

Partnerships

Our goal is to foster mutually beneficial partnerships for research translation and commercialisation at scale, to create positive impact for our communities, the environment and economy.

How we are achieving this

In preparing to develop a new partnerships and translation strategy, we implemented a Research Partnerships Review that saw both a Community of Practice and a Pipeline of Projects and Partners through the UQ Commercialisation Action Plan established during the year. This will feed into the Research Roadmap implementation as well as the convening of a cross-organisational partnership community.

Related achievements and initiatives

- UQ signed a partnership agreement with the Queensland Government, Griffith University and global healthcare company Sanofi to establish a significant new mRNA vaccine research facility in Brisbane.
- The Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) partnered with the German Research Foundation DFG to establish the International Research Training Group for researching genetic improvements in cereal and pulse crops.
- The Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN) successfully launched Australia's first Advanced Biomanufacturing Nucleic Acid facility (BASE), a joint initiative with the National Biologics Facility and Protein Expression Facility, and supported by Therapeutics Innovation Australia.
- Global medical technology group Stryker will establish its first Australian research and development facility in Queensland, with support from the Queensland Government, UQ and QUT.
- The Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) signed a research Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Washington.
- We appointed an Executive Director (Research Partnerships) to advance research partnerships with industry.
- QAAFI's TropAg conference was held in October/November as a vehicle for collaboration and engagement.

Research community

We support the development of our research community, including professional staff and HDR students, empowering them to thrive and excel in the evolving research and innovation ecosystem.

How we are achieving this

Work began on implementing a Researcher Development Framework to empower and support diverse career pathways for academics and professional staff. This included the development of the UQ Spark – Industry Engagement Skills program for Level B and C academics.

Related achievements and initiatives

- We continued to improve the Career Development Framework.
- We provided system and community of practice support for HDR student engagement with industry placements.
- IMB rolled out Stage 2 of its Global Challenges HDR cohort program, attracting 25 PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) candidates to work on at least 5 industry-focused research projects.
- SMI developed bespoke training, a professional certificate, online courses, contracted and public workshops, and regular webinars for its stakeholders.
- The Faculty of Medicine developed a clinician–researcher guide, support mechanisms for research-focused academics and HDR supervisors – including an online 'toolbox' for community engagement – and an internship for research-focused staff.
- The PhD stipend will increase to \$32,192 from 1 January 2023.

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Trusted research

We aim to ensure our research policies, practices and systems uphold our strong institutional commitment to trusted research and innovation.

How we are achieving this

Organisation-wide planning and preparations for the ERA assessment exercise began during the year for the next round, which will likely take place in 2024–2025. In the latest ERA assessment in 2018, we were assessed in 98 4-digit Fields of Research, with 100% rated at world standard or above. UQ was rated above world standard in more specialised fields of research than any other Australian university. Preparations did not commence on the EI assessment as the ARC announced in December that the 2024 exercise would not proceed.

Related achievements and initiatives

- 51 UQ researchers and research teams received grants (to commence in 2023) totalling \$25 million under the ARC Discovery Projects scheme, the second highest number nationally.
- Our Interdisciplinary Tobacco Endgame Research Network received a \$5 million grant under the NHMRC's Synergy scheme to help reduce smoking.
- In order to meet security obligations when working on defence-related research projects, we applied for institutional membership of the Defense Industry Security program.
- QAAFI staff completed the GRDC-funded Sorghum pre-breeding with the transfer of germplasm project to the satisfaction of commercial partners.
- The Faculty of Science continued to monitor and manage regulatory compliance with research protocols, including a review of the equine unit and closure of the piggery at UQ Gatton.
- Work continued on systems upgrades to bolster the University's research infrastructure, including rolling out the Research Infrastructure Management System 2 and preparing for the MyResearch Projects system.

Measures of success

3. Enriching our communities

We seek to enrich communities here in Queensland, and around the world. Our commitments to leading reconciliation, global development and capacity building; broadening access to education; and leveraging our research impact to strengthen the economy demonstrate just some of the ways in which we will deliver for the public good.

Key performance indicators

30% of domestic undergraduate students will come from low socio-economic or regional/remote background enrolments ¹				
	2017	2018	2019	2020
Percentage of UQ domestic undergraduate students from a low socio-economic or regional/remote background	23.6	23.5	23.1	21.7
Proportion of students identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander will reflect representation of people identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander in Queensland				
	2019	2020	2021 ²	2022 ²
Percentage of domestic students who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander ³	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.4
Platinum rating in Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS)				
	2020	2021	2022	
STARS sustainability performance score ³	61.37	61.37	61.37	
Recognised by Reconciliation Australia as an Elevate RAP organisation				
We are currently rated at Innovate level and are working towards Elevate				
► See page 25: Reconciliation and Indigenous excellence				

¹ Low socio-economic background is based on students' first address at any higher education provider and uses the Australian Bureau of Statistics: Statistical Area Level 1. Regional/remote background is based on students' first address at any higher education provider and uses the Australian Statistical Geography Standard.

