ORIENTATION 2003
Get your bearings for UQ life
New Program, Plan and Course Website

UQ’s new Program and Courses Website is now live.

The site contains detailed information on all UQ programs including areas of specialisation, application procedures, fees, rules and requirements, contact details – and much more.

Innovative features include:

- Comprehensive search engine: find programs, plans and courses
- Specialisation information: look up information on a specialisation (plan)
- Print-friendly pages: available for program, plan and course pages
- Terminology: explanation of commonly used words at Uni
- Fee information: see all fee information for your program
- Accessibility options: change font sizes for visually impaired
- Study area browsing: browse programs by one of the six study areas

www.uq.edu.au/study
It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the start of another academic year at The University of Queensland. In particular, I would like to welcome the many new students who are joining us for the first time.

You can be confident that UQ will provide a solid foundation for your future career and life goals.

While universities throughout Australia are facing numerous challenges, there is no doubt that a degree from this University will be respected anywhere in the world and the long tradition of quality education continues here unabated.

In fact, UQ finished 2002 having won more national teaching awards than any other university in the nation and firmly in the top three research universities.

In 2003 we will officially open the new IMB/CSIRO research complex and the new Australian Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology building will be constructed.

UQ also is attracting a growing number of academics of international standing, ensuring students have access to the very best teachers and researchers.

We have entered the new year with considerable optimism. As we take on the challenges of 2003, we have much to be proud of.

Professor John Hay
Vice-Chancellor
UQ’s 2003 Orientation program this month will be packed with new and exciting activities to help students settle in to university life.

Students set for Orientation...their chance of success is much higher

STUDENT Centre Manager Eril McNamara said the University’s Orientation program would include a new mentoring session at the Gatton campus and a program transferring session at St Lucia and UQ Ipswich.

Social activities will also be a major part of the events – Market Day and the UQ Union’s Big Gig concert with acts including Motor Ace, Endorphin and Waikiki, are bound to be popular with new and continuing students.

“The social experience and making new friends is a big part of the University experience,” Ms McNamara said.

With the internationally-acclaimed UQ Library sure to play an important part in the life of any student, Library/Cybrary tours are being conducted at the St Lucia campus, with the added bonus of a free coffee or ice cream for participants.

Ms McNamara said the Orientation program would give students the chance to get to know each other and find out about University services and facilities.

“Research has shown that if students connect with other students in the first five weeks at university, their chance of success is much higher,” she said.

A new mentoring program at UQ Gatton will allow students studying for certificates to meet regularly with more experienced second or third-year students to talk about their university experiences.

Transferring programs sessions will be held at the St Lucia and Ipswich campuses.

A new event at St Lucia is the Part-time Students’ Orientation on February 23 where part-time students, family and friends have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the University.

“Orientation sessions will provide new students with training to use email, access information through the Web and utilise computers,” Ms McNamara said.

“Other sessions will introduce them to a variety of services to ensure they know where to go and who to see when they need assistance.”

A free UQ Orientation Guide has been produced with information about all activities, including academic advising sessions and Library/Cybrary services.

The guide is set out chronologically for each campus and is colour-coded to identify each Faculty.

Most of the social events will take place during the week beginning February 24.

The UQ Sport Expo and Market Day will be held on February 26 at St Lucia and on February 27 at the Ipswich and Gatton campuses.

The week will come to a climax on February 28 when the UQ Union hosts the Big Gig concert featuring 10 live bands on two stages.

They will give new and continuing students wanting to transfer into a different program in 2004 an overview of application requirements and ways to improve entry ranks.

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If students connect with other students... their chance of success is much higher

[www.uq.edu.au/orientation]
ively introduction to UQ
Global health focus expanded

While the Australian weather and lifestyle were important in luring Professor Alan Lopez from Switzerland to the University to head the School of Population Health, he is not about to become “Aussie-centric”.

IN fact, this internationally recognised expert in public health, with 20-years experience at the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Geneva, is determined to continue to influence global health policy by establishing the School as a leader in international public health research.

Professor Lopez first achieved international recognition for his work in the area of tobacco health issues, but it was his development of a now universally accepted, statistical accounting method to measure health status that has established him as a major figure in international health policy.

The Global Burden of Disease Study, which he co-authored, provides an analytical base for public health policy.

More than 100 fatal and non-fatal health conditions were evaluated according to a single population measure that has become the standard tool for health policy prioritisation and resource allocation by nations and organisations like the World Bank.

