

29 June 2017

## LATEST NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

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### LEARNING

- L1** UQ has moved higher in the influential QS World University Rankings, coming in at 47<sup>th</sup> globally and fourth in Australia.
- L2** Almost 200 TC Beirne School of Law students have been recognised for their diverse achievements at an award ceremony at Brisbane's Customs House.
- L3** UQ alumnus Karl Domjahn was the only Australian university graduate included in Aviation Week Network's "Tomorrow's Engineering Leaders: The 20 Twenties", in which he was recognised as an international aerospace leader of the future.
- L4** UQ physiotherapy student Daniel Innes can list salsa dancing as a skill when he graduates next year, after completing a five-week placement at the Buckingham Gardens aged care home at Alexandra Hills in Brisbane, in what turned out to be a hands-on experience.
- L5** A state-wide Student Innovation Challenge project backed by UQ's Idea Hub received funding as part of a State Government program designed to promote Queensland's international education and training industry and create new entrepreneurs. Six projects will share in \$1.2 million.
- L6** Ten young UQ law alumni were finalists in the annual *Lawyers Weekly* 30 Under 30 Awards.

### DISCOVERY

- D1** UQ's global scientific research impact has risen five places in the Leiden Ranking to be ranked 38.
- D2** UQ secured funding for 17 research projects – more than any other university – in Australian Research Council grants announced on 5 June, with \$22.6 million awarded. UQ received two Laureate Fellowships, 14 Future Fellowships and funding for an Industrial Transformation Training Centre for Innovation in Biomedical Imaging Technology.
- D3** Projects that link UQ research with business and industry received \$4.3 million in Australian Research Council Linkage Project funding.
- D4** UQ is positioned to benefit from a deal with IP Group plc, in which \$A200 million will be available for investment in technology from Australia's Go8 universities. It will invest in spin-out companies founded on disruptive innovation.
- D5** An unprecedented survey of Papua New Guinea's lush primary forests has revealed the high mountain tops may be home to the largest trees recorded globally at such altitudes.
- D6** Nearly four centuries after Galileo Galilei threw spheres of different mass from the Leaning Tower of Pisa to establish a scientific principle, Italian researchers have tested the same principle on quantum objects using a novel scientific method proposed by UQ physicist Dr Magdalena Zych, as reported in *Nature Communications*.

- D7** IMB's Professor Grant Montgomery was co-leader of the world's largest study into the genetic causes of endometriosis, published in *Nature Communications*. The study helped identify five new gene regions linked to the disease.
- D8** IMB's Associate Professor Carol Wicking was a lead author on a study in *Nature Genetics* that identified a new gene behind a rare form of inherited childhood kidney disease.
- D9** Three UQ researchers have each received \$1 million from the FightMND foundation for clinical trials to help fast-track potential treatments for motor neurone disease.
- D10** A study led by the School of Biomedical Sciences' Dr Liam Coulthard has found that neurological conditions such as epilepsy and schizophrenia could begin in the womb.
- D11** 'Good heart' muffins developed by UQ scientists could help lower heart disease risk. The muffins – containing three grams of a healthy soluble fibre that occurs naturally in oats and cereals – meet food standard guidelines for cholesterol-lowering properties.
- D12** An international team of archaeologists says evidence from a remote cave in Australia's north-west pushes back human occupation of the continent to around 50,000 years ago. The discovery provides the earliest dates for Aboriginal use of marine resources in Australia.
- D13** Women who become caregivers after experiencing intimate partner violence face a double-whammy hit to their health, research from the UQ School of Public Health's Associate Professor Leigh Tooth shows.
- D14** Healthy newborns' brain waves – which appear more abnormal than those of severe stroke victims – could be used to predict which babies will have neurodevelopmental disorders. Dr Simon Finnigan from the UQ Centre for Clinical Research is investigating.
- D15** A single treatment could one day give life-long protection from severe allergies such as asthma, thanks to UQ immunology research. A team led by Associate Professor Ray Steptoe has been able to "turn-off" the immune response which causes allergic reaction in animals.
- D16** Chemicals including heart and gout medications, herbicides, pesticides, metals and industrial chemicals have been found in Great Barrier Reef turtles' blood, a Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences team has found.
- D17** After 13 years researching wombat behaviour and reproduction, Associate Professor Stephen Johnston and his School of Agriculture and Food Sciences team have developed successful techniques for freezing wombat sperm.
- D18** UQ researchers are working to develop national best-practice guidelines for culturally appropriate care of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with burn injuries.
- D19** Stereotypes portraying nurses as sex objects or doctors' helpers need to be smashed in order to encourage school leavers to the profession, according to a study.

