether the bat only occurs in this lowland region, or has a larger territory.

“Many of the coastal lowland habitats throughout Papua New Guinea are among the most threatened in the country, due to clearing for logging and agriculture.

“More field surveys of local bat populations could assess the conservation status of the species and inform future strategies to ensure their preservation.”





# GETTING ACTIVE AT WORK

If we take a snapshot of modern Australian life, it's evident many adults spend much of their working lives sitting. Two UQ initiatives aim to educate and empower workers to make active lifestyle choices.

By Dr Nicholas Gilson, School of Human Movement Studies



A London double decker bus is one of the first things you learn about in physical activity epidemiology. This is because in the 1950s and 60s, Jerry Morris, a Scottish epidemiologist, showed that London bus drivers, who sat for long hours, were more at risk of developing heart disease than conductors, who spent most of their work time active and on their feet.

Morris set the platform for an impressive body of work that has established physical activity as one of the best buys for public health. Yet, looking back across that body of work, it is interesting to consider the post-Morris focus on leisure-time physical activity. It certainly is important, but did we miss the bus? What about occupational physical activity and sitting time?

If we take a snapshot of modern Australian life, it's evident that adults spend most of the day doing what you're probably doing right now. Most of our sitting occurs at work.

Technology, time pressures, ergonomic design, and sociocultural norms have created passive work environments and routines.

My research focuses on the urgent need to re-energise work in a range of priority occupational groups.

For example, truck drivers are mostly middle to older aged men who urgently need to make positive changes in the way their work and lifestyles interact. With the support of a Queensland Government grant, colleagues and I have devised an initiative that targets small changes in active living in driver breaks.

*Shifting Gears* was covered in an ABC News report, 'Life on the road delivers health hazards' that is available online.

The initiative educates and empowers drivers to make and regulate active lifestyle choices, using a wristband activity tracker and smartphone app (see photo, right).

The wristband synchronises with the app to upload step counts and sleep quality, both of which are very valuable for shift work and fatigue management. Drivers use these features to view their progress against set goals, and to virtually connect with researchers and other drivers to share ideas and get support.

Organisational incentives and rewards, in the form of a voucher scheme, embed

change into daily routines, and drivers log their activity choices and receive points for achieving goals (or Gear Shifts), accumulating a bigger reward with more points.

*Shifting Gears* is entering its final phase, in which we follow up with drivers to assess if active living changes have been maintained without researcher support.



In the *Shifting Gears* project, truck drivers use a wristband and app to regulate their active living choices against set goals.

*Energise*, on the other hand, is an exciting new initiative for us. The project is supported through a Heart Foundation grant, and is about to go live with Telstra, QBE Insurance and the Railways Credit Union.

Similar to how truck drivers use the app, *Energise* uses prompt technology to encourage office employees to engage with a "menu" of work-based movement choices, like active emails and walk-talk meetings.

The prompts are provided by the Sitting Pad, which is a low-cost device developed at UQ.

The Sitting Pad consists of a pressure sensor that detects transitions to and from sitting. Data are transmitted wirelessly to a secure research database and, when enabled, to a real-time feedback and "traffic light" visual on a worker's computer screen. The lights progress from green to amber and then red, if a break from desk-based sitting does not occur for five continuous minutes within every 30. Users can select a range of auditory, as well as visual, prompts, but not small electric shocks!

It is important to recognise that the pre-programmed thresholds we have built into the Sitting Pad are largely based on informed opinion, rather than hard evidence.

Indeed, while the evidence base is strong in presenting a case for the ill effects of prolonged sitting, we have some way to go before we can prescribe guidelines on how much or how often it should or should not occur. The current sensible advice, as stated in the most recent Australian physical activity and sedentary behaviour guidelines for adults, is to break and reduce prolonged periods of sitting by standing and moving whenever possible.

One of the things we are interested in testing through *Energise* concerns the frequency and length of sitting breaks that fit with the demands of office-based work. Participants using the Sitting Pad software have the capacity to set their own "traffic light" thresholds, and this is something we will monitor as the project progresses.

Initiatives like *Shifting Gears* and *Energise* are at the forefront of a new wave of studies investigating the feasibility of energised workplaces. Ironically, a common theme across these studies is the use of technology to promote, rather than limit, movement. Devices such as smartphones and UQ's Sitting Pad are good examples of practical and cost-effective tools that can help employees and employers self-manage occupational physical activity and sitting.

**The Centre for Research on Exercise, Physical Activity and Health (CRExPAH) conducts research on exercise and physical activity, including occupational sedentary behaviour, and is interested in partnering with employers and workplaces on health initiatives. For details, visit [uq.edu.au/hms/crexpah](http://uq.edu.au/hms/crexpah) or email [crexpah@hms.uq.edu.au](mailto:crexpah@hms.uq.edu.au).**



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Nicholas Gilson is a Senior Lecturer in Physical Activity and Health. He joined the School of Human Movement Studies in 2008, and is responsible for leading and teaching courses in physical activity and health promotion to undergraduate and postgraduate students. His research expertise focuses on designing, implementing and evaluating interventions that target physical activity and sedentary behaviours in the workplace. Gilson is particularly interested in occupational health issues in different cultures and countries and has acted as chief and co-investigator on a number of competitively awarded grants in Australia, Europe and Latin America. He has worked with industry partners including Centrelink, Brisbane City Council and Queensland Health, and is an active member of a number of physical activity networks. He supervises PhD students, regularly presents at conferences and provides media commentary and peer reviews for journals and grant-awarding agencies.

