



SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals

Overview

UQ advances SDG 17 through a comprehensive whole-of-institution approach that integrates teaching and learning, research, community engagement, global development, and sustainable campus operations. UQ's various units and departments collaborate internally and externally to progress SDGs locally and globally by strengthening and increasing resource mobilisation and strategic investment, enhancing capacity and capability building, and facilitating cross-sectoral cooperation, especially in the areas of science, technology and innovation.

In learning and student development, UQ's partnerships play a key role in providing students with Work Integrated Learning experiences – including in critical areas such as health and allied health – as well as extra and co-curricular activities and facilitating valuable lifelong learning for the broader community.

Partnerships are also what drive UQ's success in research and innovation. UQ's strong relationships with government and industry enable the University's contributions to national priorities and enhance the impact and reach of its collaborative infrastructure, precincts, and large-scale centres, ensuring benefit across multiple sectors.

UQ's relationships with the wider community are crucial to successfully delivering The Queensland Commitment and connecting to regional communities. UQ's partnerships with Indigenous communities are of particular importance to the University's reconciliation commitments, which ensure the presence, contributions and recognition of Indigenous staff, students and other stakeholders across teaching, research, and operations.

Global partnerships help fulfill UQ's mission of knowledge leadership for a better world. The University's International Development unit spearheads international relationships, initiatives with flagship partners, and new partnerships with global educational institutions, governments and communities.

It is UQ's internal relationships – the partnerships across centres, schools, faculties, and units – that are at the core of UQ's commitment. Whether between students, researchers, or professional staff, these partnerships are at the core of UQ's commitment to pursuing positive outcomes globally and locally, and building a culture based upon UQ's values.

Progress made in 2024 towards SDG 17 is reported here with reference to the following domains and enablers from UQ's Strategic Plan 2022-2025:

- Learning and student experience
- Research and innovation
- Enriching our communities
- Our global profile
- Our people.

Related SDGs

Activities within SDG 17 are heavily related to [all other SDGs](#). As a result, some of the content in this document is also contained in UQ's other SDG reports.

Learning and student experience

UQ offers rich and varied educational experiences designed to foster a sense of belonging, while equipping students to be leaders in their fields with the agility to thrive in a global environment. UQ's partnerships with other institutions, industry, government and community organisations are an important element of providing students and lifelong learners with relevant, meaningful and fulfilling curricular, extra-curricular and co-curricular experiences. These align with a broad range of SDGs including SDG 3 in medical and allied health placements, SDGs 8 and 9 in entrepreneurship opportunities, and SDGs 12, 13 and 16 via UQ Executive Education's offerings. UQ is committed to providing an experiential curriculum with local and global partners that inspires students and extends their capabilities to thrive in a global environment. UQ also provides opportunities to develop students' local and global networks, giving them an edge through experiences that foster leadership, entrepreneurship, civic duty and digital literacy, among other critical capabilities.

Key 2024 activities that contributed towards these aims include:

- launching the Lead Through Learning project to better support staff and students, foster innovation and research, and embed AI literacy across the curriculum while ensuring assessment integrity
- expanding partnerships with Microsoft, Adobe, Anthology, and technology partners to leverage new AI capabilities
- continuing to support lifelong learning across the UQ ecosystem through the Ventures Accelerator programs which engage students, staff, alumni, and industry and research partners
- UQ Ventures supporting 70 startups to further develop their business or social enterprise
- facilitating a range of startup programs providing students with hands-on experience, expanding their professional networks, and developing entrepreneurial skills
- offering experiences for more than 1,480 students to enhance their employability, including summer and winter research projects, domestic, international and virtual internships, short-term experiences with global partners, and Student-Staff Partnership projects.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) partnerships

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) covers educational activities and experiences that integrate academic learning with professional work practices. This helps students develop real-world capabilities and gain industry exposure while still studying. For example, students training in client-focused health disciplines benefit from high-quality learning opportunities such as providing supervised services to community members. To facilitate

these opportunities, the University works to build and maintain strong relationships and collaborations with industry partners across all sectors.

In 2024 more than 495 WIL courses supported approximately 16,500 students (more than 30%) to apply academic theory in real-world contexts and contribute towards advancing many of the SDGs in practical settings. Sectors included health and medicine, design, planning, manufacturing and construction, and education and training.

To ensure equitable access to placement opportunities, UQ allocates \$500,000 annually to provide financial support – up to \$7,000 per student – for those experiencing financial disadvantage, helping them meet the placement requirements of their degree programs. In some disciplines, particularly engineering, there is increasing recognition of the valuable contribution students make during placements, with many employers offering paid opportunities in acknowledgement. For example, more than 90% of Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) and Master of Engineering students are paid on placement. Across other areas of the University, paid placements are also strongly encouraged.

Beyond applying discipline-specific knowledge, WIL placements enable students to build confidence in professional environments, develop their professional identities, and strengthen their skills and attributes. These experiences often lead to further opportunities, including paid internships and graduate employment offers. For example, students studying in Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) and Master of Engineering programs have been offered graduate positions with global companies such as Hatch, HeliMods, and Rocket Lab to name just a few. From 2021-2023, more than 75% of bachelor and master's engineering students were offered ongoing work with the organisations where they completed their placement, with 96% of industry partners stating they were satisfied with the students' placement performances.

Partnerships for health training

UQ's research and close collaborations with leading health institutions – locally, regionally, nationally and internationally – power its teaching and training in medicine and allied health, contributing to the advancement of SDG 3. These partnerships ensure that students receive a world-class, evidence-based education, enriched by access to state-of-the-art facilities, clinical placements, and mentoring by leading health professionals and researchers.

Locally, UQ's Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences and Faculty of Medicine continued collaborations with Queensland Health and other partners to provide students with placements in hospitals, rural clinics, and community health settings throughout 2024. These experiences are vital in developing the practical skills and ethical awareness needed to improve health outcomes across diverse populations.

In addition to continuing collaborations with major hospitals such as the Mater and the PA-Southside Clinical Unit, 2024 saw UQ strengthen local partnerships with Queensland Health through the Queensland Health Clinical Research Fellowships. These Fellowships advance the translation of research into improved clinical outcomes and enrich the learning environment for health students. Additionally, the Southern Queensland Rural Health (SQRH) Chinchilla Education and Training Centre was officially launched, as part of a collaboration between UQ, Darling Downs Health and South West Hospital and Health

Service. The Centre will support 1,500 students completing placements each year in nursing, dietetics, occupational therapy, exercise physiology, psychology and social work.

Nationally, UQ leads the ACRF Centre of Excellence in Melanoma Imaging and Diagnosis, where students and early career researchers contribute to cutting-edge diagnostic innovations. Further afield, UQ continued its partnership with US-based Ochsner Health, including a commitment to deliver the joint Doctor of Medicine (MD) program until at least 2030. The collaboration offers a transnational medical education, producing graduates equipped to address global health challenges. In 2024 UQ celebrated the graduation of the 1000th medical student from the transnational Doctor of Medicine program.

