

LATEST NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

LEARNING

- L1 A UQ student and his business partner have been awarded [Young Australians of the Year](#) for their free laundering service for the homeless, Orange Sky.
- L2 UQ has [offered](#) almost 10,000 new students a place for 2016, including 8000 in the first-offer round on 14 January.
- L3 Two UQ lecturers [won](#) national teaching excellence awards at the 2015 Australian Awards for University Teaching.
- L4 UQ [celebrated](#) its 25,000th Bachelor of Science graduate in December.
- L5 More than 100,000 people spread across more than 190 countries [joined](#) a free UQ Massive Open Online Course to help prepare them for English language testing. The [IELTSx: IELTS Academic Test Preparation](#) course was developed by Institute of Continuing and TESOL Education teaching staff in collaboration with [UQx](#).
- L6 UQ was the most [successful](#) university in the inaugural [Westpac Future Leaders Scholarships](#), with four students among the 17 Australian recipients of the \$120,000 scholarship.
- L7 Bachelor of Economics Honours graduate Belinda McEniery has been [selected](#) from more than 3000 international applicants to join the inaugural [Schwarzman Scholars](#) class, a prestigious masters program in Beijing.
- L8 UQ Bachelor of Science student Jessica Von Pein [won](#) the top prize in the [Pearson Student of the Year Awards](#), for her entry in the Science, Computer Science and IT category.
- L9 More than 11,000 people have [signed up](#) to free UQ online course [Employ101x: Unlocking your employability](#).

DISCOVERY

- D1 The exceptional quality of UQ research was [reaffirmed](#) in the 2015 Excellence in Research for Australia assessment released in December. One hundred percent of UQ's research—evaluated across all 22 broad fields of research and 97 specialised fields of research—was ranked at world standard or above. Ninety five percent of UQ's broad fields of research is rated above or well above world standard, with 55 per cent receiving the highest rating—well above world standard. UQ topped the nation in five fields: environmental engineering, environmental biotechnology, industrial biotechnology, tourism, and social work.

- D2** The [Australian Research Council \(ARC\)](#) will back more than 100 UQ projects with almost \$42 million of funding. UQ has received more funding for Discovery Projects and Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards than any other Australian university. The ARC also awarded five new [Future Fellows](#) at UQ, from a total of only 50 awarded across the nation.
- D3** Breakthrough Alzheimer's [research](#) from UQ was named among the world's most talked-about research of 2015 in the [Altmetric 2015 Top 100](#).
- D4** UQ researchers revealed Australia's newest armoured dinosaur, [Kunbarrasaurus](#), which took more than 15 years to identify correctly.

ENGAGEMENT

- E1** UQ [welcomed](#) the Queensland Heritage Council adding its voice to protests against Brisbane City Council approval of a 47-storey tower block next to the historic Customs House.
- E2** UQ appointed [Professor Chris Greig](#) as [chair](#) of its multi-million dollar [Dow Centre for Sustainable Engineering Innovation](#).
- E3** In November, the Global Change Institute (GCI) signed a [Memorandum of Understanding with the Sharjah Research Academy](#), UAE, in the broad areas of coastal zone management, sustainable water technologies, food systems and renewable energy innovation. [The collaboration will initially focus on marine ecosystems and food security](#).
- E4** GCI Director Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg led [the UQ delegation to COP21 in Paris](#) in December. The six-person team participated in seven panel discussions during the two-week negotiations. During COP21, GCI also co-hosted the premiere of Sir David Attenborough's latest documentary, *Great Barrier Reef*, at the Maison des Océans.
- E5** The GCI [won](#) the David Oppenheim Award for Sustainable Architecture and the National Award for Interior Architecture at the Australian Institute of Architects' Annual Awards.
- E6** UQ [School of Geography Planning and Environmental Management](#)'s Professor [Marc Hockings](#), the [World Wildlife Fund](#) and [the International Union for the Conservation of Nature \(IUCN\)](#) have announced a [partnership](#) to expand the number of [protected areas](#) reaching IUCN Green List quality standards to at least 1000 in 50 countries.
- E7** The \$24 million Herston Imaging Research Facility was officially [launched](#) by Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk on 14 December.
- E8** UQ and The Prince Charles Hospital will lead a [new centre](#) dedicated to the early detection of lung cancer thanks to \$1 million in funding from the Australian Cancer Research Foundation.

- E9** Inaugural [Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology](#) director [Professor Peter Gray](#) has been [appointed](#) as Interim President of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering.
- E10** The Community for Open Antimicrobial Drug Discovery (COADD) at UQ's Institute for Molecular Bioscience has [partnered](#) with the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) ENABLE project to develop potential new antibiotics against multi-drug resistant bacteria. The partnership means antimicrobial compounds from European chemists identified by COADD screening can progress to ENABLE's drug development program. IMI is Europe's largest public-private initiative aiming to speed up the development of better and safer medicines for patients.
- E11** In January, UQ student Brandon Herrigan successfully [qualified](#) for the 110m hurdles at the International Association of Athletic Federations World under 20s Championships, following a dominant showing at the Sally Pearson Shield meet.
- E12** The [UQ Boat Club](#) also enjoyed significant success at the Queensland State Championship Regatta at Wyaralong Dam. Among the medal winners, UQ's Women's Eight crew secured its third consecutive state title, while the Men's Eight also claimed gold in the championship race.
- E13** GCI Director of Clean Energy Professor Paul Meredith has been asked to join [an expert panel established by the Queensland Government](#) to reach a 50 per cent renewable energy target by 2030.
- E14** The [Confucius Institute](#) and the [Queensland Police Service, Far North District](#), have joined forces to [develop](#) a safety brochure for tourists travelling to North Queensland.

VALE

The University was saddened by the recent deaths of UQ community members, including:

Emeritus Professor Tess Cramond AO OBE, previous UQ Senate and Member Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences alumna, 26 December 2015

Dr Umesh Dhanjee, UQ Rural Clinical School, School of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, 29 October 2015

Mr Clyde Gilmour ISO AO, previous UQ Senate Member, 16 December 2015

Dr Kenneth Levy RFD, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and Faculty of Business, Economics and Law alumnus, 20 January 2016

Emeritus Professor David Rowlands, previous Head of Department, Department of Mining and Metallurgy, UQ alumnus, 27 January 2016

Dr Gordon Spearritt AM, Dean of the Faculty of Music, Head of Music Department, UQ alumnus, 19 January 2016