## ENGAGEMENT

- E1** A \$5 million donation to the Queensland Brain Institute will transform the way world-leading researchers work with patients and doctors. The Brazil Family Foundation gift will support clinical collaborations in stroke and motor neurone disease research.

- E2** UQ and the University of Exeter have partnered to establish the QUEX Institute as part of a wide-reaching agreement that aims to bolster the institutions' global research impact.
- E3** Premier Anastacia Palacszuk presented 2017 Queensland Greats Awards to Pro-Vice Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) Professor Cindy Shannon and Queensland Brain Institute founding director Professor Perry Bartlett.
- E4** Optical quantum physicist Professor Timothy Ralph and genomic microbiologist Professor Philip Hugenholtz are among 21 new Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science.
- E5** The Academy of Science has awarded UQ's Professor Kerrie Wilson the 2017 Nancy Millis Medal for Women in Science.
- E6** A biotechnology company established by UQ and Emory University has raised US\$16 million. The Brandon Capital-managed Medical Research Commercialisation Fund/Uniseed funding will enable QUE Oncology Inc to further develop its leading drug candidate, Q-122.
- E7** A new dental clinic at St George in south-west Queensland will be run as a partnership between the UQ School of Dentistry and Goondir Health Services and will ease the community's dental service shortage.
- E8** UQ's Dr Kristen Lyons has released a report into the proposed Carmichael coal mine, highlighting "unfinished business" between Adani, the State and the Wangan and Jagalingou Traditional Owners Council.
- E9** *New Alchemists*, a contemporary art exhibition exploring ideas of futuristic biologies and the intersection of art and science, opened at the UQ Art Museum on 17 June.
- E10** Eighty-six high schools entered UQ Gatton's annual sunflower competition in May.
- E11** IMB's Professor Ben Hankamer and GCI's Professor Karen Hussey delivered a Global Leadership Series lecture, 'Welcome to our biofuture', to alumni and community members.
- E12** UQ antibiotic resistance researcher Professor Jason Roberts delivered the keynote address at the inaugural Queensland-Guangdong Clinical Pharmacy and Education Symposium in China.
- E13** Visiting academic Dr Michael Taylor and UQ research higher degree student Andrew White attended the 67<sup>th</sup> Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting in Germany this month.
- E14** UQ researchers have partnered with Lockheed Martin to develop next-generation computers for aerospace applications.
- E15** Triple Grammy award-winner and UQ alumnus Tim Munro performed with UQ staff member Dr Liam Viney and local artists in an "immersive" concert at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts on 27 May.
- E16** A blind academic, Dr Paul Harpur from the School of Law, has thrown his support behind a petition demanding a Royal Commission into the abuse of disabled people.
- E17** Undergraduate Information Technology and Master of Interaction Design students displayed work in the annual Interaction Design Exhibit on 30 May at the State Library in Brisbane.