Phone +61 (0)7 3365 6114 or email [n.gilson1@uq.edu.au](mailto:n.gilson1@uq.edu.au)



Pictured left to right: Associate Professor Anthony Cassimatis, Emily Chalk, Lisa Lee, Camille Boileau, Hugo Clark-Ryan, Abbey Mawby and Catherine Drummond.

# LEGAL GOLD

**UQ law students have prevailed to win the world's largest mooting competition.**

**A** TC Beirne School of Law team — Camille Boileau, Emily Chalk, Hugo Clark-Ryan, Lisa Lee and Abbey Mawby — defeated the Singapore Management University School of Law in the White and Case Jessup World Championship Round of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Competition on 13 April.

The team won both the prestigious world title and awards for the Best Overall Applicant, Best Applicant Memorial and Best Speaker in the Final, presented to Emily Chalk. On the way to victory in Washington DC, USA, they prevailed against teams from all over the world, including Columbia Law School and the national champions from Canada, the Philippines and Indonesia.

Each year, some 600 teams from 85 countries take part in regional rounds for the competition.

UQ Dean of Law Professor Sarah Derrington was thrilled by the team's achievements.

"I offer the team my warmest congratulations on behalf of everyone at the Law School. I also wish to thank the team's coaches, Associate Professor Anthony Cassimatis and law alumna Catherine Drummond, for their indefatigable support throughout the competition."

It was the second Jessup world title for Associate Professor Cassimatis.

"I'm so proud of the team — to win any one of the Jessup finals' awards is a tremendous achievement, but to win four is unprecedented," said Cassimatis.

## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

**Chancellor John Story**

**The Honourable Ian Callinan AC QC**

**The Honourable Justice John Logan RFD SC**

**The Honourable Justice Margaret White AO**

**The Honourable Dr Glen Williams AO QC**

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**The Hon Justice Glenn Martin AM**

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**Minter Ellison**

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**Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer**

# DREAMS TO REALITY

**A donation from Queensland's largest law firm has inspired an innovative scholarship.**



**T**he McCullough Robertson Endowed Law Scholarship for Indigenous Students provides financial assistance to academically qualified Indigenous students who are socially or economically disadvantaged, while promoting opportunities to practise law in the private sector. The first scholarship recipients are Shekira Cardona and Nicholas Frazer (pictured), who are studying dual degrees in Law and Business Management.

Frazer said he is determined to make the most of the opportunities the scholarship presents.

"I can dedicate myself to hard work and my degree, so I can later benefit and encourage young Indigenous Australians who may be in similar positions. If they work hard, they can fulfil goals in life," he said.

Cardona said the financial boost has made a significant difference to her outlook.

"This assistance has erased a great deal of stress with covering study costs," she said.

**Applications for the 2015 scholarship open from 1 January. For details, email the School of Law at [tcblaw@law.uq.edu.au](mailto:tcblaw@law.uq.edu.au).**







# FAMILY TIES IN GLASGOW

**UQ alumni Matt and Alana Boyd represented Australia in pole vaulting at the XX Commonwealth Games, continuing a family history of sporting excellence.**

**T**he Boyd siblings enjoyed a special moment together during the Opening Ceremony at Celtic Park in Glasgow, Scotland, as 40,000 spectators looked on.

Alana was a 2003 Development Scholarship holder (Bachelor of Business Management '04) at UQ, and made history by becoming the first woman to win back-to-back gold medals in pole vaulting at the Commonwealth Games. She won the gold in treacherous, slippery conditions, with six finalists registering a "no height" and failing to clear the bar after wet weather delays.

"The highlight was defending my title from the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi and winning the gold medal," she said.

Matthew (Bachelor of Regional and Town Planning '09), was awarded a UQ Sports Achievement Scholarship in 2009. He finished 12th overall in the men's pole vault.

The brother and sister duo are part of an Australian athletics dynasty, with parents Ray and Denise (née Robertson) previously competing at the Olympics and Commonwealth Games.

Alana has fond memories of her time on campus. She said learning how to balance

study with sport has had a "tremendous influence" on her success as an athlete.

"In the three years I spent at UQ, I became a well-rounded person," she said.

*"A development scholarship allowed me to balance my sporting and academic pursuits with less stress and more understanding. It was great to be recognised and encouraged for my sporting achievements too."*

**Alana Boyd**

Matthew used UQ's world-class sporting facilities during his studies, receiving free access to the athletics track, gym and pool because of his scholarship. He also represented the UQ Athletics Club.

"I made a lot of lifelong friends and lasting memories when I competed and trained at the UQ Athletics Club," he said.

"I often still train at the UQ track, and it is always good to catch up with familiar faces."

Fourteen UQ students and alumni represented Australia in swimming, gymnastics, diving, athletics, triathlon, judo and men's rugby sevens at the XX



Matthew and Alana Boyd enjoy the Opening Ceremony, and inset: Alana is thrilled to win gold in the pole vault.

Commonwealth Games, with swimmer Melanie Schlanger (Bachelor of Science '09) winning a gold medal as part of the women's 4x100m freestyle relay team. Schlanger was the recipient of the Clem Jones Sporting Scholarship from 2007 to 2009. Overall, eight athletes who competed have been, or are, recipients of UQ sporting scholarships.

