

19 April 2018 Senate

## LATEST NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

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### LEARNING

- L1** UQ [ranks](#) in the top 50 in the world in 22 subjects, with the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2018 placing UQ first in Australia for Chemical Engineering and Environmental Sciences.
- L2** Ethics in leadership is the [focus](#) of a new million-dollar partnership between UQ and global business leader Mark Hutchinson.
- L3** ARC Centre of Excellence for Environment Decisions Director Professor Kerrie Wilson has been [appointed](#) to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Committee.
- L4** Professor Karen Hussey has been invited to serve on the scientific advisory board for the new [Helmholtz-Institute for Functional Marine Biodiversity at the University of Oldenburg](#).
- L5** Professor Flavio Menezes has been [appointed](#) as a chairperson to the Australian Research Council Research Evaluation Committee and will play a key role in the 2018 Excellence in Research for Australia assessment.
- L6** UQ has [appointed](#) a Chief Student Entrepreneur to inspire and mentor young innovators.
- L7** Four researchers are preparing to travel to the United States to advance their work after being [awarded](#) Fulbright Scholarships.
- L8** An aspiring neuroscientist awarded a Westpac Future Leaders Scholarship will [undertake](#) her PhD at QBI.
- L9** UQ PhD student Dr Van-Hau Trieu [won](#) the ICIS Dissertation Award for her thesis on business information systems.
- L10** Professor Nicholas Aroney was [appointed](#) by the Prime Minister to an expert panel to examine whether Australian law adequately protects the human right to freedom of religion.
- L11** Five UQ students and five graduates will be [vying](#) for glory at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.
- L12** Australian Commonwealth Games athletes are among a group of 58 students [awarded](#) UQ 2018 Sporting Scholarships.
- L13** A detailed and complex investigation process [ceased](#) in March when a senior staff member resigned with immediate effect during an investigation into an allegation of sexual misconduct.
- L14** Under the leadership of the DVC (Academic) and Provost, implementation of the [UQ Student Strategy](#) will be ramped up in 2018, backed by \$13 million in funding.

## DISCOVERY

- D1** A \$96 million Australian Government fund designed to assist vulnerable young people is to be [evaluated](#) in a research project led by UQ.
- D2** Leopards may reduce bites and subsequent rabies risk for people by [consuming](#) feral dogs in Mumbai, India.
- D3** There may be more benefits to [deleting](#) your Facebook account than just protecting your private data – it could also reduce your stress levels.
- D4** Work designed to improve diagnosis of sepsis – one of the leading causes of death in children – is [underway](#) in Brisbane, led by a UQ researcher.
- D5** A massive global study involving 58,000 cattle has [pinpointed](#) the genes that influence the complex genetic trait of height in cattle.
- D6** If you [want](#) to be told a secret you're better off being assertive and compassionate rather than enthusiastic and polite.
- D7** Australians are among the most [mobile](#) people in the world, with four in 10 changing address every five years, and nearly 15 per cent moving every year.
- D8** Scientists have found that [targeting](#) micro-organisms in the gut, known as microbiota, could have the potential to help prevent type 1 diabetes.
- D9** Setting reminders and visual cues for forgetful children could be a [solution](#) for parents frustrated over missed chores and homework.
- D10** More targeted and effective treatments for some of the world's most complex diseases in humans may be a step closer, [thanks](#) to research that better maps disease susceptibility to genes and DNA.
- D11** Therapeutics inspired by venoms could provide the key to treatment for a common gastrointestinal disease if a collaboration between researchers from UQ and Danish biotech company Zealand Pharma A/S is [successful](#).
- D12** UQ venom researchers have [uncovered](#) a unique and complex venom system within the tiny assassin bug.
- D13** Dogs stressed by animal shelter life may [benefit](#) from soothing classical music and whiffs of lavender.
- D14** Coral reef fish [learn less](#) when they have a parasite infection and can't access 'cleaning' fish such as wrasse.
- D15** Being underweight or overweight could [affect](#) the age at which women experience menopause.
- D16** Researchers have [shown](#) why a fragment of a protein from the venom gland of rattlesnakes could be the basis for an alternative to conventional antibiotics.
- D17** The death of coral reefs is a more significant factor in the erosion of tropical coastlines than rising sea levels, an international study has [revealed](#).