² Figures for 2021 and 2022 are preliminary and are based on internal self-reported data. Data will be finalised in mid-2023.

³ Each STARS report and rating is valid for 3 years from the date of publication.

The Queensland Commitment

Through our Queensland Commitment, we are broadening access to higher education, and working in partnership to address our state's priorities, including those relating to the health workforce and economic diversification.

How we are achieving this

The Queensland Commitment was officially launched in August to break down the personal, financial and geographical barriers facing students aspiring to study at UQ. The core focus of the pledge is on increasing philanthropic funding to provide sustainable, needs-based scholarships for future scholars, particularly those from regional, remote or low socio-economic backgrounds, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Other

initiatives include expanded pathway programs, extensive regional and rural outreach, and accommodation support. We aim to strengthen our engagement with core educational, health, industry and arts partners throughout the state, to deliver transformative change.

Related achievements and initiatives

- We conducted Regional Roadshows across the state to discover more ways UQ can foster the growth, health and prosperity of communities across Queensland.
- We invited alumni and the broader community to support the ambitions of The Queensland Commitment by volunteering with UQ, sharing their stories, or becoming a UQ ambassador.

- We delivered the InspireU Program, bringing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students from across the state for a week-long camp at St Lucia.
- We grew the Young Achievers Program, which supports the tertiary study and career aspirations of senior secondary school students from disadvantaged backgrounds by engaging and mentoring them throughout their academic journey and beyond.
- We strengthened the UQ College Foundation Year program to provide a direct pathway into the University for undergraduate international students.
- We delivered a Breakfast Club webinar series to strengthen knowledge and university pathway options.
- We established a new Government Relations office within the University.
- We established a research working group to promote and support high-quality health research for rural communities, including allied health placements at Chinchilla and St George.

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Reconciliation and Indigenous excellence

Our aim is for Reconciliation to be business as usual through the successful development and implementation of our Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), and we support the continued development of Indigenous excellence as defined by Indigenous peoples, in collaboration with the broader UQ community.

How we are achieving this

With the 2019–2022 Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) successfully implemented, work began on developing the 2023–2026 Stretch RAP, further embedding

reconciliation in the day-to-day business of the University. We also established an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collections and Services team to identify and catalogue Indigenous knowledge held in the Library and to create open educational resources, as well as starting to Indigenise the curriculum.

Related achievements and initiatives

- UQ will be hosting the first ever Indigenous-led ARC Centre of Excellence – Indigenous Futures – using Indigenous knowledge to transform the life chances of Indigenous Australians and enhance understanding of the complex nature of intergenerational inequity.
- We launched *Campuses on Countries: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Design Framework* in June to incorporate Indigenous design principles for UQ’s physical spaces and built environment.
- Through the Ventures Strong Spirit program, we increased the participation of female-identifying First Nations persons in UQ entrepreneurial activities.
- We grew the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholarships to 20, thanks to several high-profile sponsors.
- In September, we held the third Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and Innovation Forum, focusing on Indigenous health and wellbeing.
- Work began on implementing the AIATSIS Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and we continued to implement the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and Innovation Strategy.
- Along with cultural awareness training, QBI offered Indigenous summer scholarships and cultural experiences.
- 100% of the profit made from sales of RAP merchandise was committed to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student scholarships.
- The Faculty of Medicine increased the number of Indigenous staff members in the Faculty by 25% in 2022.
- New Indigenous health modules were incorporated into HLTH1000, a mandatory course for all Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences (HABS) students.
- The Faculty of Science began designing a VET Certificate in Cultural Heritage Management that would be open to all students.

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Indo-Pacific

Our goal is to harness UQ’s expertise to support Australia’s commitment to capacity building across the Indo-Pacific.

How we are achieving this

Following the launch of the *UQ Global Development Impact Plan 2021–2025*, we secured a range of contracts for the design and delivery of tailored short course programs, customised graduate certificate courses and long-term development initiatives in South Asia, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, Papua New Guinea (PNG) and the Pacific. In addition, the Global Development Hub hosted its Global Development Dialogue 2022 event – *Strengthening partnerships with the Pacific* – with UQ academic and professional staff engaging with Pacific counterparts in the areas of development practice, government and industry engagement, research collaboration, and teaching.

Related achievements and initiatives

- We secured 21 new development projects, bringing the total value of projects under management of UQ’s International Development unit to \$23.1 million. A range of short courses and development projects were delivered for Indonesia, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Bangladesh, PNG, the Pacific and ASEAN region.
- We delivered the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade/UQ co-hosted Pacific Telecommunications Security Expert Forum in November, bringing together telecommunications and cyber security experts from UQ and the Pacific to address existing challenges and future opportunities to guide future investments and initiatives in the critical technologies and cyber security sectors in the Pacific.
- The Faculty of Science continued to pursue external funding to implement training in environment and agriculture in Indonesia.