"UQ is an elite-athlete friendly university and strives to facilitate an environment that encourages sporting excellence among students," said CEO of UQ Sport, Bryan Pryde.

**To support UQ sporting scholarships, visit [uq.edu.au/giving](http://uq.edu.au/giving).**

**app** Download the **UQ Contact** app for exclusive content about alumni competing at the XX Commonwealth Games.



# FOR THE STUDENTS

UQ alumnus Bill Bowness wants tomorrow's students to have the best opportunities.

*"As a family, we have a philosophy. It sounds formal, but if you have taken, you should give back."*

In the background:  
Peter Booth  
*Untitled (Man)* 1985  
Oil on Canvas, 137x168 cm  
Detail illustrated  
© Courtesy of the artist

**app** Download the *Contact* app to view a video interview with Bill Bowness, and to learn more about the Telerehabilitation Clinic.



## BILL BOWNESS

Bachelor of Commerce – '68

UQ alumnus Bill Bowness grew up living with a stutter, with his family also experiencing financial difficulties. Today, he is the Chairman of the investment company Wilbow Group, and is helping to establish both a scholarship program for young achievers, and Australia's first Telerehabilitation Clinic.

Bowness said childhood experiences influenced his decision to make a \$1 million gift to UQ.

"Even if I had wanted to go to university immediately after I finished school, and unless I was prepared to work extremely hard at part-time jobs, I probably couldn't have, as we didn't have the money," he said.

"I have learned over the years that, like me, there are many kids who had the talent but never had the family support or fiscal backing to exploit and take advantage of their natural talent. As a family, we have a philosophy. It sounds formal, but if you have taken, you should give back."

To assist people dealing with stuttering, as well as other communication and physical disorders, half of Bowness's gift is being used to establish the Telerehabilitation Clinic in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. The clinic will be a state-of-the-art service for clients who may be isolated or unable to access traditional services, with four consultation studios.

"Until you suffer from a stutter, you have no idea what the consequences might be, and the Telerehabilitation Clinic will provide invaluable support by assisting people with a stutter and many other types of speech and physical disorders," said Bowness.

"I am extremely proud my gift will improve the lives of so many Australians in such a practical and meaningful way."

The remaining \$500,000 has been used to establish the Bowness Family Foundation Young Achievers Scholarships, in support of the Young Achievers Program. The program supports Year 10 students' study aspirations, and selected students are supported and mentored through the final years of secondary schooling.

Two scholarships will be funded per year for perpetuity. Once enrolled at UQ, the students will be awarded an annual scholarship of \$6000 for up to four years.

*"To give kids who might not otherwise make it the opportunity to prosper is something that is special to me. The fact they have the courage to stick their hands up and seek assistance shows determination and self-resilience."*

Bill Bowness

Bowness was born and raised in the Brisbane suburb of Coorparoo, and went to work for National Bank (now NAB) after attending Brisbane State High School.

The bank's management suggested he study a commerce degree at UQ at night.

"University was a life-changing experience for me. It showed me what I had and what I could be," he reflected.

Professionally, he decided not to head down a traditional banking path, and opted instead to shift to the National Bank's head office in Melbourne in the early 1970s.

"After 18 months, I joined an investment bank that primarily arranged finance for property development," said Bowness.

"The more I saw and learned, the more I realised property was more appealing for me than the pure finance side. A client approached me about joining them, and years later they sold out. I had lobbied my way into a small shareholding at the time, and this provided the start-up capital that enabled me to start my own business."

That company was Wilbow Corporation Pty Ltd, formerly one of Australia's largest privately-owned property development companies, and now an investment company with interests in Australia and the USA. Bowness has also been active in philanthropy through the Bowness Family Foundation, with his gift to UQ just part of a commitment to support cultural pursuits and disadvantaged young people.

**To find out more about how you can contribute to the University's learning and research efforts, visit [uq.edu.au/giving](http://uq.edu.au/giving).**



# 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 [uq.edu.au/uqcontact](http://uq.edu.au/uqcontact).





# JIAN'S LEGACY

Over two hundred million doses of Gardasil®, the HPV vaccine, have saved countless lives, yet few know much about its co-inventor, the late Dr Jian Zhou.

In recognition of the incredible impact Gardasil® would have on the community, *The Weekend Australian Magazine* featured UQ researcher Professor Ian Frazer AC in a cover story, "God's gift to women," in early 2006.

Frazer was supported by Zhou, a virologist and cancer researcher, in his pioneering research on the vaccine.

Zhou studied medicine and surgery at Wenzhou University in China, and met Frazer at the University of Cambridge in 1989. The colleagues developed a friendship founded on mutual respect.

They also shared a willingness to push the limits with their research.

"I had limited time and I wanted to get a number of things done. We were exchanging ideas all of the time," said Frazer.

The relationship continued to develop, and Zhou accepted an invitation from Frazer to work at his UQ lab.

Aided by his wife and research partner, Dr Xiao Yi Sun, Zhou experimented with assembling two proteins to create a virus-like particle resembling the HPV shell. When introduced into the human body, the particles simulated an immunological response that formed the basis of the vaccine.

The successful experiment was a critical breakthrough for Zhou and Frazer.

Tragically, the scientific community lost one of its greatest minds in 1999, when Zhou passed away.

