

April 2019

LATEST NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

LEARNING

- L1** UQ [topped](#) the national table in Agriculture and Forestry, Environmental Sciences and Sports-Related Subjects, according to the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2019.
- L2** Associate Professor April Wright and Associate Professor Timothy McIntyre [received](#) awards for Teaching Excellence at the Australian Awards for University Teaching.
- L3** A doctor training program for Central Queensland and Wide Bay is a step closer to [reality](#), with discussions between government and industry in Rockhampton.
- L4** The director of AustLit, Kerry Kilner, has been [appointed](#) as the first Reconciliation Action Coordinator for UQ's Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.
- L5** UQ has [welcomed](#) multi-award winning writer and Indigenous rights champion Dr Anita Heiss as a Professor of Communication.
- L6** Two of Australia's leading investment management firms will [provide](#) nine \$5000 scholarships and nine internships to support exceptional female undergraduate students in 2019.
- L7** Women lead the way in 57 UQ Sporting Scholarships [awarded](#) to 55 student-athletes, including Olympic, Paralympic and Australian representatives.
- L8** A group of law students have [joined](#) forces with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to tackle wildlife trafficking with a new international university course.
- L9** A team of UQ students will [represent](#) Australia at the International Physicists' Tournament in Switzerland this April.
- L10** UQ's St Lucia and Gatton campuses were [bursting](#) with life, as new and returning students flocked to the Orientation Week festivities.
- L11** Internationally renowned drama expert, researcher and theatre-maker Dr Katalin Trencsényi has been [named](#) UQ's Creative Fellow for 2019.
- L12** UQ's new Chief Student Entrepreneur, Josh Tambunan, has [launched](#) UQ's Entrepreneurship Strategy 2018-2022.

DISCOVERY

- D1** UQ [leads](#) Australia in a nationwide assessment of research impact and engagement by the Australian Research Council.
- D2** UQ is one of Australia's most comprehensive, research-intensive universities, the Excellence in Research for Australia 2018 assessment has [confirmed](#).

- D3** Dr Jacqui Romero has been selected as a [2019 Westpac Research Fellow](#) and as a [2019 L'Oréal-UNESCO International Rising Talent](#).
- D4** Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg has been [named](#) as one of the world's 100 most influential people in climate policy for 2019.
- D5** UQ scientists will be [joining](#) forces with other Brisbane researchers at the new Centre for Childhood and Adolescent Brain Cancer Research.
- D6** Researchers are [launching](#) a \$9 million study which aims to embed ethics and law into autonomous defence systems, such as self-driving military vehicles.
- D7** Two clinical trials for rare cancer treatments and a dialysis education program led by UQ researchers have been [awarded](#) more than \$7.6 million in grants.
- D8** Two UQ postgraduate students have been [named](#) as 2019 Westpac Future Leaders Scholars.
- D9** Two UQ physicists have been [chosen](#) to attend the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting, which will feature 40 Nobel Laureates and an elite selection of international scientists.
- D10** Dr Claire Brolan was appointed to the Global Council for Financing the Sustainable Development Goals by the United Arab Emirates Prime Minister's Office.
- D11** Professor Karen Hussey has been awarded \$275,000 to support the Queensland Government in delivering a Post 2020 Climate Transition Strategy.
- D12** PhD student Ray Maher has been awarded \$60,000 to write the Queensland Government Industry and Resources Sector Adaptation Plan.
- D13** Researchers will [investigate](#) the potential of existing drugs to be repurposed for Parkinson's disease, thanks to a new research grant.
- D14** Researchers have [discovered](#) a DNA modification that enhances our ability to extinguish fear.
- D15** Dementia is one of the leading causes of death in Australia, but UQ research has [found](#) the disease affects men and women differently.
- D16** Researchers have [discovered](#) a hidden metabolic advantage that prevents people with a specific type of dwarfism from developing type 2 diabetes or cancer.
- D17** UQ research may [explain](#) why vitamin D is vital for brain health, and how deficiency leads to disorders including depression and schizophrenia.
- D18** The risk of developing melanoma is significantly [multiplied](#) for people who have red hair and more than 20 large moles.
- D19** Breakthrough artificial intelligence developed in Queensland could [improve](#) insulin dosing for diabetics and transform the way aeroplane engine wear-and-tear is monitored.
- D20** The age at which women experience major reproductive events, such as their first period or giving birth, has [changed](#) significantly over time.
- D21** Researchers have [developed](#) a statistical approach to reveal many hard-to-find genes that contribute to cancer.

- D22** A new process turning waste glass into every day products could [save](#) tens of millions of tonnes of glass from going to landfill every year.
- D23** Scientists looking at the genetics of Zika virus have [found](#) a way to fast-track research which could lead to new vaccines.
- D24** Some large whale populations have [defied](#) over-exploitation and near-extinction to reach 'peak' abundance – or will do so early in the next decade.
- D25** Professor Robert Henry is [conducting](#) the first gene-editing experiments to tailor sugarcane production to effectively produce biofuels and bioplastics.
- D26** Adolescents in developing countries are [more likely](#) to make suicide attempts or have suicidal thoughts than those living in high-income countries.
- D27** Reintroducing inheritance taxes would be an efficient and equitable way to [address](#) housing affordability.
- D28** A discovery about how exercise improves brain function could be [harnessed](#) for research into ageing, and boosting learning and memory.

ENGAGEMENT

- E1** A five-year Memorandum of Understanding has been [signed](#) by UQ and Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation, to undertake joint research and development projects.
- E2** UQ Chancellor Mr Peter Varghese AO was [presented](#) with the Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop 2018 Asialink Medal.
- E3** King's College will open its doors to women residents in 2020.
- E4** St Lucia parkrun – supported by UQ and UQ Sport – celebrated its first anniversary event. More than 5400 community members participated during the maiden year.
- E5** UQ Press has [appointed](#) publishing industry leader Ben James as Director.
- E6** More than 200 gifted and talented primary school students [visited](#) UQ for Explorama, an educational event that aims to expose high achievers to potential academic aspirations.
- E7** Hundreds of people [joined](#) a lantern parade lighting the way to safety awareness at UQ St Lucia campus.
- E7** UQ and Cricket Australia are developing a new standard to give community cricket clubs and associations access to high quality, competitively-priced cricket balls.
- E9** UQ staff and students were [named](#) in the Women Lawyers Association of Queensland Inc 2019 Inspo List, released on International Women's Day.
- E10** UQ researchers have [helped](#) to develop a four-point plan to create more sustainable, liveable, prosperous and resilient cities.

VALE

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

Dr John Herron AO, UQ Medicine alumnus, died 25 February 2019.

Miss Nancy Beer, UQ Education alumna, died 15 February 2019.

Mr John Sinclair AO, UQ Economics; UQ Agriculture & Food Sciences alumnus, died 3 February 2019.

Dr Eva Popper, UQ Medicine alumna, died 2 March 2019.

Mr Alistair Wallace, UQ Economics alumnus, died 7 December 2018.

Ms Chryssa Aroney, died 30 December 2018.

Dr Maximilian Brandle OAM, UQ Languages and Cultures alumnus, died 28 February 2019.

Emeritus Professor Jerzy Kozlowski, died 9 February 2019.

Dr Muntasirur Rahman, died 22 February 2019.