Extra and Co-Curricular Partnership Opportunities

UQ extends its promotion of meaningful partnerships to the student experience, with opportunities for students to work with staff and network with professionals outside of the University.

To facilitate and coordinate opportunities for students to grow their networks and form collaborations both inside and outside of the University, UQ maintains direct relationships with community and industry organisations that enable mentorship programs and initiatives as well as access schemes. These include:

- The [Harding Miller Foundation Partnership](#) – a collaboration with the Harding Miller Foundation to support Year 9-12 students, specifically targeting young women of low socioeconomic status who are facing financial hardship. This program provides encouragement and pathways for continuing education. Similarly, the [Diamond Spirit Program](#), a partnership initiative with Netball Queensland, focuses on supporting Indigenous women to access higher education, using sport as a vehicle to encourage educational participation.
- **Discipline-specific schemes**, such as:
 - the [Women in Computing](#) (WiC) program which encourages girls and women to pursue technology careers by offering workshops, events, and leadership opportunities. Launched in 2023, WiC fosters a diverse and inclusive tech community while building strong connections between high schools, university students, and industry.
 - the [HASS Connect Mentoring Program](#) which brings Humanities and Social Sciences students together with industry professionals from diverse careers
 - the [EAIT Industry Mentoring Program](#) which connects engineering, architecture and IT students with professionals to motivate, encourage, empower and transform the next generation of specialists
 - the [BEL Career Mentoring program](#) which connects students with an experienced industry professional to explore potential career pathways and develop greater self-awareness of skills, knowledge, attributes and experiences
 - The [UQ MBA Mentoring Program](#) which connects UQ MBA students with alumni and industry mentors to assist them with career development and transitions.

Entrepreneurship programs for students

UQ helps students grow their network of partnerships with its suite of interactive entrepreneurship programs, accelerators and events through [UQ Ventures](#). Mentoring, workshops and industry connections all foster students' innovation, enable real-world hands-on business building experience, and support students at every stage of their entrepreneurial journey – from exploring ideas to launching or scaling a startup or social enterprise. All initiatives engage sustainability, ethical practice and designing for diversity perspectives and frameworks to enhance the positive impact of projects and ventures.

Examples of **Ventures programs** that foster and facilitate students' industry connections and partnership opportunities include:

- **Startup AdVentures**, which offers immersive experiences in Australian and global startup communities
- **The Industry Challenge** through which students address major real-world challenges supported by industry mentors
- **Ventures Hustle**, which was introduced in 2024 and comprises a 60-day challenge designed to help students build and launch real businesses while balancing academic commitments. Participants were able to gain insights from highly experienced entrepreneurs and business professionals, refine their products, develop business models, and pitch to real customers.
- **ilab Accelerator**, UQ's flagship program designed to fast-track UQ student, staff and alumni startups. Founders benefit from experienced Entrepreneurs-in-Residence (EiRs), mentoring, and access to Queensland's startup and investor networks.

Lifelong learning partnerships – UQ Executive Education

[UQ's Executive Education](#) offers courses that are industry-centred to equip business leaders with high-level professional skills and insights. These in-person courses elevate hands-on learning and networking and often involve or strengthen UQ's partnerships with stakeholders across sectors. For example:

- Executive Education partners with Queensland Futures Institute (QFI) to deliver a range of short courses within the [UQ-QFI Public Sector and Industry Program](#), which fosters cross-sector stakeholder engagement and collaboration, strategic leadership, and policy innovation. The program brings together and supports senior professionals from government, industry, and the community sector to forge trusting, impactful collaborative partnerships to tackle complex societal challenges –supporting SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) in particular. In 2024 this program launched with the following offerings:
 - [Adaptive and Inclusive Strategies for Collaborative Change](#)
 - [Public and Private Stakeholder Engagement](#)
 - [Building Cross-sectoral Trust and Relationships](#)
 - [Systems Thinking for Enhanced Decision Making](#).
- The [Executive Education Climate Change Program](#) is a customisable learning initiative designed for industry and public sector leaders. It equips participants with

tools to understand their organisation's role in a low-carbon future and navigate climate-related transitions. Developed by UQ Business School academics, the program integrates cutting-edge research and tailored content to meet specific organisational needs. It promotes climate literacy and strategic action, aligning with corporate sustainability goals and fostering leadership in climate mitigation and adaptation.

- UQ has partnered with Oxford University on the [UQ-Oxford Executive Leadership Program](#), delivered by renowned academics and leading experts from UQ Business School and Saïd Business School, University of Oxford. This 6-month program includes 8 workshops and peer coaching group sessions over 5 months in Brisbane, and a 1-week residential at the University of Oxford Saïd Business School.
- In 2024 UQ Executive Education also partnered with UQ Business School to advance the **United Nations Principles for Responsible Management Education (UN PRME)** by promoting responsible and sustainable management practices, including providing courses in General Practice Leadership Excellence and the Metro South GGS Emerging Executive Leadership program, empowering medical experts to lead with confidence and influence in shaping the future of primary health care for Queensland.

Research and innovation

UQ's goal is to foster mutually beneficial partnerships in Australia and abroad for research translation and commercialisation at scale, advancing SDG 17 by collaborating across government, industry, NGOs and community to create positive impacts for society, the environment and economy.

In 2024 the University launched several major new partnerships and continued pre-existing ones with industry and governments locally, nationally, and internationally. These partnerships facilitate research and development, support capacity building, increase strategic investment, and strengthen resource mobilisation in Australia and abroad across all the SDGs via priority areas such as health and medicine, manufacturing, agriculture, technology and infrastructure.