Zhou was a Lions Principal Research Fellow, and Head of the Papillomavirus Virology Unit at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane. He had worked in universities around the world as a virologist, and was a prolific author with 40 peer-reviewed publications in top international journals and more than 10 major patents.

To honour his contribution as the co-inventor of Gardasil® and to support future researchers, the Dr Jian Zhou Memorial Scholarship was created.

The scholarship will bring doctoral students from Zhou's first alma mater, Wenzhou Medical University, to study at the UQ Diamantina Institute, partner in the Translational Research Institute (TRI), mirroring his historic collaboration with Frazer.

The TRI is an Australian-first initiative of "bench to bedside" medical research,



Far left: UQ Diamantina Institute Director, Professor Matthew Brown, with Dr Jian Zhou's wife, Dr Xiao Yi Sun; and above, Andreas Zhou, Dr Jian Zhou's son, joins Professor Brown and his mum on a tour of UQ Diamantina Institute, partner in the Translational Research Institute.

*"Whenever I was at the lab in the evening, Jian was there – and most of the other people were down at the pub. That meant we naturally hit it off, in the sense that we were around and trying to solve similar problems."*

Professor Ian Frazer AC

and is one of few places in the world where new biopharmaceuticals and treatments can be researched, discovered, manufactured and clinically tested in one location at Woolloongabba, Brisbane.

Zhou's wife is delighted her husband's tireless efforts will help tomorrow's researchers with their work.

"His pursuit of knowledge has made such a significant impact on health worldwide, and the success that has resulted from the vaccine can now provide opportunities for future generations to succeed through the Dr Jian Zhou Memorial Scholarship," she said.

"The scholarship will attract high-level students and will help leverage the reputation of both UQ and Wenzhou Medical University."

The partnership continues with The Frazer Family Foundation, established by Ian and Caroline Frazer. Travel awards are offered to UQ students and early career researchers.

**If you would like to support translational research into cancer and immune regulation disorders at UQ Diamantina Institute, please visit [uq.edu.au/giving](http://uq.edu.au/giving).**

# SPOTLIGHT ON UQ IN CHINA

The concept of 同舟共济, or *tong zhou gong ji*, translates from Mandarin as ‘people on the same boat should assist each other’, reflecting a mutual commitment to research and education that underpins UQ’s relationship with China.

In addition to having nearly 3000 Chinese students, UQ has approximately 114 formal research and academic agreements with more than 50 official Chinese partners.

The partnerships include relationships with government bodies such as the China Scholarship Council and Confucius Institute Headquarters; research institutes such as the Chinese Academy of Science, Academy of Agricultural Sciences and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; all members of the prestigious C9 league universities and businesses including Baosteel Group Corporation and Shandong Fangyuan Nonferrous Metals Group.

“We have research collaborations and exchange agreements with almost every one of the top 44 universities in China,” said Provost and Senior Vice-President Professor Max Lu.

As a Chinese-born scholar, Professor Lu is a strong advocate for UQ’s relationship with China, which has continued to grow with new learning, research and engagement initiatives. Personally, Lu has been lauded for his significant research in materials science and nanotechnology, receiving a prestigious award from President Hu Jintao for his “distinguished and sustained contributions to collaboration with China in science and technology”.

Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Høj shares Lu’s passion for engagement with China. In 2013, he was announced as an Honorary Professor at Tianjin University in China. Professor Høj is also a senior consultant on the board of the Confucius Institutes’ headquarters, known as Hanban. He is the first consultant from a university in Australia and the Oceania region to be honoured with this role.

Chinese students form the largest group of international students in Australian universities, and China is the second most popular destination for students from Australia taking an international study experience.

Linkages exist with academics, teams of scholars and schools, faculties and institutes, with research underway in food and water



Chinese exchange students with Director of the Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) Professor Perry Bartlett. More than 20 students from Fudan University and Wenzhou University visited UQ during July and August, completing research in laboratories at QBI, the UQ Diamantina Institute, the Institute for Molecular Bioscience and the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology.

security, energy, health, climate change, sustainability and business.

The Confucius Institute promotes the learning of Chinese language and culture at the University and in the community, and initiates, facilitates and promotes student and staff exchanges and research collaborations with a focus on Chinese studies and science, engineering and technology.

The Institute supported UQ in negotiating a joint PhD supervision program with Tianjin University, China’s oldest higher education institution in its modern history. Initial graduations are expected in 2015.

“The program has been very well received by students,” said Director of the Confucius Institute, Professor Ping Chen.

Along with partners including the University of New South Wales, Monash University and the University of Wollongong, UQ established the Baosteel–Australia Joint Research and Development Centre with the Baosteel Group Corporation.

“It seeks to create fundamental knowledge and exploitable technologies with commercial relevance to the steel

industry, and focuses on metallurgy and new materials, energy utilisation, environmental sustainability and other new technologies,” said Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (International) Professor Monique Skidmore.

UQ has over 3000 alumni in China, with alumni associations in Shanghai and Beijing. UQ also arguably boasts the largest concentration of academics with Chinese origins in Australia, across fields including Science; Engineering; Medicine; Humanities and Social Science; and Business, Economics and Law.

Such linkages testify to UQ’s extensive ties with China and reputation as a top 100 university that facilitates unique international career opportunities.

“International experience, mobility and placements integrated into research partnerships will improve student experiences,” said Lu.

