

February 2019

## LATEST NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

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### LEARNING

- L1** More than 10,000 Australian undergraduate students have [received](#) offers to study at UQ in 2019, with strong demand continuing for health courses.
- L2** UQ [celebrated](#) the graduation of more than 8070 students across 22 ceremonies in December.
- L3** Haystack founder and CEO Ran Heimann will [bring](#) 20 years of business experience to UQ with his appointment as Entrepreneur in Residence for the ilab Germinate Plus accelerator program.
- L4** An app [developed](#) by a UQ student is helping the visually impaired navigate the stars and planets in our solar system.
- L5** A pioneer program at UQ will [see](#) students work with industry experts to design and manufacture smart devices to create a smart home.
- L6** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates from across Australia have the [chance](#) to join a paid UQ program designed to help realise their career goals.
- L7** Five students have been [named](#) as finalists in GradConnection's Top100 Future Leaders Awards, which will be held in Sydney.
- L8** A three-year partnership between UQ Law School and law firm Holding Redlich will [provide](#) new research opportunities for students.
- L9** Ten students spent four weeks interning at startups in San Francisco as part of the UQ Idea Hub San Francisco Startup Adventure, funded by the Vice-Chancellor's Greatest Needs Fund.
- L10** UQ Law School is [partnering](#) with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to develop university modules on wildlife, forest and fisheries crime.

### DISCOVERY

- D1** Sixty-one UQ projects have [netted](#) almost \$42 million in the National Health and Medical Research Council 2019 Project Grant funding – the second highest amount in Australia.
- D2** Ninety-five UQ research projects have [received](#) \$38.6 million in Australian Research Council funding.
- D3** Inflazome has [secured](#) further investment of \$63 million to develop new drugs to block harmful inflammation.
- D4** Vaccines to stop the world's next epidemic could be [developed](#) in record time under a \$14.7 million partnership using technology developed at UQ.

- D5** A \$10 million grant will [revolutionise](#) the early detection of melanoma with the installation of 15 3D whole body imaging machines across Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.
- D6** Twenty-seven UQ researchers have been [named](#) in a prestigious 2018 Highly Cited Researchers List – with one featuring in two categories.
- D7** Six UQ alumni and academics have been [awarded](#) Fulbright Scholarships for study in the United States in 2019.
- D8** Sixty-four UQ alumni and staff were named in the 2019 Australia Day Honours, including Professor Peter Høj who was [named](#) a Companion of the Order of Australia for eminent service to higher education and research.
- D9** Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Høj has been [awarded](#) a prestigious fellowship of the National Academy of Inventors in the United States.
- D10** Dr Teresa Ubide and Dr Yanni Chin have each been [offered](#) one of 60 coveted positions in the Science and Technology Australia Superstars of STEM program.
- D11** Researchers have [developed](#) a quick and easy test to detect cancer from blood or biopsy tissue which could eventually result in a new approach to patient diagnosis.
- D12** Queensland’s coastal shark numbers are [continuing](#) a 50-year decline, in sharp contradiction of suggestions of ‘exploding’ shark populations.
- D13** Newborns with vitamin D deficiency have an [increased risk](#) of schizophrenia later in life.
- D14** A clinical trial of a new cellular immunotherapy for multiple sclerosis has [improved](#) symptoms and quality of life for the majority of patients.
- D15** UQ’s Centre for Advanced Imaging has [performed](#) the first dog PET-CT FDOPA scan in Australia.
- D16** Assigning chores to children equally, giving them unsupervised freedom outdoors, and providing good career role models would help [address](#) workplace gender equality.
- D17** [Stopping](#) melanoma from spreading to other parts of the body might be as simple as cutting off the blood supply to the cancer.
- D18** Artificial intelligence and extensive satellite imagery have [allowed](#) researchers to map the world’s intertidal zones for the first time.
- D19** Corals lurking in deeper, darker waters could one day [help](#) to replenish shallow water reefs under threat from ocean warming and bleaching events.
- D20** Lesbian, gay and bisexual Australians [continue](#) to experience significant disadvantage when it comes to health and wellbeing compared to their heterosexual peers.
- D21** Women who are depressed before conception are [more likely](#) to have children with poor psychosocial outcomes.
- D22** Australia has some of the [highest rates](#) of private land deforestation in the world, despite policies designed to prevent the practice.
- D23** Tobacco smokers are at [increased risk](#) of psychotic disorders such as schizophrenia.

- D24** Advanced materials developed and manufactured at UQ were [launched](#) to the lower limits of the earth's atmosphere in Australia's first commercial rocket launch.
- D25** Prehistoric secrets from the early hominin ancestors of humans that lived 3.4 million years ago are being [revealed](#) by an international team of researchers.
- D26** Better behaviour assessment could be the [key](#) to more successful adoptions and reducing the risk of euthanasia for shelter dogs.
- D27** Doctors may be able to [assess](#) the survival rates of melanoma patients following the discovery of a molecule that allows the cancer to spread from the skin to other parts of the body.
- D28** UQ researchers have [built](#) an extremely sensitive method of measuring ultrasound which could revolutionise everything from medical devices to unmanned vehicles.
- D29** The top 100 Australian plant species at risk of extinction have been [identified](#).
- D30** Brain size doesn't just [relate](#) to how smart people are but also to how bitter they find tonic water.

## ENGAGEMENT

- E1** UQ has [officially](#) taken ownership of the Warwick Solar Farm project, sealing a 25-year commitment to the Southern Downs.
- E2** UQ has [launched](#) its inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan.
- E3** UQ has [become](#) a key partner of the One Health Poultry Hub, a global alliance to help developing nationals avoid intensive poultry farming hazards.
- E4** Researchers have [partnered](#) with institutes in Kenya, Indonesia and Vietnam to investigate the prevalence of mental disorders in adolescents.
- E5** PhD student Lynda Lawson has [led](#) the development of training and resources to improve the independence and financial autonomy of female sapphire miners in Madagascar.
- E6** UQ is [taking](#) another step in its commitment to sustainability, installing an Envirobank Smart Pod on campus.
- E7** Young Queenslanders [showcased](#) their passion for science at the Wonder of Science State Conference, hosted at UQ.
- E8** Agriculture and soil scientist Dr Glen Simpson has been [awarded](#) UQ's Gatton Gold Medal for improving the welfare of communities around the world.
- E9** UQ is Australia's top-ranked sporting university after being [crowned](#) inaugural UniSport Nationals Div 1 champions.
- E10** UQ researchers have [produced](#) a range of educational resources aimed at tackling safety risks for workers in the gemstone industry.
- E11** UQ Sporting Scholarship recipient Lakeisha Patterson received UniSport Australia's 'Most Outstanding Performance by an Athlete with a Disability Award' for 2018.

## **VALE**

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

**Dr Felice Zaccari OAM**, died 19 January 2019.

**Mrs Mary Boydell**, UQ Business alumna, died 9 January 2019.

**Mr Christopher Douglas**, died 19 December 2018.

**Dr Mary MacGinley OAM**, UQ Historical and Philosophical Inquiry; Education alumna, died 11 November 2018.

**Mr Geoffrey Sattler**, UQ Business alumnus, died 22 October 2018.

**Mr Paul Neville OAM**, died 1 January 2019.

**Dr Charles Roe AM**, UQ Medicine alumnus, died 15 January 2019.

**Mrs Violet Kuskie**, UQ Faculty of HASS alumna, died 30 November 2018.