Our objectives and performance indicators

In order to achieve our vision of knowledge leadership for a better world, we require sustained focus and a commitment to our 3 long-term objectives:

1. Transforming students into game-changing graduates who make outstanding contributions and address complex issues with a global perspective. We will go beyond ensuring that we develop graduates who can easily gain employment. UQ's students are motivated and highly capable; we want to develop an educational experience that maximises our students' personal and academic development. We will support them to become enterprising independent thinkers with the leadership, creativity and problem-solving skills that empower them to create positive change within industry, academia, the workplace, and society more generally.

2. Delivering globally significant solutions to challenges by generating new knowledge and partnered innovation. We continue to expect that research will be undertaken at the highest academic standard with the highest ethical principles. UQ remains committed to both fundamental and translational research. However, we will be focusing on working with others – both internally through collaborations that cut across disciplinary and organisational boundaries, and externally through partnerships and networks. We will become a hub that brings together the best expertise together to creatively solve complex problems through research and innovation. This ethos will also be reflected in our approach to teaching.

3. Empowering them to create positive change and co-create, we hope to bring together different perspectives and experiences in order to find solutions to global challenges and provide an enriched learning experience. Through a One UQ culture we can create an environment that is inclusive and collaborative, to ensure that we work together in pursuit of our strategic objectives. Universities must reflect wider society – working with and for the broader community. Through collaborative external partnerships we can create the connections and networks necessary to understand the needs of industry, government and the community, and work with others to meet these needs; this applies to both our teaching and research endeavours.

To pursue these objectives, we have developed 6 strategic focus areas, or medium-term goals, to articulate where our efforts will be prioritised throughout the life of the Strategic Plan 2018-2037. This report addresses these 6 areas and provides examples of initiatives adopted to meet them.

1. Transforming our student experience through a flexible, integrated and partnered learning environment
2. Enhancing our high-quality research by improving our capacity to collaborate to achieve greater impact
3. Building engaged and strategic partnerships with a broad range of local and global networks
4. Committing to activities that attract, support and retain a diverse and inclusive community of high-achieving staff and students
5. Building an agile, responsive and efficient University operation
6. Diversifying our income streams and managing our resources to establish a sustainable financial base

Until this year, when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, student enrolments had been steadily increasing since the University first opened in 1911.