“In a globalised world, any institution offering these types of opportunities will attract more top students and researchers who are globally minded.”



## PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

**F**acilitating life-changing medical research is integral to research partnerships. The University of Queensland has established with Chinese institutions. The Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) and UQ Diamantina Institute (UQDI) have both collaborated with the Shanghai Changzheng Hospital of the Second Military Medical University (SMMU) to establish the Joint Sino-Australian Neurogenetics Laboratory, which is focused on exploring how genes influence brain development and function, and discovering the genes that cause or make individuals susceptible to certain neurological and mental illnesses.

Director of QBI Professor Perry Bartlett, and Director of UQDI Professor Matt Brown have received Honorary Professorships from SMMU.

Other QBI affiliations include the Joint Laboratory of Neuroscience and Cognition (developed in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Institute of Biophysics in Beijing); the first joint Australia-China neuroscience laboratory; and the Joint Sino-Australian Laboratory of Brainnetome, with the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Institute of Automation in Beijing.

***“These partnerships are probably the most important links that we, as scientists, have in Queensland and Australia – this is where the next 20 years of science will be driven from.”***

**QBI Director, Professor Perry Bartlett**



Chinese scholar Keyang (Derek) Chen with researchers from Professor Matt Brown's laboratory at the UQ Diamantina Institute. The young researcher was funded to continue his research on ankylosing spondylitis, a type of inflammatory arthritis, at the laboratory this year.

“With the Institute of Biophysics in Beijing, for example, we are working on understanding how the neural circuitry in the brain regulates function, and what goes wrong in diseases such as dementia.”

Each year, UQDI funds a PhD student exchange with Wenzhou Medical University in Zhejiang Province. The late Dr Jian Zhou, Professor Ian Frazer's partner for the cervical cancer vaccine (see p. 38), completed a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at Wenzhou Medical School in 1982.

A Chinese scholar, Keyang (Derek) Chen, joined Professor Brown's research group during July and August to continue his research on ankylosing spondylitis, a type of inflammatory arthritis that targets the joints of the spine. Chen, whose mother is a close friend of Zhou's family, is developing a new method for typing the major gene that causes the chronic inflammatory disease, so it can be used for

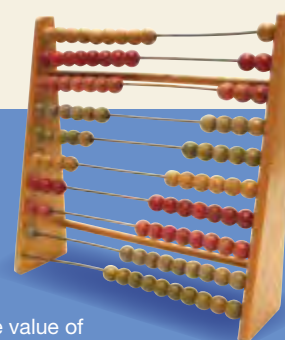
screening purposes for Asian populations.

“We have a good test for this gene in European populations, but we are looking for a better test in Asian populations,” said Brown.

In 2012, UQDI and QBI partnered with Fudan University to offer talented science students the opportunity to study at UQ for six weeks. The program has since grown to include the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology and the Institute for Molecular Bioscience, with students at Wenzhou Medical University also eligible to participate.

“The students this year were absolutely outstanding,” commented Brown.

**app** Download the **UQ Contact** app for exclusive content, including videos, photos and more stories about UQ's linkages with China. A Mandarin translation is also available.



## TRIPLE P IN CHINA

**T**he Chinese desire for harmonious communities through the development of healthy families could lead to major research collaborations between UQ and leading Chinese universities. UQ's Parenting and Family Support Centre (PFSC) is drawing up agreements to collaborate with Chinese universities to study and evaluate the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program's cultural acceptability and efficacy in China.

Director of the PFSC and founder of Triple P, Professor Matt Sanders, said recent meetings with Chinese researchers and women's and children's health organisations showed how a program

such as Triple P could support a number of research and social aims.

“The officials and researchers we met with told us about areas of concern they are interested in investigating,” he said.

“While educational outcomes for children have long been a focus in China, the Chinese are also very keen to develop ‘the whole child’, so children's social, emotional and behavioural outcomes are very important.”

Sanders visited China earlier this year to present a keynote address to the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development in Shanghai, and met with leading researchers and family health organisations.

“One particular area identified was the value of providing support for grandparents in China to help children left behind in rural areas when their parents leave home to work in the cities,” said Sanders.

“It was widely recognised that the extended family, particularly grandparents, play an important role in the development of young lives, and could benefit from parenting support.”

The PFSC are engaging in ongoing discussions with several leading Chinese universities to build a shared research agenda.

$$e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$$

$$F = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{d^2}$$

$$\Delta E = h\nu$$

$$P_{\text{net}} = e\sigma A (T^4 + T_0^4)$$

$$\text{UQ} + \text{BCEC} = \text{more}^2$$

$$F = ma$$

$$K = \frac{1}{2} KA^2 \sin^2 (Wt + \delta)$$

$$a = \frac{q}{m} E$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \int_a^x f(s) ds = f(x)$$

# Brisbane Collaborates

Did you know Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC) is more than just a venue? We proudly collaborate with UQ scientists and alumni all around the world.

Did you know we have a team whose job is to help UQ scientists and academics bid for international conferences to be held in Brisbane? BCEC bidding support is free and we facilitate financial assistance for travel scholarships and speaker costs.

**We work together to attract conferences that shine the spotlight on UQ's research and development.**

If you are attending or speaking at an international conference that could be held in Australia, please remember to 'put in a good word' for Brisbane!