How we are achieving this

- In May UQ announced the expansion of its long-standing partnership with Emory University with a joint investment to establish the \$32 million **Queensland Emory Vaccine Centre**. The Centre will also involve work with industry partners such as Sanofi and Brisbane-Based biotech Vaxxas to advance SDG 3 by accelerating the development of vaccine candidates for clinical trials, focusing on emerging diseases, pandemic preparedness, and infectious diseases in the Asia-Pacific region.
- In August UQ launched a new \$60 million **Biosustainability Hub** that will work with industry partners such as LanzaTech, Woodside Energy and Rio Tinto, bringing together cutting-edge research projects and some of the world's biggest companies to find solutions to challenges like climate change, biodiversity, mining sustainability and future food production, thus contributing to SDGs 2, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

- UQ partnered with the Queensland Government which provided \$29 million in 2024 to advance **10 quantum research initiatives** focused on challenges related to decarbonisation, computing, magnetic resonance imaging and athlete performance.
- UQ opened the **ARC Training Centre in Predictive Breeding for Agricultural Futures** to investigate ways of producing more food at lower costs to advance global food security in collaboration with more than 30 partners from across the research, government, and agricultural industry sectors.
- UQ completed construction of the \$65 million **Plant Futures Facility**, which will help Australian plant scientists and industry improve crop productivity and secure future food supplies, extend UQ's involvement in the Australian Plant Phenomics Network, and support the work of the ARC Centre for Plant Success in Nature and Agriculture.
- UQ launched the **ARC Centre of Excellence in Quantum Biotechnology (QUBIC)**, partnering with 5 industry, 2 government and 12 international university partners to drive research into the applications of quantum across biomedical imaging, chemical design, and clean energy.
- UQ launched the first Indigenous-led **ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures**, collaborating with more than 10 community partners and 11 universities (including international) to transform the lives of Indigenous Australians through an innovative indigenous-led, transdisciplinary research program.
- The University launched the **ARC Training Centre for Environmental and Agricultural Solutions to Antimicrobial Resistance (CEA StAR)**, which will work with 7 industry partners – BiomeMega, Calix Limited, Edenvale Beverages, Invion Limited, Lixa, MGI Australia and Neoculi Pty Ltd – to tackle the global crisis of antimicrobial-resistant infections.
- UQ created a new partnership between UniQuest and biotechnology company **Molecule to Medicine (MTM)** to foster the establishment of new biotech companies in Brisbane and translate academic research into new medicines.
- UQ partnered with the Queensland Government on the **Critical Minerals and Circular Economy Research Alliance**, an \$8 million research program to drive identification, discovery and development of critical minerals.
- UQ entered into a 4-year partnership with the **Advanced Robotics for Manufacturing Hub** to enhance robotics and AI capabilities across a number of manufacturing priority areas, including energy, medicine and agriculture.

Strategic partnerships – Government and Industry

UQ's specialist [Government and Industry Partnerships](#) team works across the University to deliver a coordinated approach that responds to the needs and priorities of local, state and federal governments as well as a variety of industry sectors. This approach cultivates collaborations with government and industry stakeholders to deliver commercial outcomes, assists government to navigate the research landscape to drive priority outcomes, and supports policy debate and solutions by leveraging experts and cutting-edge research.

The Strategic Partnerships Office works across 9 different portfolios, building capacity, capability and preparedness by facilitating connections between UQ's expert researchers and industry and government stakeholders. These partnerships contribute to a wide range of SDGs by spanning these priority areas:

- **Advanced Manufacturing and Enabling Technologies.** By focusing on cutting-edge materials, additive manufacturing, robotics, and quantum technologies, UQ supports industries such as aerospace, biomedical, and energy through smart materials and nanomanufacturing, mRNA and biomedical device fabrication, and AI-driven automation and data analytics.
- **Defence and National Security.** UQ supports sovereign capability through partnerships with Defence Science and Technology Group and others. Key areas include human-centred AI and data management, defence health, and workforce development for future defence needs.
- **Energy Transitions.** UQ is addressing the global shift to low-carbon energy systems with a multidisciplinary approach that includes renewable energy, hydrogen and clean fuels, policy, market governance and community engagement, and critical minerals and circular economy strategies.
- **Health and Biomedical Sciences.** Globally recognised for breakthroughs like the Gardasil vaccine, UQ offers translational research with hospitals and institutes across therapeutics, vaccine development and digital health, allied health, behavioural science, and pharmacy.
- **Resilient Communities and Environment.** UQ tackles climate change, biodiversity and disaster resilience with capabilities including conservation, marine ecology, and water management, as well as disaster readiness, circularity and nature-based solutions.
- **Space.** UQ's partnerships contribute to Australia's space ambitions through space propulsion systems, quantum communications and high-temp materials, astronaut health, remote sensing and earth observation.
- **Sustainable Agrifood.** UQ leads in crop science, soil health, animal welfare, aquaculture, and food technology, supporting food security and agricultural innovation.
- **Urban Design and Sustainable Infrastructure.** UQ addresses Australia's infrastructure with sustainable construction and smart materials, urban planning, housing affordability, and transport, tourism and digital integration.
- **Brisbane 2032 Games Engagement.** This is the central hub for UQ's Olympic and Paralympic partnerships. Focus areas include sports science and infrastructure, community legacy and global collaboration, and strategic partnerships for long-term impact.

Collaborative Research Platforms (CRPs)

UQ's [Collaborative Research Platforms \(CRPs\)](#) span a wide range of fields – from microscopy and imaging to plant science, genomics, drones and high-performance computing. What unites these fields is a shared mission: to support interdisciplinary collaboration by providing fair access to world-class physical and digital infrastructure. But

CRPs are about more than just cutting-edge equipment. At their core, they're powered by people – the expertise, insight, and innovation that drive research forward. The CRPs enable research excellence and impact not only within UQ, but also through close partnerships with industry, government and other universities.

CRPs are embedded within the Research and Innovation portfolio. Both individually and as a group, they are important contributors to UQ's commitment to the UN SDGs. Because of their diversity, the CRPs and the research they enable align with many of the goals. As a combined portfolio, they are orientated towards:

- **building resilient infrastructure.** CRPs are centralised, high-quality facilities with research infrastructure that supports a variety of fields. They are designed with sustainability and scalability in mind.
- **promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialisation.** CRPs collaborate with industry partners to support technology transfer and research commercialisation and contribute towards economic growth.
- **fostering innovation.** CRPs enable the development and application of new techniques and methodologies, helping to keep UQ at the forefront of global research. They are also critical in the training of the next generation of engineers, scientists and innovators.

2024 activities include:

- the establishment of two new CRPs, the **Nuclear Magnetic Resonance CRP** and the **UQ Drones Platform**. The UQ Drones Platform hosts part of a National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) activity, Coastal Research Infrastructure (CoastRI), which aims to provide a national scale coastal observing and modelling capability, to plan for and mitigate change and sustainably manage Australia's coast.
- the **Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis (CMM)** securing NCRIS and Queensland Government funding to establish the **Natural Resources Innovation and Characterisation Hub (NRICH)**, enhancing Queensland's capabilities in critical minerals and battery industry development. The initiative will deliver a sustainable resources-to-renewables characterisation pipeline, developed in collaboration with other UQ research infrastructures. Additionally, 2 small sample preparation devices developed through R&D collaborations with overseas instrument providers have been taken to market by these industry partners – a modest but meaningful innovation outcome.
- the \$65 million **Plant Futures Facility** which completed construction in 2024. It will help Australian plant scientists and industry improve crop productivity and secure future food supplies, extend UQ's involvement in the Australian Plant Phenomics Network, and support the work of the ARC Centre for Plant Success in Nature and Agriculture.