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UN Sustainable Development Goals

We support and promote the UN Sustainable Development Goals in research, teaching, external engagement and campus operations.

How we are achieving this

In 2022, UQ became a formal signatory to the SDSN University Commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. This commitment builds on our sustainability record in research, teaching, engagement and campus operations. The UQ Sustainability Strategy was also published, laying a strong foundation as we progress its implementation across the 4 pillars of teaching and research, engagement,

operations, and planning and administration. The Strategy is fully aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. We established a Project Control Group to drive implementation of the Sustainability Strategy, with several working parties responsible for developing action plans for key commitment areas. In 2021, we achieved a high silver STARS rating, with a score of 61.37, and are now actively working towards gold level (65 points) before February 2024 when the current rating expires.

Related achievements and initiatives

- Through the UQ Sustainability Office, we created low-carbon guidelines for managing events, and progressed WellLab initiatives to enhance wellbeing.

Public debate

We aim to nourish intellectual vitality through inclusive access to debates and public lectures, cultural events, and UQ’s museums and libraries.

How we are achieving this

We extended access to our facilities, bringing the community onto campus through an extended program of in-person and digital events such as Back to UQ Day, UQ Alumni Book Fair and the ChangeMakers series, among others. In particular, we profiled the role of the arts (visual arts, music, writing, drama, museums) in connecting the University to the broader community.

Related achievements and initiatives

- We held more than 50 public lectures, discussions and debates during the year.
- We conducted Strategic Roundtable discussions with community leaders across the state, as part of our Regional Roadshows, to gain insights into the key regional challenges and opportunities.
- In May, *Music and Country* was held in the UQ Centre with didgeridoo player and composer William Barton joining the UQ Symphony Orchestra to create *Bush Fire Requiem*.
- In the Anthropology Museum, the *Kirrenderrri, Heart of the Channel Country* exhibition provided Mikhaka perspectives, recent archaeological discoveries, as well as historic and contemporary photographs and artefacts.
- The Herston campus increased its visitor rate with several functions and lectures hosted in the Mayne events space.
- UQ Gatton held its 125th anniversary celebrations in July, attracting hundreds of visitors to the campus.
- The Vice-Chancellor’s Concert series continued at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre.

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Measures of success

4. Our global profile

It is implicit in our vision, ‘knowledge leadership for a better world’, that UQ seeks to have a global impact. In collaboration with a range of international partners, we offer our students a global educational experience, undertake development initiatives and research that has international impact, and deliver a UQ education to learners from broad and diverse backgrounds.

Key performance indicators

Grow co-publications, joint PhDs, collaborative teaching and externally funded research				
► See page 28: QUEX and UQ–IITD				
10% of international students from each of top 5 source countries				
	2019	2020	2021	2022 ¹
Number of source countries where the percentage of international students is at least 10%	1	1	1	1
15% of UQ’s international students will study offshore				
► See page 28: Offshore offerings				
Be a leading university in Australia for development impact in the Indo-Pacific				
► See page 26: Indo-Pacific				
¹ Figures for 2022 are preliminary. Data will be finalised in mid-2023.				

International partnerships

Our goal is to strengthen the University’s global impact through our network of premier international partnerships to build scale and impact across both research and education.

How we are achieving this

In 2022, we visited several countries as part of the Global Engagement Senior Executive Mission schedule, with trips to the UK, India, Vietnam and Indonesia, and specific partner visits in a number of other priority countries. In 2023, we will again expand our post-pandemic engagement including key international research collaborations in South America through SMI–ICE–Chile, and visits to strategic partners including IITD (India), Technical University of Munich (Germany), UNESP (Brazil), SUSTech (China), DTU (Denmark), Exeter University (UK), UBC (Canada) and Emory University (USA).

Related achievements and initiatives

- We supported teaching, research and student experience at UQ through our growing international philanthropic partnerships.
- The Future Students International unit participated in 801 recruitment events in 33 countries, in both virtual and physical modes, hosted by UQ and other agencies and partner institutions. In addition, we maintained our market presence and engaged with key stakeholders through international travel to over 21 countries.
- We welcomed 365 commencing students from key international partners under a Global Connect Scholarship scheme to build student diversity.
- UQ Ventures partnered with the Vietnam Institute for Science, Technology and Innovation to develop a business model for an Innovation Centre in Hanoi. The institutions collaborated with support from the Australian Government’s Aus4Innovation Program, delivered by CSIRO. This collaboration increased UQ’s engagement with the Vietnamese Ministry of Science and Technology and is planned to continue in 2023, with a delegation visiting Queensland.