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# BUSINESS CLASS

*Cultural adaptivity is integral to success, says Mark Hutchinson.*

## Mark Hutchinson

Bachelor of Commerce – '86

He is one of General Electric's (GE's) most important talents, has managed one of the company's most strategic markets, and has worked across the globe.

Yet "global" is not a term UQ alumnus and former GE China CEO and President Mark Hutchinson is fond of when speaking about his success.

"The real skill is cultural adaptivity," he said.

"This is about understanding how business operates in Japan compared to China, Europe or the US; how team dynamics work; and how decisions are made."

Hutchinson's cultural adaptivity was central to his appointment by GE earlier this year to integrate \$17 billion worth of energy assets previously owned by French power generation and transmission company Alstom.

The role required moving from Shanghai to the different surrounds of Paris. Hutchinson is excited about the new challenge.

"This is the largest acquisition GE has made. It is complex, has a million moving parts and is a lot of fun."

While Hutchinson's attention has shifted to Europe, his time working in China over four years was both enjoyable and profitable for the company.

"When I started in the role in 2011, we recorded about \$4.5 billion in sales. Now we are at \$9 billion, and we are going to double that again in the next three years," he said.

"China is the kind of place you can do that."

Hutchinson said an extensive amount of research and development takes place there.

"In our team of 20,000 employees in China, about 5000 of those are engineers. We do a lot of research and development there, particularly in healthcare.

"Research and development tends to gravitate towards where your biggest markets are, so over time our innovation in China focused around CT and MRI machines.

"There are more MRIs sold in China now than in the United States."

Hutchinson, who remains fond of his time studying commerce at UQ, said his degree taught him important skills he still uses today.

"University study teaches you about researching: how to take a lot of data and decide what is relevant;

and then how to use the data to make a decision," he said.

"The best leaders are able to take a lot of data and, by using their intuition, trust their gut in making a decision.

"That is the real skill."

*"My experiences have helped me to gain a sixth sense about how things work and the context in which you conduct your business."*

# UQ ALUMNI BOOK FAIR®

## 2015

**Saturday 25 April, 12 noon–5pm**  
**Sunday 26 April to Tuesday 28 April, 9am–5pm**  
**and Wednesday 29 April, 9am–3pm**



All categories are  
bargain priced:

- Textbooks (all courses)
- History
- Cookery
- Travel
- War
- Biography
- Art
- Children's
- Gardening
- Environment
- Craft
- DIY
- Magazines
- Sheet music
- CDs and DVDs
- Records



**UQ Centre, Union Road,  
The University of Queensland,  
St Lucia Campus**  
(follow on-campus signage)

**Sunday 26 April,**  
open 8.30am–9am and  
5pm–6pm exclusively for  
people with disabilities  
(may be accompanied by one carer)

**Free parking Saturday and  
Sunday**



### **RARE BOOK AUCTION**

**Friday 24 April at 6.30pm**

The Playhouse, The Women's College  
Sir William MacGregor Drive, St Lucia Campus

[www.uq.edu.au/alumni](http://www.uq.edu.au/alumni)

[alumni@uq.edu.au](mailto:alumni@uq.edu.au)

+61 (0)7 3365 1562



# FROM THE TROPICS

*Marie Myers is as at home in boardrooms as Vice President of Finance for Hewlett Packard as she is in Babinda, Queensland, where she grew up.*

## Marie Myers

Bachelor of Arts – '87

Bachelor of Economics – '88

The Women's College 85–86

**R**elaxed talking to *Contact* from the warmth of a Palm Cove café in tropical North Queensland, UQ alumna Marie Myers was a world away from her demanding role as a senior executive at one of the largest IT companies in the world.

For Myers, Vice President of Finance at Hewlett Packard (HP) in Houston, Texas, the holiday to Australia with her husband and three children (pictured) brought her back to a region where she developed the traits necessary to succeed in international business. Myers grew up in the tiny town of Babinda, south of Cairns, with her high school having just 12 students and an eclectic mix of cultures and languages. Many courses had to be taken by correspondence. Myers said her schooling helped her forge an understanding of life that has helped during challenging times.

"I didn't grow up with a sugar-coated view of the world," said Myers.

"You learn how life can be pretty tough, and that laid the foundations for a set of expectations that were pretty real."

Myers enrolled at UQ after completing high school, where she studied Arts before switching to Economics. Here, she developed an almost unquenchable desire to develop an international career.

"I remember going into the library and reading *The Economist* and the *Financial Times*, and the opportunity of having access to the types of information that I never had in my life up until that point. It really created this mindset I had to have an international job."

"Reading those papers and interacting with those lecturers — I had not had that type of exposure until I went to UQ."

Following her graduation, Myers worked as an economist for the Australian Government before taking up several overseas secondment opportunities.

"One was to do some work for the Australian Government in Berlin when the wall was coming down, and that was a time and an experience I will never forget," she said.

"Then, I worked at some Australian trade pavilions in different parts of the world, such as in Spain and the UK, and that really made it for me; that is when I knew for sure that I wanted to work overseas."

A move to technology company Compaq was followed by its buy-out by HP,

and Myers was subsequently named Vice President after successfully running numerous businesses around the world. Aside from her UQ degrees, Myers has a Master of Business Administration from the University of St Thomas in Houston, and is currently studying a Masters in Accounting. She is also President Emeritus of the Alliance for Gray Market and Counterfeit Abatement (AGMA).



Marie Myers on a holiday with her family in tropical North Queensland.