UQ's ongoing CRPs include:

- Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis
- Research Computing Centre
- Herston Imaging Research Facility

- UQ Sequencing Facility
- Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
- UQ Biological Resources
- Pinjarra Hills
- UQ Data Science
- Plant Futures Facility
- UQ Drones Platform
- Protein Expression Facility
- UQ Materials Performance.

National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) facilities

UQ also hosts, and is involved with, a number of [National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy \(NCRIS\)](#) activities. NCRIS builds collaborative research facilities that bring together funding – from the Australian and Queensland Governments, industry, and universities – and researchers to help provide cutting-edge research infrastructure that delivers exceptional outcomes for Australia.

In 2024 UQ partnered with the Queensland Government to secure \$15 million of funding towards Australia's largest concentration of NCRIS facilities that support agriculture and food security, supply and recycling of critical minerals and metals for future energy demands, and the monitoring of coastal environments.

UQ's ongoing leadership of, and involvement in, NCRIS-supported facilities spans a rich spectrum of disciplines including biomedical sciences, genomics, synthetic biology, environmental science, geoscience, advanced manufacturing, digital research infrastructure, urban planning, and agricultural science. These facilities collectively drive innovation by providing access to cutting-edge technologies, data platforms, and expert services. The sectors they benefit are equally diverse, ranging from healthcare, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology to agriculture, environmental management, urban development, and education. Many also support commercial industries and government agencies by accelerating research translation, enabling data-driven decision-making, and fostering collaboration across academia and industry. These facilities create national impact by strengthening Australia's research capabilities, supporting economic growth, and addressing complex societal challenges like climate change, food security, and public health.

Ongoing NCRIS activities which UQ hosts or is involved with include:

- **Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC).** Partnering with the research community and industry, the ARDC builds leading-edge digital research infrastructure to provide Australian researchers with competitive advantage through data. ARDC initiatives include:
 - [ARDC Australian Internet Observatory](#)
 - [ARDC Australia's Creative Histories and Futures Project](#)

- [ARDC Queensland Node National Research Cloud](#)
- [ARDC Language Data Commons of Australia \(LDaCA\)](#)
- [ARDC Integrated Research Infrastructure for the Social Sciences](#)
- **[Auscope](#)**. This is Australia's provider of research infrastructure to the national geoscience community working on fundamental geoscience questions and grand challenges – climate change, natural resources security and natural hazards.
- **[Australian National Fabrication Facility – Queensland \(ANFF-Q\)](#)**. This is a world-class micro and nanofabrication facility providing access to cutting-edge equipment with support from expert staff specialising in microfluidics, organic electronics, biomaterials, novel semiconductor materials and characterisation.
- **[Australian Plant Phenomics Network \(APPN\)](#)**. This is Australia's network of National Research Infrastructures for plant and agricultural science. Underpinned by FAIR data principles and a multidisciplinary team of experts, APPN provides open access to state-of-the-art plant phenotyping infrastructure to enable research excellence and innovation for sustainable agriculture.
- **[Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network \(AURIN\)](#)**. AURIN provides eResearch capabilities to the academic, government and private sectors through access to analytical tools and thousands of multidisciplinary, clean, spatialised and research-ready datasets that enable high-value research that investigates the most urgent and critical problems faced by Australia's cities and regions – climate change, energy transition, and delivering adequate housing and social infrastructure.
- **[Bioplatforms Australia Australian Genome Research Facility \(AGRF\)](#)**. AGRF is Australia's leading provider of high-quality multi-omic services, offering access to innovative technologies through a national network. With NATA-accreditation, AGRF is equipped to support academia, healthcare, and commercial industries with a range of services, from single-gene analysis to whole genome sequencing and biomarker discovery, all backed by comprehensive bioinformatics.
- **[Bioplatforms Australia Queensland Metabolomics and Proteomics \(Q-MAP\)](#)**. Located at UQ, Q-MAP is a leading provider of cutting-edge metabolomics, proteomics and bioinformatics services, offering high-throughput solutions for researchers and businesses of all sizes.
- **[Bioplatforms Australia StemCore](#)**. StemCore enables cost-effective stem cell-based research tools and expertise to facilitate accelerated pathways to research outcomes.
- **[Integrated Design Environment for Advanced Biomanufacturing \(IDEA Bio\)](#)**. This is an NCRIS and UQ funded biofoundry that offers synthetic biology services, including fermentation and high-throughput solutions for Australian researchers and businesses.
- **[Microscopy Australia](#)**. This is a consortium of university-based microscopy facilities that enable access to an array of high-end microscopy platforms and associated scientific expertise in strategic locations to efficiently service Australia's microscopy needs.

- **National Imaging Facility – Central**. Australia's advanced imaging network provides open access to flagship imaging equipment, expertise, tools, data and analysis.
- **National Imaging Facility – Queensland Node (NIF-Q)**. The Queensland NIF Node integrates 2 imaging facilities – the UQ Centre for Advanced Imaging at AIBN and the Herston Imaging Research Facility (HIRF), a strategic partnership of UQ, QUT and Queensland Health's Metro North Hospital and Health Service. Together, these facilities provide a translational pathway from discovery to preclinical testing through to first-in-human studies and clinical trials.
- **Phenomics Australian Organoid Facility (AOF)**. This not-for-profit automation facility provides quality-assured organoids for basic, translational and contract research. AOF's goal is to help Queensland researchers access organoids reliably and affordably to accelerate 3D biological research in Australia.
- **Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN)**. TERN delivers quality environmental monitoring and assessment data, tools and expertise to researchers working on environment and ecology research, enabling a deeper understanding of Australia's environment and its management for sustainable social and economic benefit.
- **Therapeutic Innovation Australia (TIA) BASE mRNA Facility**. This not-for-profit facility is supported by UQ and **Therapeutics Innovation Australia (TIA, NCRIS)**. The facility has experience in the discovery and development of novel mRNA vaccines and therapies, and leads research programs in advanced manufacturing, process development, and development of mRNA platform technologies.
- **Therapeutic Innovation Centre for Integrated Preclinical Drug Development (CIPDD)**. CIPDD is a UQ Tier 2 Research Infrastructure Centre located in the School of Biomedical Sciences. Research is undertaken in collaboration with industry and academic biomedical discovery researchers to assist partners to progress their novel drug discoveries towards commercialisation.
- **Therapeutic Innovation Australia National Biologics Facility (NBF)**. NBF enables Australian researchers to identify and translate their biomedical research discoveries, bridging the gap between early-stage development, testing and clinical supply for next-gen therapeutic candidates.

Precincts

UQ continually looks for opportunities to deliver both mission-driven research and larger scale research initiatives aligned to the priorities of government, industry and the broader community. UQ is committed to investment in areas where new research partnerships can be founded, existing collaborations deepened, and research expertise leveraged.