It is this statistical approach that enables nations to more appropriately allocate funds to the most critical areas of health, as well as methods to better assess health systems performance, that Professor Lopez wants to develop at the School of Population Health.

“There is a whole research agenda that needs to advance around international health policy issues,” Professor Lopez said.

“I want the School to be outward looking and well positioned to respond to international health challenges.

“When the World Bank wants reliable research on the health of populations in the region, such as mortality rates in China, we’ll have the expertise to do it.”

Professor Lopez said the opportunity to establish a portfolio of research in this area had been a big factor in his move to UQ.

“Much expertise in quantitative analysis already exists in the School and I will be recruiting to further strengthen capabilities, as well as increasing the public profile of researchers and the School,” he said.

“A lot of talent exists in Australia. There are key people at the School who have made big contributions and we need to build on this.”

International collaboration, partnerships with researchers in other areas of the University and with Queensland Health were also important in establishing a reputation for excellence in the health research market, he said.

Professor Lopez’s substantial international public health network will also be put to good use.

He said there was an important role for the School to play in emerging areas of interest to which the international health community were giving greater prominence.

While the WHO has been focused on the prevention and treatment of disease, mainly in the developing world, the role of conditions such as obesity in the developed world has been underestimated.

“Lowering risk from conditions like high cholesterol and high blood pressure through flexible health policy around the use of demonstrated, cost-effective treatments should be more prominent in health policy,” he said.

“Australia could be a world leader by greater integration of evidence-based medicine.”

He said providing this evidence base and educating general practitioners on how to reduce patients’ health risks through better understanding of the evidence was part of a new way of thinking in public health.

Ethics review

UQ’s Behavioural and Social Sciences Ethical Review Committee is seeking expressions of interest from academic staff.

A new member with a strong research background in the humanities is needed.

Information: 07 3365 3924

Australian of the Year

Two UQ students were chosen to represent Queensland at the 2003 Australian of the Year Awards on January 25.

Speech pathologist Dimity Dornan, a research student in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences was

Queensland’s Australian of the Year entrant.

Ms Dornan founded the Hear and Say Centre for Deaf Children, a charity organisation for teaching children to listen and speak using an auditory-verbal approach.

Queensland’s Young

Australian of the Year entrant was UQ third-year arts/social science student James Unsworth.

Mr Unsworth was named 2002 Gold Coast Young Citizen of the Year in 2002 for his work with the United Nations Students Association.
The work, published last month in *Immunity*, provides a possible basis for a vaccine against auto-immune diseases, including rheumatoid arthritis and juvenile diabetes, where the body's immune system inappropriately attacks healthy cells.

The work, still in the preliminary stages, also has implications for treating allergic diseases such as asthma, and making allografts safer.

However, a commercially available vaccine will still be several years away.

The UQ Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research team at Princess Alexandra Hospital found a molecular control mechanism to re-educate the immune system.

"It's not a new idea to re-educate the immune system," said academic rheumatologist and Centre Deputy-Director Associate Professor Ranjeny Thomas.

"What's different is that this is the first time it has been possible to suppress an existing response once the immune system has started down a deleterious pathway."

Dr Thomas and her UQ team, including Dr Ela Martin, Dr Brendan O'Sullivan and Pauline Low, made the discovery while working on dendritic cells.

The potent, antigen-presenting cells have the unique capacity to prime the immune response and are found in lymphoid organs as well as non-lymphoid tissues, including the skin, joints and circulating blood.

Dr Thomas said suppression of a previously primed immune response was a major challenge for immunotherapy of auto-immune and allergic diseases.

The team achieved success by exploiting their understanding of the pathway controlling the interaction between dendritic cells and the immune system.

The team has patented pre-clinical models of the vaccine through the University's technology transfer company, UniQuest Pty Ltd.

*Turning tide on diseases*

A UQ team is believed to be the first in the world to find a mechanism to turn off an auto-immune disease once it has started.
Occasion for celebration

The inaugural UQ Diversity Week will be held from March 17-22 and will celebrate the diversity of staff, students and the community it serves.

“It will provide an opportunity for the University to demonstrate its commitment to diversity in its role as a leading higher education institution and employer,” said Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Margaret Gardner.

In addition to several showcase events, activities will include the annual multi-faith Commencement Service on March 19 and Harmony Day celebrations on March 21.