- D18** UQ scientists have [completed](#) a forensic-style investigation into fossils of the *Isisfordia duncani*, and found the diminutive crocodilians lived and died in brackish-water deltas.
- D19** Herbicide-resistant weeds are [threatening](#) food security, but UQ researchers are one step closer to a solution after a new discovery.
- D20** Scientists have [discovered](#) a new type of stem cell which has the potential to perform two functions at the same time, meaning better treatment or even cures for many diseases.
- D21** Researchers comparing the use of two drugs for pregnant women who do not go into labour shortly after their waters break have [found](#) both are reasonable options.
- D22** Sea level variations on the Great Barrier Reef linked to global temperature changes thousands of years ago may help [predict](#) future changes.
- D23** South-East Queensland is in [danger](#) of losing one of the last remaining populations of one of Australia's most melodic songbirds, the Eastern bristlebird.
- D24** Australians who [commit](#) white-collar crimes such as fraud should face stronger penalties.
- D25** A family of potent protein neurotoxins has been [discovered](#) in bootlace worms.
- D26** UQ and La Trobe University scientists have [produced](#) proteins suitable for developing drugs in plants, on a large scale.
- D27** A new therapy to help infants with acute respiratory infection will [prevent](#) thousands of infants with bronchiolitis from requiring escalation of care when admitted to hospital and save more than \$200 million in hospital costs.

## ENGAGEMENT

- E1** UQ's Centre for Online Health is [working](#) with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services on a new telehealth-supported project.
- E2** Five UQ researchers have [joined](#) the largest all-female expedition to Antarctica, the culmination of a year-long program to promote the influence and leadership of women in science.
- E3** The achievements of leading doctors, scholars, executives and policy makers in Indigenous health were [celebrated](#) at the UQ Indigenous Health Workforce Symposium.
- E4** To celebrate International Women's Day (8 March), UQ [highlighted](#) some of the many outstanding women in our community.
- E5** UQ is [planning](#) an all-abilities public playground at its St Lucia campus and wants the community to get involved through a design competition to help create the best possible space.
- E6** UQ has received a \$1.2 million Queensland Government [Get Playing Plus](#) grant for the redevelopment of two sporting fields at the St Lucia campus.
- E7** Triple P have developed an eight week course to [help](#) families of teenagers with a developmental disability gain confidence about their teen's future.

- E8** UQ alumni [Pita Taufatofua](#) and [Jaclyn Narracot](#) [competed](#) at the [2018 Winter Olympics](#).
- E9** Idea Hub has [expanded](#) its program to high school seniors with its Idea Hub Discovery initiative.
- E10** To commemorate 40 years since the Solomon Islands gained independence from the United Kingdom, Emeritus Professor Clive Moore [visited](#) the country as a guest of the Australian High Commission.
- E11** An innovative plastic film developed by two former UQ students to help boost crop yields and improve farm efficiencies was [named](#) one of the 'World's Top 10 New Agricultural Products for 2018'.

## **VALE**

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

**Mrs Barbara Young AO**, UQ Social Science alumna, died 26 January 2018.

**The Honourable John Muir**, UQ Law alumnus, died 10 February 2018.

**Lady Yoko Sewell**, UQ Faculty of HASS alumna, died 16 February 2018.

**Dr Keith Rush**, UQ Medicine alumnus, died 6 February 2018.

**Dr Hugh Wirth AM**, UQ Veterinary Science alumnus, died 5 February 2018.

**Dr Helen Murphy**, UQ Agriculture & Food Sciences alumna, died 28 February 2018.

**Sister Mary Stallard**, UQ Faculty of HASS alumna, died 20 February 2018.

**Mr Peter Chancellor**, UQ Business alumnus, died 11 February 2018.

**Sister Margaret Scott**, UQ Faculty of HASS alumna, died 10 March 2018.