As part of this, UQ actively participates in the development of **precincts and innovation ecosystems** that support collaboration with industry, community and government, and enable shared access to state-of-the art research facilities, infrastructure, researchers and co-designing solutions with partners. Through these collaborations, discoveries are nurtured to deliver tangible, positive outcomes.

In 2024 UQ strengthened its involvement and collaboration with precincts in the following ways:

- successfully establishing a 4th campus, **UQ Dutton Park**, reaffirming UQ's presence in the **Boggo Road Innovation Precinct**. The campus is the primary teaching and research location for the School of Pharmacy and also houses the Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences and the Cornwall Street Medical Centre.
- continuing to support the development of the **Translational Manufacturing@TRI facility**, scheduled for completion in late 2025
- appointing Professor Trent Munro as **Director of Biotechnology Innovation and Precinct Development** to work with government and industry on the University's precinct strategy
- continuing to implement **Software-Defined Access (SDA) networks** in research precincts, improving security to research instruments and user networks.

Precincts and innovation ecosystems in which UQ takes part include:

- **Queensland Bioscience Precinct** – a collaboration between UQ and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) which is, dedicated to human, animal and plant biotechnological research.
- **Food Science Innovation Precinct** – a world-class teaching, research, training and development unit housing 2 modern laboratories and used by Master of Food Science and Technology students to work on a range of projects that will ultimately help food companies create more innovative products.
- **Coopers Plains Health and Food Sciences Precinct** – fostering collaboration between researchers working in biosecurity, healthcare and food technology by hosting scientists from the Queensland Government Department of Primary Industries (DPI), CSIRO, and UQ.
- **Boggo Road Ecosciences Precinct** – a \$270 million precinct at the Boggo Road Urban Village, housing staff from Queensland Government, CSIRO, UQ, and other partner universities. The precinct's state-of-the-art research facilities include laboratories, insect houses, controlled environment rooms, glasshouses, greenhouses, offices, workshops and a science education centre.
- **Queensland Animal Science Precinct (QASP)** – a joint initiative of UQ, DPI, and the Queensland Government through the Smart State Research Facilities Fund. QASP is located at Gatton and accommodates training, teaching, validation and commercialisation, focussing on the animal research and development requirements of state, national and international animal industries.
- **PACE precinct** – pharmaceutical facilities at UQ Dutton Park (previously known as The Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence). This \$200 million precinct was jointly developed by UQ and the sector with the support of the Queensland Government. It is a leading facility for pharmaceutical research, education and commercialisation.
- **AgTech and Logistics Hub** – supported by a \$3 million investment from the Queensland Government's Advance Queensland initiative, in association with the FKG Group, Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise, University of Southern Queensland,

and UQ. The hub works across the food and agriculture supply chain, creating more sustainable growing practices, more efficient logistics services, and new consumer products.

ARC Centres of Excellence, Industrial Transformation Research Hubs and Training Centres

UQ partners or leads several **ARC-funded Centres and Hubs** which leverage its expertise for research and development across national priority areas. This includes Centres of Excellence that unite top-tier researchers and experts from across universities, industry and international partnerships; Industrial Transformation Research Hubs that support cutting-edge research between academia and industry to drive innovation; and Industrial Transformation Training Centres that focus on developing future-ready researchers through industry-embedded training. These multi-year, large-scale collaborative endeavours involve industry partners, other universities, government and non-government organisations, to deliver a range of research-intensive programs and other initiatives to respond to some of the most pressing issues in Australia and accelerate economic, social, and technological advancement.

In 2024 UQ made strides towards securing and progressing a number of ARC-funded major initiatives, including:

- launching the **ARC Centre of Excellence in Quantum Biotechnology (QUBIC)**, which will drive research into the applications of quantum across biomedical imaging, chemical design, and clean energy
- launching the first **Indigenous-led ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures**, which will conduct research projects across 3 themes: education and economy, health and wellbeing, and law and justice.
- launching the new ARC Training Centre at the **Centre for Environmental and Agricultural Solutions to Antimicrobial Resistance (CEA StAR)**, which will work with industry to tackle the global crisis of antimicrobial-resistant infections
- opening the **ARC Training Centre in Predictive Breeding for Agricultural Futures**, which will work with the agricultural sector to investigate ways of producing more food at lower costs to advance global food security.

UQ's other ARC-funded Centres and Hubs include:

- [ARC COE for the Digital Child](#)
- [ARC COE for Engineered Quantum Systems](#)
- [ARC COE for Plant Success in Nature and Agriculture](#)
- [ARC COE for Quantum Computation and Communication Technology](#)
- [ARC COE for Innovations in Peptide and Protein Science](#)
- [ARC COE for Children and Families Over the Lifecourse](#)
- [ARC Industrial Transformation Research Hub for Future Digital Manufacturing](#)
- [ARC Research Hub to Advance Timber for Australia's Future Built Environment](#)

- [ARC Training Centre for Bioplastics and Biocomposites](#)
- [ARC Training Centre for Information Resilience](#).

Enriching our communities

UQ seeks to enrich communities in Queensland and around the world. It is committed to leading reconciliation, global development and capacity building, broadening access to education, and leveraging research impact to strengthen the economy. These are just some of the ways UQ will deliver for the public good. UQ is ensuring these commitments are met through long-term initiatives and activities such as The Queensland Commitment, the Alumni and Community Engagement unit, the Indigenous Engagement Division, and Regional Roadshows. Grounded in the University's values – especially those of respect and inclusivity – these initiatives touch on all SDGs but align most closely with SDGs 1, 4, 10 and 16.

The Queensland Commitment (TQC)

[TQC](#) is UQ's pledge to deliver evidence-based strategies to expand pathways to higher education, foster equitable outcomes, and create transformative opportunities for Queenslanders by 2032. It seeks to do this by breaking down the personal, financial and geographical barriers facing Queensland students aspiring to study at UQ. It is driving real change by building a future where education is inclusive, empowering communities across Queensland, and accelerating the state's potential. [The Queensland Commitment Roadmap](#) articulates the importance of government, NGO and community partnerships in progressing the Commitment's goals and vision. In 2024, these partnerships resulted in the following activities:

- UQ announced a \$250 million target from philanthropic partnerships to support the actions outlined in the Roadmap and enable transformative growth. To date, more than 3,903 donors have partnered with UQ to support this program, with more than 262 funds, 226 of which are scholarship funds to directly assist underrepresented students as they commence their journey at UQ.
- UQ expanded partnerships with schools, particularly in regional remote and underserved communities, focusing on widening participation and supporting students' successful transition to university.
- UQ partnered with **Regional University Study Hubs (RUSH)** to strengthen RUSH's capacity to support students, including delivering activities with school aged students that support student aspirations through career exploration and career choice.
- The University enhanced access to UQ through initiatives like the **Schools Opportunity Scheme** and the **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Admission Scheme**, opening pathways that recognise and build on the potential of students from diverse communities.
- UQ deepened strategic collaborations with partners like **Inspiring Australia** and the **Business Chamber Queensland**, while advancing STEM engagement across Queensland to strengthen connections with regional businesses, foster innovation, and create opportunities for UQ talent to thrive.

