## LATEST NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

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# **LEARNING**

- UQ has maintained its position in prestigious world rankings. In the Academic Ranking of World Universities, UQ <u>placed</u> 55<sup>th</sup> globally and second in Australia. In the latest Times Higher Education University Ranking, UQ <u>ranked</u> 65<sup>th</sup> globally and 4<sup>th</sup> in Australia.
- UQ has been <u>identified</u> as one of the top 30 universities in the world for partnership with employers, placing 29<sup>th</sup> for this category in the QS Graduate Employability Rankings.
- UQ's School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences has <u>ranked</u> 5<sup>th</sup> globally and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Australia in <u>ShanghaiRanking</u>'s Global Ranking of Sport Science School and Departments 2017.
- **L4** Four UQ researchers have been <u>admitted</u> to The Academy of Social Sciences in Australia in recognition of their outstanding research contributions to their areas of disciplines.
- **L5** The 2018 edition of The Good Universities Guide has <u>awarded</u> UQ a five-star rating for student demand, staff qualifications and learning resources.
- L6 Six UQ students have been <u>awarded</u> <u>Westpac Bicentennial Foundation Asian Exchange</u> Scholarships.
- L7 UQ student Milan Gandhi <u>received</u> a perfect score at the 2017 Lawyers Weekly Australian Law Awards, taking out the title of Law Student of the Year.
- L8 UQ was awarded almost \$1.27m in the latest round of Federal Government New Colombo Plan mobility program funding. The program will allow 326 UQ students to study and work in the Asia-Pacific in 2018.
- **L9** PhD candidate Edwin Davis' <u>research</u> into more efficient and safer drones has helped him win UQ's <u>Three Minute Thesis</u> competition.
- **L10** One of UQ's most popular edX courses, <u>IELTS x: IELTS Academic Test Preparation</u>, has <u>hit</u> a 500,000 enrolment milestone.
- L11 PhD student Nicholas McCarthy has been <u>awarded</u> an international meteorology prize in the United States for his bushfire research using radar meteorology.
- UQ student Ryan Harris is <u>heading</u> to Washington for a two-month Uni-Capitol Washington Internship in the office of Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen.

### **DISCOVERY**

D1 UQ has been <u>awarded</u> almost \$7.5 million – the largest allocation of any university in the 2017 round of National Health and Medical Research Council grants – to accelerate improvements in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and management of dementia.

- **D2** Families will <u>continue</u> to have access to an international parenting program developed at UQ, thanks to \$5.35 million in Queensland Government funding.
- **D3** UQ research to reduce the risk of alcohol, tobacco and other drug-related harm among young people has benefited from \$2.31 million in Federal Government funding.
- **Dr** Lee Hickey claimed the title of Advance Queensland Young Tall Poppy Scientist of the Year.
- An international research effort including UQ researchers has <u>received</u> a \$3.83 million UK Government grant to minimise the impact of viruses upon the pig industry.
- **D6** Researchers, including UQ's Dr James Hudson, have <u>identified</u> the process that shuts down the human heart's ability to heal itself, and are now searching for a drug to reverse it.
- **D7** Scientists from UQ and McGill University are homing in on a potential treatment for osteoporosis, after identifying 153 new gene variants linked to the age-related bone-thinning disease.
- **D8** UQ research, funded by <u>Cancer Council Queensland</u>, has <u>discovered</u> a new way to target a rare form of breast cancer.
- **D9** An international study including UQ researchers has <u>found</u> a drug previously approved to treat breast cancer could also be used to shrink a common form of childhood brain tumour.
- **D10** A method of supplying 500 times more avocado plants to industry than is currently possible has been <u>invented</u> by UQ researchers.
- **D11** In a world-first, researchers from UQ and the non-profit ECOCEAN have <u>tracked and recorded</u> a full return migration of whale sharks to and from Ningaloo Reef in Western Australia.
- **D12** Researchers at UQ's AIBN and US company LanzaTech have <u>developed</u> a computer model that harnesses ancient microorganisms for an environmentally sound industrial waste conversion method.
- **D13** QBI scientists have <u>discovered</u> that new brain cells are produced in the adult amygdala. The discovery may lead to new treatments for anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder.
- **D14** The development of news drugs to fight a common fungal pathogen which kills half a million people globally each year is a <u>step closer</u> thanks to a UQ-led study.
- **D15** A remarkable effort from UQ researchers has <u>helped</u> increase the number of known genomes by almost 10 per cent.
- **D16** Otherwise healthy people who experience hallucinations or delusions are more likely to have later suicidal thoughts or attempts, a UQ-led international study has <u>found</u>.
- **D17** An international study including UQ researchers has <u>revealed</u> more about how predator animals recognise toxic species.
- **D18** A global team of 17 scientists, including a UQ researcher, has <u>cracked</u> the mystery of why plant leaves vary wildly in size.