# RECOMMENDED READING

Established in 1948, UQP is a dynamic publishing house known for its innovative philosophy and commitment to producing high-quality books of cultural significance. It has launched the careers of many celebrated Australian writers, such as David Malouf AO, Peter Carey, Kate Grenville, Doris Pilkington and Nick Earls.

UQP's scholarly books are internationally recognised, presenting contemporary issues including peace and conflict, creative industries and our own regional concerns through a major Pacific Studies collection. Other publishing activities include fiction, non-fiction, poetry, Indigenous writing and the promotion of literacy and a love of reading through its children's and young adult titles.

UQP is also dedicated to co-releasing front-list titles as eBooks and digitally printing selected out-of-print titles.

To purchase any of these books or sign up to UQP's monthly e-newsletter, visit [uqp.com.au](http://uqp.com.au).

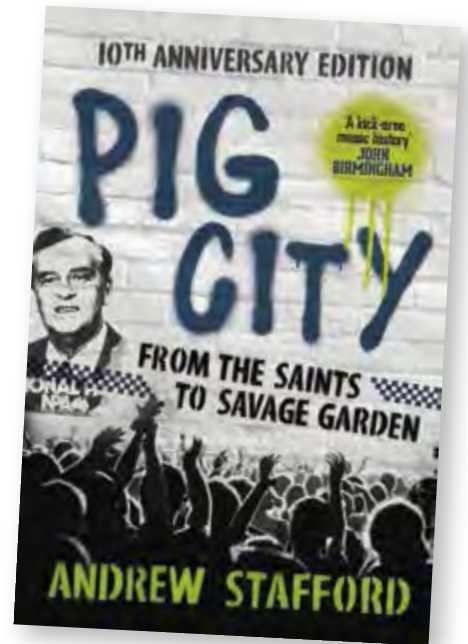
## Pig City

Andrew Stafford

Reviewed by Stephanie McLeay – Master of Arts (Writing, Editing and Publishing) student

Ten years have passed since the first edition of *Pig City*, which chronicled Brisbane music and politics emerging from the creeping shadow of the Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen era, and they have not necessarily been kind. The new author's note prepares one for a melancholic revisit: "*Pig City* was also meant as a triumphant, culture-driven, coming-of-age story – we weren't supposed to be back here."

Despite that, Stafford's original triumphant mood is hard to shake. *Pig City's* portrait of Brisbane in its cultural nascence pulses with passion and energy – passion for Brisbane, for the bands, for the music, for the vibe. Stafford reintroduces familiar parts of the city and animates them with rebellious and talented youths you can't help but root for. On finishing, you want to leap off the couch and explore Brisbane all over again, to see it the way Stafford once saw it: the backdrop of a revolution.



app Download the *Contact* app to read extracts from the books.



## Gap

Rebecca Jessen

Reviewed by Leith Reid – Master of Arts (Writing, Editing and Publishing) student

Rebecca Jessen's gripping debut novel *Gap* opens in the backstreets of Milton, as central character Ana flees the scene of a crime. *Gap* is a verse novel told through hundreds of non-rhyming poems. In Jessen's hands, this is no flowery gimmick: her style is

sincere but spare, as lacking in luxury as the environment her disadvantaged characters live in. Ana's voice as narrator is authentic and conversational; the reader will likely be drawn to Ana, as I was, as she reveals her unlovely past and struggles to keep her life together. Each poem is punctuated with line

breaks – swathes of emptiness on the page – that visually echo the gaps in her life that Ana frequently refers to and fears. Packaged as a novel, *Gap* is more novella in length, requiring less than an hour to read. This gritty, lovely piece has a pleasing rhythm and is impossible to put down.

## It's Not You Geography, It's Me

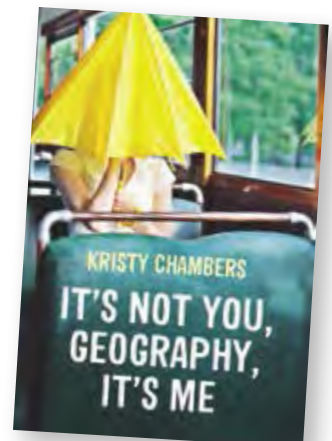
Kristy Chambers

Reviewed by Katherine Lee – Master of Arts (Writing, Editing and Publishing) student

Self-advertised as a mental illness travel memoir, *It's Not You, Geography, It's Me* by Kristy Chambers is a simultaneously poignant and hilariously funny account of living and travelling with a mental illness. Chambers, a former Australian nurse turned US writer, has suffered from crippling

anxiety and depression since her teens. As an adult, fuelled by an insatiable desire to see the world and escape the stress of nursing, Chambers embarked on a series of overseas trips across Asia, Europe and the US. The distinctly Australian sense of humour with which Chambers relates her awkward

encounters with foreign cultures contrasts with her candid comments about her struggle to juggle depression and the stress of travel. Chambers' memoir is both an enjoyable cautionary tale for travellers and a unique account of depression that challenges the social stigma attached to mental illness.





# ACCENT ON LANGUAGES

The Institute of Modern Languages celebrates 80 years of excellence.

The University Senate established the Institute of Modern Languages (IML) on 11 May 1934 to promote and extend the teaching of modern languages with a commercial and cultural value to the state.

This year, IML celebrates its 80th anniversary, as it continues to evolve to anticipate and meet the needs of students and the broader community.