- UQ opened the **Southern Queensland Rural Health (SQRH) Chinchilla Education and Training Centre**, a collaboration with the University of Southern Queensland, Darling Downs Health and South West Hospital and Health Service to support 1,500 students completing placements each year in nursing, dietetics, occupational therapy, exercise physiology, psychology and social work.

Alumni and Community Engagement

UQ's Alumni and Community Engagement team leads activities and services that help strengthen UQ's relationship with the broader community, including industry partners and local residents. This team also plays a key role in building strong partnerships with our network of more than 240,000 alumni through events, benefits and networking opportunities. Key activities in 2024 include:

- the launch of the [UQ Neighbours program](#) to create meaningful relationships through events and outreach that connect UQ with its local communities and strengthen mutual engagement. Residents living locally to the UQ St Lucia and Gatton campuses are encouraged to take advantage of the University's unique facilities and services, participate in sports opportunities and cultural events, and explore the campus grounds.
- celebrating the positive impact of sport through a calendar of activities related to the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, from live blogs to watch parties
- commemorating the 80th anniversary of the US Military Hospital at Gatton, with an event hosting 130 guests, including government representatives, military personnel, local community and staff and students of the UQ Gatton campus both past and present
- inspiring the community through expanded access to the arts, including:
 - launching the **UQ Art Museum's Oceans Pathway** in partnership with the Art Gallery of New South Wales. This program will create opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators and curators through longform professional development opportunities, encouraging knowledge sharing and community collaboration.
 - UQ Art Museum participating as an exhibition partner of the Australia Pavilion at the 2024 Venice Biennale. Archie Moore's exhibition *kith and kin* was awarded the prestigious Golden Lion for Best National Participation, a first for an Australian artist. UQ Art Museum partnered with [Creative Australia](#) to deliver [cultural mediation training](#) for Australia Pavilion staff, empowering them to relay Archie Moore's critical messages of First Nations truth telling to visiting audiences.
 - visiting Cairns with the **UQ Anthropology Museum's touring exhibition [Kirrenderri: Heart of the Channel Country](#)** which has given more than 35,000 community members access to rarely seen artefacts, historic and contemporary photographs, letters, maps, and archaeological discoveries and rare interviews exploring the cultural and aesthetic riches of the Mithaka region of Channel Country
 - reopening the local [Avalon Theatre](#) which, through its restoration, continues to support the future of local arts and culture and the next generation of talent at UQ.

Celebrating and supporting Indigenous communities

The Indigenous Engagement Division is underpinned by a recognition of the enormous contributions that Indigenous peoples and perspectives bring to universities and an understanding of the transformative power of higher education for individuals and communities. This work encompasses all the University's operations – teaching and learning, research, engagement/enrichment, and physical and operating environments. The Division seeks to engage and activate the UQ leadership and community in a commitment to partnering for [Reconciliation](#) and to achieve the University's strategic goals. In 2024 the Indigenous Engagement division:

- collaborated with Inspiring Australia, Queensland Department of Education, Queensland Firebirds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aspirations Program, Solid Pathways, Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation, and Education Pathways Indigenous Corporation to deliver local and regional events that supported community links and engaged with more than 2,000 Year 7-12 students.
- increased outreach and engagement with Indigenous secondary students, visiting 380 schools to reach 1,965 students, and delivering 22 Tertiary Experience Days on campus
- held the inaugural **UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Conference, Lead Now 2024** in October with 30 participants
- published the new open textbook [UQ has a Blak History](#) in September 2024, sharing this with UQ and wider communities by making it freely available online
- continued UQ's partnership with several universities, peak bodies and industry partners for a second phase (2024-2028) of the [Language Data Commons of Australia \(LDaCA\)](#), which enables the protection and preservation of Australia's Indigenous languages through the development of a [centralised digital archive](#). The project is funded by the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) via the [Australian Research Data Commons](#) (ARDC).
- honoured the many contributions of Indigenous researchers, academics and authors to the community. This included naming Lilla Watson Place after **Dr Lilla Watson**, UQ's first Australian Indigenous tutor, in October, and posthumously awarding an Honorary Doctorate to [Dr Margaret Valadian AO MBE](#), the first Australian Indigenous woman to complete a university degree. Award-winning author **Dr Alexis Wright FAHA** was [awarded a UQ Honorary Doctorate in early May](#), while **Aunty Ivy Trevallion**, highly regarded social worker and community leader, and **Melissa Lucashenko**, passionate advocate for social justice and an acclaimed author, [received Honorary Doctorates in December](#).
- hosted the annual [UQ NAIDOC Week](#) Keynote Lecture presented by Professor Megan Davis
- celebrated the launch of the landmark [ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures](#), also known as the Indigenous Futures Centre (IFC), in June. The centre partners with more than 10 universities nationally and internationally and collaborates with more than 12 community partners.

Connecting with regional communities

UQ runs [Regional Roadshows](#) to celebrate its students, staff, alumni, and diverse partners from across the state, strengthening relationships with leaders in education, government and industry alongside First Nations peoples and local community members.

These Roadshows ensure that UQ continues to work with stakeholders to build new pathways for students to study at UQ, sharing academic expertise and building industry partnerships with regional communities while also growing Queensland alumni networks. UQ's strategic discussions with key community leaders continue to highlight local collaboration and partnerships as critical to its goal of delivering real impact for communities.

In 2024 the Regional Roadshow visited 15 locations across 9 Regional Development Areas (RDAs) and met with more than 1,300 community members in regional, rural and remote locations.

UQ's partnership with Business Chamber Queensland saw 4 Innovation for Growth workshops take place across the State, led by Professor Tim Kastle, Director of the Andrew N. Liveris Academy at UQ. The workshops directly contributed to progressing SDG 9 by eliciting the existing capacity of regional and rural businesses to innovate in changing environments and identifying opportunities for future workshops to address the needs of diverse business communities.

UQ's work with [Inspiring Australia Queensland](#) (IAQ) continued to support regional STEM outreach and raised awareness in regional communities of the opportunities in STEM-based professions. The diverse STEM career opportunities for women were showcased to high school students in Warwick on International Women's Day, and promoted at a family-friendly STEM Fair in Cloncurry for the launch of National Science Week.