- E18** The Australian Computer Society Foundation's 'BiG Day In' at UQ on 8 June gave 500 senior high school students an opportunity to network with and learn from tech-industry professionals.
- E19** UQ has recognised staff members and teams in the 2017 UQ Awards for Excellence, which pay tribute to staff who have been at the forefront of notable achievements that reflect and support the University's mission and values.
- E20** The Library celebrated the UQ Alumni Friends' golden jubilee with an event for members and volunteers, and an exhibition and digital story highlighting the collections that have been acquired with the help of the organisation.
- E21** The UQ Library has begun an Active Collection Project, in which all materials in on-site collections will be reviewed to optimise the use of library space for collections and clients.
- E22** The Fryer Library will host a viewing of Kate Durham's SIEV X artwork in July, followed by Professor Gillian Whitlock in conversation with Julian Burnside AO QC, Kate Durham, Professor Andreas Schloenhardt and Adele Rice AM, exploring legal, educational and artistic responses to refugees, and the role played by libraries in preserving their stories.
- E23** For the second consecutive year, UQ Sport has been named a Top-performing Company for Work-life Balance in the HRD Employer of Choice report.
- E24** The 32<sup>nd</sup> Great Court Race was held on 24 May, with 2015 champion Max Whiteoak winning his second Men's Great Court Race, and Josephine Auer claiming her first Women's Great Court Race.
- E25** In May, the UQ Sport Athletics Centre hosted Alzheimer's Australia's Memory Walk and Jog, with the Brisbane event raising more than \$37,000 to support those living with dementia and their carers.

## **VALE**

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

**Mr Clive Allen**, Education alumnus, died 11 May 2017

**Dr Jan Barendregt**, died 3 June 2017

**Mrs Myrna Bayley**, Education alumna, died 21 May 2017

**Mr Christopher Brander**, Information Technology and Electrical Engineering alumnus, died 7 July 2016

**Dr Ronald Brown**, Medicine alumnus, died 5 May 2017

**Dr Andrew Bryant**, Medicine alumnus, died 4 May 2017

**Mrs Marjorie Bullock**, Faculty of HASS alumna, died 28 May 2017

**Mr Alan Cook**, Education alumnus, died 10 May 2017

**Dr Michael Coolican**, Dentistry alumnus, died 29 April 2017

**Mr James Davidson**, Faculty of Science alumnus, died 16 May 2017

**Mr Ian Donaldson AM**, Business alumnus, died 12 May 2017

**Mr Alexander Dudko**, died 6 May 2017

**Mr Evan Duncan**, Information Technology and Electrical Engineering alumnus, died 17 May 2017

**Dr John Emmett**, Medicine alumnus, died 1 June 2017

**Ms Diane Fowler**, died 25 March 2017

**Ms Robyn Gray**, Psychology alumna, died 10 May 2017  
**Mr Jason Hancock**, Agriculture & Food Sciences alumnus, died 30 May 2017  
**Ms Veronica Hanley**, Education alumna, died 15 May 2017  
**Mrs Diana Hawken**, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences alumna, died 4 May 2017  
**Mr Ross Henderson**, died 6 March 2017  
**Dr Karin Hetterich**, Medicine alumna, died 16 June 1905  
**Mrs Eileen Heussler**, Faculty of Science alumna, died 11 February 2017  
**Dr Bruce Johnston**, Dentistry alumnus, died 20 May 2017  
**Mr Colin Jones**, died 26 December 2016  
**Reverend Douglas Kirkup AM**, Faculty of HASS alumnus, died 1 June 2017  
**Mr Peter Koster**, Education alumnus, died 12 May 2017  
**Mr Bruno Kutzia**, Economics alumnus, died 13 April 2017  
**Mr Malcolm Leeke**, Business alumnus, died 27 April 2017  
**Mr Leonard Milliken**, Information Technology and Electrical Engineering alumnus, died 20 May 2017  
**Mr David Mills**, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences alumnus, died 14 May 2017  
**Mr Robert Nimmo**, Economics and Education alumnus, died 8 May 2017  
**Mr F Porche**, died 6 March 2017  
**Mr Kevin Rowen**, Education alumnus, died 4 June 2017  
**Mrs Marjorie Scully**, Health & Rehabilitation Sciences alumna, died 27 May 2017  
**Mr Andrew Spalding**, Business and Mechanical and Mining Engineering alumnus, died 9 May 2017  
**Mrs Penelope Svensson**, Psychology alumna, died 12 May 2017  
**Mr John Twomey**, Business alumnus, died 24 May 2017  
**Mrs Sylvia Walker**, Education alumna, died 4 May 2017  
**Ms Coral Walsh**, Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work alumna, died 13 May 2017  
**Dr Bryan Watson-Brown**, Medicine alumnus, died 15 May 2017  
**Mr Frank Wilkie**, Law and Education alumnus, died 12 May 2017