#### **ENGAGEMENT**

- E1 UQ intends to become smoke-free from 1 July 2018.
- Following a \$13 million CSIRO research investment, three of 11 Future Science Fellows will be hosted at UQ.
- Five UQ academics have been <u>recognised</u> and celebrated for their outstanding achievements at the <u>Women in Technology</u> gala awards.
- **E4** Work has <u>started</u> on the site of UQ's \$250 million <u>Student Residences Project</u> at St Lucia.
- **E5** Global US company <u>Neogen Corporation</u> is <u>establishing</u> an animal genomics facility at the UQ Gatton campus.
- **E6** UQ's 2017 Alumni Awards <u>recognised</u> a diverse range of leaders who have created change by advancing knowledge, powering economies and advocating for human rights and dignity.
- **E7** Veterinary students can <u>now hone</u> their clinical skills in a new \$1.5 million training facility at UQ Gatton.
- Eleven UQ students <u>represented</u> Australia at the 2017 Summer Universiade in Taiwan, with three recording top five placings.
- **E9** A record number of researchers and research supervisors has been <u>honoured</u> for their outstanding achievements at the 2017 UQ Research Week awards.
- E10 UQ researchers have <u>joined</u> an international team of more than 400 scientists from 26 institutions to create the most accurate measurement ever made of dark matter structure in the universe.
- **E11** Adjunct Professor Ralph Sammy was <u>honoured</u> as one of two Brisbane 'Agents of Peace' by the Rotary Peace Centre.
- **E12** PhD student Emma Livingstone <u>travelled</u> to a remote Aboriginal community to share her knowledge of science with students.
- E13 UQ Sports Achievement Scholarship holder Gabi Simpson has been <u>named</u> vice-captain of the <u>Australian Diamonds</u> netball team.
- E14 UQ experts are <u>keeping</u> people living with, or affected by, dementia up to date on the latest dementia research and care through the online publication *The Brain: Dementia*.
- **E15** Team UQ won the opening three rounds of the Aon Uni 7s Series.
- More than 560 students from Australia, China, Taiwan and South Korea <u>travelled</u> to UQ to participate in the <u>RoboCup Junior</u> Australian Open Championships.
- **E17** UQ graduate Kobie Donovan won six medals, and was Australia's flag bearer and team captain, at the 2017 World Dwarf Games in Canada.
- **E18** A 400-plus contingent <u>attended</u> the Australian Uni Games on the Gold Coast.

# VALE

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

Ms Margaret Andresen, UQ Education alumna, died 23 June 2017.

Mr Philip Atherton OAM, UQ Agriculture & Food Sciences alumnus, died 3 September 2017

Professor John Bell AM, UQ Medicine alumnus, died 15 August 2017

Dr Clifford Diamond, UQ Medicine alumnus, died 6 August 2017

Dr Harold Foxton, UQ Medicine alumnus, died 28 July 2017

Dr Stewart Fraser, UQ Information Technology & Electrical Engineering alumnus, died 5 July 2017

Dr Peter Robertson, UQ Medicine alumnus, 18 August 2017

Dr Danielle Tindle, UQ Languages and Culture alumna, died 25 August 2017

**Father Mervyn Ziesing**, UQ Communications and Arts; Historical and Philosophical Inquiry alumnus, died 1 September 2017

David Wayne Holloway, Dairy Assistant / Farm Hand UQ Gatton, 23 August 2017