During a visit to Chinchilla in July 2024, the Regional Roadshow shone a spotlight on important developments in rural and regional health, opening the Southern Queensland Rural Health (SQRH) Education and Training Centre. The official launch saw community stakeholders, government officials, university partners, health service providers, Illoura residents and university students come together to celebrate the centre's opening and its intended impact on growing the rural health workforce with a focus on aged care and healthy ageing. Funded through the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care, SQRH is a collaboration between UQ, the University of Southern Queensland, Darling Downs Health and South West Hospital and Health Service.

Our global profile

It is implicit in UQ's vision of knowledge leadership for a better world, that UQ seeks to have a global impact. In collaboration with a range of international partners, UQ offers students from broad and diverse backgrounds a global educational experience and opportunities to undertake development initiatives, and research that has international impact. These efforts result in wide-ranging contributions that advance a broad range of SDGs, in particular SDGs 1, 4, 8, 9 and 11.

International flagship partnerships and collaborations

UQ seeks to have a truly global impact. In 2024, UQ continued to strengthen research and education collaboration with the following flagship global partners:

- University of Exeter – the [QUEX Institute](#) addresses urgent challenges, including the COVID-19 response, climate change and cyber-attacks
- Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) – the [UQ-IITD Research Academy](#) facilitates joint PhD programs
- Technical University of Munich (TUM) – the transformative [UQ-TUM partnership](#) addresses global challenges and inspires scientific leadership for a better world
- [Emory University](#) – broadening international research and engagement between the US and Australia.

In addition, in the spirit of global collaboration, cooperation and capacity building across innovation, research, teaching and engagement, UQ undertook these activities with international institutions:

- hosted the sixth International Symposium of the QUEX Institute in Brisbane in July
- continued to expand articulation arrangements with a number of university partners in China and South East Asia
- celebrated the graduation of the 1,000th medical student from the transnational Doctor of Medicine program offered in partnership with Ochsner Health in New Orleans
- delivered a Memorandum of Understanding with the First Nations University of Canada, to provide mutual benefit from close collaboration, joint ventures in training, research and program development, staff exchange, and study abroad opportunities for students.

Building new global partnerships

In 2024 UQ conducted 5 senior executive missions led by the Vice-Chancellor to strengthen key global partnerships and demonstrate the University's commitment to collaboration with key partners and stakeholders. The missions were:

- **China and Hong Kong, March 2024** – meeting with university partners including Fudan University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), University of Science and Technology China (USTC), Tongji University, government and industry stakeholders; signing agreements with several partners including Tongji University, USTC, SJTU, East China Normal University, the National Innovation Centre par Excellence/ Jiangsu Industrial Technology Institute and the Shanghai Caohejing Hi-Tech Park Innovation Centre; and hosting engagement events for alumni and future students. The Vice-Chancellor presented a keynote at the inaugural QS China Summit in Shanghai on International Collaboration in a Rapidly Changing Global Environment.
- **United Kingdom and Europe (Germany, Denmark, Switzerland), June 2024** – meeting with prospective and current partners, including flagship partners University of Exeter, TUM, Justus Liebig University Giessen, and signing overarching institutional renewal agreements (including Student Exchange) with TUM, DTU and University of Zurich.

- **Papua New Guinea, August 2024** – holding a reception for alumni and partners at the Australian High Commissioner’s residence; meeting with University of Papua New Guinea, Papua New Guinea University of Technology, Pacific Adventist University and the National Research Institute; and hosting roundtable discussions on agriculture and food science, resources, international and sports development.
- **Indonesia and Malaysia, August 2024** – meeting with Universitas Indonesia, the Indonesian National Agency for Research and Innovation, HELP University, Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education and Majlis Amanah Rakyat. UQ also hosted events for alumni at the Australian Embassy in Jakarta and the Australia High Commission in Kuala Lumpur.
- **India and Sri Lanka, September 2024** – visiting the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD), Indian Institute of Science, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Jio Institute, Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology and Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology to explore joint research and student exchange program opportunities.

UQ International Development

UQ International Development (UQID) is one of the leading university development groups in the Asia–Pacific region. The UQID team helps build the capacity of people and organisations around the world to achieve their development goals by leveraging the knowledge, expertise and leadership of UQ staff and researchers.

UQID’s focus on capacity building, technical advice, and policymaking, which together support employment, workforce development, and economic resilience, is showcased throughout all SDGs. UQID plays a key role in sourcing and managing projects that improve human development outcomes, including decent work opportunities. Activities focus on partnership and collaboration with public, private, and NGO sectors to support sustainable livelihoods and inclusive economic growth.

In 2024 UQID delivered 32 international development programs and 23 online modules for more than 1,360 participants from 41 different countries. These addressed key development challenges including climate change and resilience, poverty and inequality, access to quality health and education, food security, gender equity and inclusiveness, economic development and good governance and supporting Australia’s foreign policy, international relations and national interest objectives.

As part of its suite of services, UQID continues to deliver:

- **long-term development activities** such as fellowships, courses and research opportunities that foster lasting global connections while providing best-practice contemporary research and evidence-based strategies to create impact and improve communities worldwide
- **customised short-training programs** including intensive learning experiences which balance theoretical content and real-world experience to generate engagement, knowledge and collaboration. Short-term specialised courses are offered in a wide variety of fields to strengthen technical skills, establish connections with renowned university partnerships, and launch ideas for positive change for a better world.

- **advisory services and technical assistance** in the form of direct support from development experts and available to all valued participants, both national and international. Experienced UQID advisory staff can provide ongoing aid and assistance with activities, courses, English language speaking, housing and community connections to ensure the delivery of a positive and rewarding experience.

Our people

UQ's success as a university is determined by its ability to attract and retain highly talented, committed people who are leaders in their field. For this reason, UQ is intent on embedding a supportive and inclusive culture built around UQ's values, where the many talents, passions and perspectives of staff and alumni are recognised, encouraged and nurtured. UQ is also committed to creating a sustainable environment through its workplace practices and operations for the benefit of all. Fostering strong partnerships – both internally and externally – is key to achieving these goals and makes progress towards all SDGs on UQ's campuses and beyond.

Sustainability at UQ

UQ is committed to the United Nations definition of sustainability as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” At the heart of UQ's sustainability agenda is an aspiration to seek solutions to sustainability challenges and prepare students and staff to make a difference.

Embedding sustainability across the University requires strong partnerships and cross-unit coordination in research, teaching, and operations. As such, in 2024 UQ established a university-wide Sustainability Strategy Committee to oversee and govern the University's sustainability commitments, including those in its Sustainability Strategy (2021-2025) and forthcoming strategy.