From the 78 students enrolled in the three languages offered in 1934, the number of enrolments and diversity of languages has grown steadily. Today, the institute runs classes in 32 languages, with close to 3000 students enrolling each year.

Since its foundation, IML has built on the language services it offers to the Queensland community. In 1999, it expanded the translation and interpreting service, which now translates for individuals and organisations into 90 languages. IML also runs a popular summer high school program, encouraging secondary students to extend their language study at UQ during the summer break. More than 90 teachers work for the institute, originating from countries all over the world.

In 1940, IML offered classes in nine languages: Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish. By 1970, six more languages had been added: Greek, Hindi, Indonesian, Malay, Pidgin and Polish. Recent additions include courses in Filipino, Tetum, and Swahili.

Current IML Director Georgiana Poulter said the institute provided an important link between UQ and the wider community, bringing more community members into the University environment and engaging with the business and government sectors through customised language courses.

"Students enjoy personal contact during our face-to-face courses at the campus; there is a huge diversity in the languages we teach and we feel we are serving the community — our courses are open to the general public and anybody who is at least 16 years old," she said.

"IML also provides a way for UQ to remain connected with its alumni in a meaningful way when they may no longer be engaged in formal study."

A significant portion of IML's student body includes current or former students and staff of UQ. For many, these classes are a chance to develop or enhance their foreign language skills for international collaboration, research and travel.

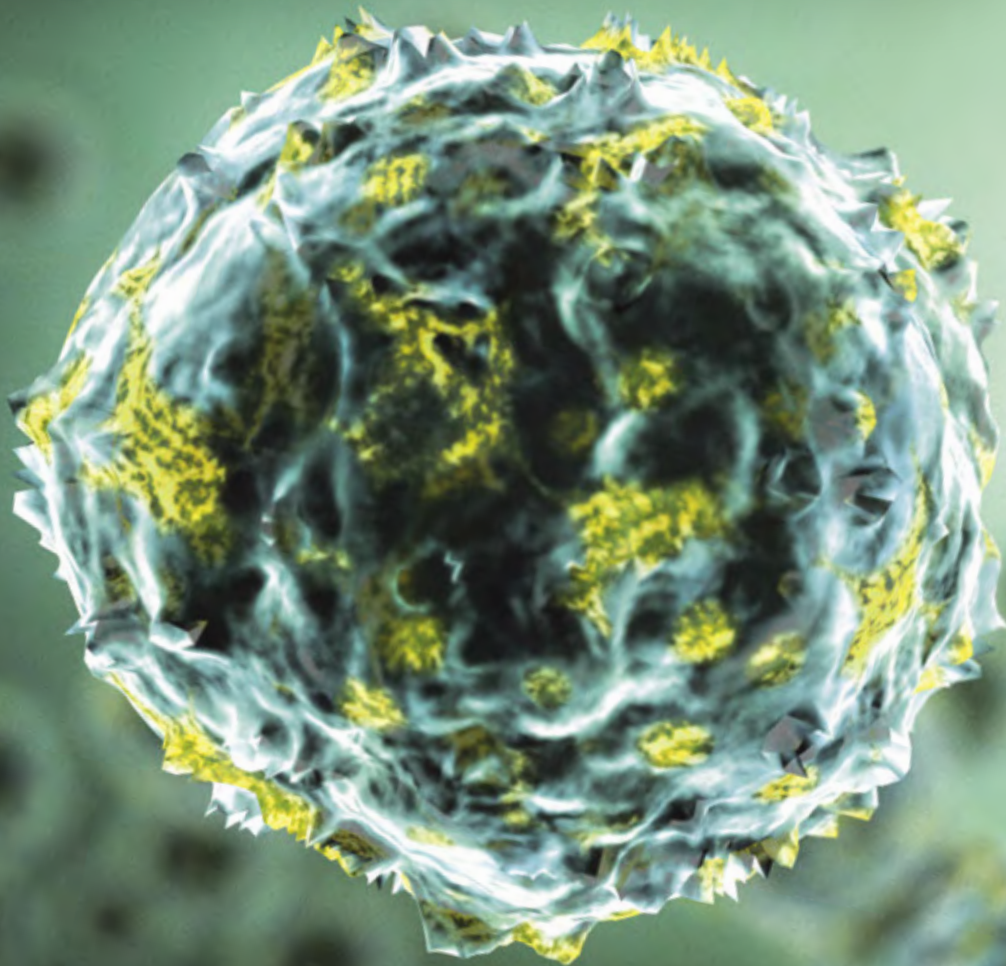
**To find out more about IML, visit [iml.uq.edu.au](http://iml.uq.edu.au).**



Then and now: 1969 and 2014 language classes at IML.



# FIGHTING SUPERBUGS



The battle against superbugs – bacteria that are resistant to treatment – is becoming one of the world's biggest health challenges.

Bacteria with high levels of resistance to antibiotics have been found in all regions of the globe. Without new treatments, we face a frightening reality in which even a simple infection or minor injury could be fatal.

This prospect is driving Professor Matt Cooper and his team at UQ's Institute for Molecular Bioscience to develop new antibiotics to combat superbugs.

These advances are made possible through the combination of our world-class facilities and leading researchers. Imagine the difference having access to all of this could make to you.

**YOUR UQ. YOUR ADVANTAGE.**



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