This coordinated approach and these internal partnerships are critical to UQ's ability to advance sustainability in the following ways:

- **teaching future leaders** – core sustainability learning outcomes are embedded across the curriculum to prepare students to inspire and change the world around them
- **innovative research** – sourcing solutions to sustainability challenges by asking the right questions, and exchanging knowledge, understanding and resources to address them
- **growing lower emissions transport** – electric vehicle charging stations, pedestrian priority pathways, bicycle racks, end-of-trip facilities and a fleet of zero-emission vehicles
- **protecting environments** – vegetation corridors, bird boxes, environmental park, revegetation projects, wildlife habitats, native plantings, and sustainable weed and pest management practices conserving natural resources and protecting wildlife
- **promoting energy efficiency and renewables** – advancing renewable energy through research and day-to-day on campus. UQ has installed solar panels on rooftops across campuses, with multiple buildings boasting solar activities to harness clean energy. In 2024 UQ completed energy audits and introduced initiatives to reduce

building energy consumption as part of an expanding program to reduce overall energy use. The University also conducted water master planning for the Gatton campus to enhance sustainable water practices, including optimising stormwater, overland flow and recycled water use.

Student-Staff Partnerships

The [Student-Staff Partnerships program](#) allows students and staff to collaborate on projects that effect change and enrich the university experience. Students and staff work together on projects designed to enhance student experience, improve teaching and learning, and transform governance systems.

Past projects have focused on topics such as:

- how to bring student voice into the Master of Entrepreneurship and Innovation program review to ensure it continues to deliver the best possible student experience
- how to continue support for first year Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) student experiences
- reshaping perceptions of humanities and social sciences by planning a Year 9 HASS Engagement Day, to inspire young students about these fields' importance
- better understanding the needs of current museum studies students to support the ongoing delivery and growth of the program.
- evaluating the first community pharmacy Work Integrated Learning (WIL) placement experience of students and related tasks and assessments in the redeveloped Bachelor of Pharmacy.

Connecting with the diversity of voices and talents across UQ, participants can form meaningful partnerships and contribute to the continuous improvement of the student experience and learning and teaching outcomes, while strengthening their professional capabilities. The program is open to all enrolled UQ students – domestic and international students from all program levels and faculties – as well as academic and professional staff from all UQ disciplines, faculties, schools and units.

UQPN mentoring program

The **UQ Professionals Network (UQPN)** offers **Mentor Me**, a structured mentoring program for UQ staff.

The 6-month program matches mentees and mentors who build a mentoring relationship and grow their potential for collaborative partnerships and networks across the University. Participants have access to training, activities, seminars, networking events and ongoing support from the UQPN Mentor Me Team. Expected outcomes for both mentors and mentees include:

- growing their professional network at UQ
- developing feedback and critical thinking skills
- advancing and developing leadership skills
- exploring opportunities to build their career path

- gaining an improved understanding of UQ more generally.

QUEX staff development

The **QUEX Institute** aims to bolster global research impact by bringing together leading experts from UQ and the University of Exeter.

The Institute's mission is to strengthen research that addresses global challenges, unified by the central issue of Global Sustainability and Wellbeing. Four themes underpin its work: Healthy Living, Global Environmental Futures, Digital Worlds and Disruptive Technologies, and Mineral Security and Sustainability. The research contributes to the shaping of future government policy and initiatives across the world through the generation of high-level policy reports. To achieve these goals, UQ and University of Exeter experts collaborate with industry and business.

Building and maintaining partnerships between researchers and professional staff from both universities is critical to the collaboration's success. As such, each year the QUEX Institute awards a range of research grants and other opportunities designed to facilitate these working collaborations, develop novel research and/or teaching and learning at both institutions, and deliver cross-institutional learning and development. These include:

- **QUEX Accelerator Grant Scheme.** The scheme is intended to support larger scale initiatives with the aim of securing external funding and/or producing high level outputs and impact.
- **QUEX Workshop Grants Scheme.** Workshop Grants are intended to support the delivery of, and attendance at, joint workshops and symposia. These grants support enabling activities that bring together academic staff, facilitate exploration of novel research, promote and facilitate interdisciplinary research, and develop new, shared educational provisions leading to significant enhancement of the curriculum and student experience.
- **QUEX Institute Strategic Grant Scheme.** Following on from the ongoing QUEX Workshop and Accelerator Grant Schemes, the Strategic Grant Scheme is intended to support teams that can demonstrate world-leading research at both institutions, strong strategic alignment, and clear plans to attract and leverage external funding to achieve long-term collaborative research goals.
- **QUEX Professional Services Staff Fellowship.** The Fellowship program provides professional development opportunities to share best practice and experience between UQ and Exeter. It may also serve to promote enhanced systems and services for the QUEX partnership projects.

Research Partnerships and Translation Awards

The UQ Research Partnerships and Translation Awards recognise the achievements and successes of UQ researchers who have achieved excellent outcomes and national and international research impact through industry engagement and research collaboration. In 2024, the following researchers and their partners were celebrated across several categories.

- **UQ Partners in Translational Research Excellence:** Gurindji Language Documentation Project with Karungkarni Art and Culture Aboriginal Corporation – Dr Brian Forde with Pathology Queensland
- **UQ Partners in Research Excellence:** Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining team with Rio Tinto – Professor Jason Stokes with Fonterra Research and Development
- **Excellence in Industry Engagement in Graduate Research:** Dr Skye Doherty
- **UQ Partners in Indigenous Research Excellence:** Associate Professor Marnee Shay and Fred Cobbo with Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Murgon State High School, and Cherbourg State School
- **UniQuest Commercialisation Impact Award:** Professor Neena Mitter with Grupo Hijuelas and UniQuest
- **UQ Corporate Philanthropy Award:** Google.org.

Early to Mid-Career Researchers Industry Engagement Awards

The UQ Early to Mid-Career Researchers (EMCR) Industry Engagement Awards celebrate outstanding UQ EMCRs who, through partner engagement and collaboration, are translating research into industry impact. UQ researchers are partnering to progress outcomes across a wide array of SDGs. 2024 award winners include:

- Dr Cristyn Meath (Faculty of Business, Economics and Law) with Business Models Inc (overall winner)
- Associate Professor Yaqoot Fatima (Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences) with Sleep Health Foundation, Mithangkaya Nguli – Young People Ahead Youth and Community Services Indigenous Corporation, and Nagk Min Health (overall winner)
- Dr Stefanie Plage (Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) with Micah Projects and Inclusive Health Partnerships
- Dr Peter Rankin (Queensland Brain Institute) with Australian Education Research Organisation
- Dr Sung-Po Chen (Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology) with Boeing
- Dr Leslie Roberson (Faculty of Science) with Moreton Bay Seafood Industry Association
- Dr Mark Allenby (Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology) with Australian Red Cross Lifeblood
- Dr Laura Jackson (Sustainable Minerals Institute) with Geoscience Australia, South Australian Government
- Dr Bushra Nasir (Faculty of Medicine) with Goondir Aboriginal Health Service and University of Southern Queensland.