Professor Gardner said UQ Diversity Week aimed to raise awareness of equity and diversity around issues such as cultural, religious and linguistic diversity, disability and sexuality.

“It will also help ensure all students are aware of the various learning and personal support services available and that international students know they are valued as individuals and for the intellectual and cultural richness they bring to the University,” she said.

Student Union President Aaron Marsham said he applauded the concept and encouraged all areas of the Union to become involved in the week’s activities.

Faculties, schools and other organisational units are encouraged to publicise their activities or events for UQ Diversity Week by contacting the Office of Marketing and Communications before February 26 (telephone 07 3365 1934 or email a.vanderbeek@uq.edu.au).

Further information and suggestions are at www.uq.edu.au/equity/diversity.html or contact The Equity Office Director Ann Stewart to discuss ideas (telephone 3365 1140 or email ann.stewart@uq.edu.au).

New wastewater research

UQ Associate Professor Paul Lant has been awarded a $153,000 grant from the State Government to improve the performance of sewage treatment.

The Queensland Sustainable Energy and Innovation Fund grant will assist the $300,000 project into energy recovery from sewage.

Dr Lant from UQ’s Advanced Wastewater Management Centre and School of Engineering said the goal was to provide full energy recovery from sewage so that treatment plants could become self-sufficient.

“Our goal is to complete a pilot study successfully demonstrating a practical process technology within the next 18 months,” he said.

Research partners include Aquatec-Maxcon Pty Ltd and Ken Hartley Pty Ltd with UQ providing additional funding.

“We’ve been working on the project at UQ for the past 18 months with the assistance of students visiting Brisbane as part of an exchange program with European universities,” Dr Lant said.

He said in Australia only around one percent of treatment plants, which serve around one-third of the population, recover energy and generate power on site.

“We propose to develop a process for providing anaerobic biological treatment to the full sewage flow, maximising methane production and simultaneously reducing the overall energy demand of the treatment plant,” he said.

Young fellow

UQ Professor Max Lu has become the youngest ever fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE).

The 39-year-old was inducted as a ATSE fellow at a recent ceremony in Sydney.

Professor Lu, who is Chair of Nanotechnology and Director of The NanoMaterials Centre (Nanomac), came to the University in 1987 as a PhD student.

Chief Executive Officer of the UQ-based Cooperative Research Centre for Mining Technology and Equipment Dr Michael Hood was the only other Queenslander elected to become a fellow in 2002.

Dr Lant. PHOTO: DAVID SPROULE

Miss Australia 1961, Tania Verstak. PHOTO: courtesy Cerebral Palsy Association

Miss Australia 1961, Tania Verstak.
PROFESSOR Kay Saunders from UQ’s School of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics is hoping to contact entrants, family members, supporters, chaperones, sponsors or those associated with the Spastic Centres of Australia, who organised the annual event from 1954 to 2000.

She particularly wants to speak to people affected with cerebral palsy who helped run the awards.

Her findings and any loaned memorabilia will be used as material for a book, academic journal articles and conference papers.

They might also form part of a proposed Brisbane City Council Museum touring exhibition in 2005.

“The awards articulated the concept of a perfect white womanhood in the postwar area,” said Professor Saunders.

They included Miss Australia 1961, Chinese-born Tania Verstak, whose parents were Russian, and Miss Australia 2000, Catherine Doggett, who was of Aboriginal descent.

Professor Saunders said the awards helped increase Australia’s international profile and was an important annual fundraiser, netting a total of more than $87 million.

“We hope to resurrect the good deeds done by the Miss Fundraisers and Miss Australias, highly intelligent, competent women, many of whom achieved further success,” she said.

“Also we hope to highlight the efforts of hundreds of volunteers involved in the awards at a local, state and national level.”

The research is funded by a three-year $192,000 Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery grant.

Anyone with information should email missaustralia@uqconnect.net or write to Professor Saunders, Room E330, Forgan Smith Bldg, The University of Queensland, 4072.

Miss Australia 1956, June Finlayson.

PHOTO: courtesy Cerebral Palsy Association.
Eight UQ PhD students have been awarded Queensland Government grants to help fund their research.

UNDER the growing Smart State initiative the State Government will provide $100,000 over three years to Queensland PhD students who are undertaking research relevant topics. Grant recipient Lisa Kennedy, who is conducting research into crime prevention methods, said her two-year $6000 grant had helped enable her to consult with United States-based experts at an American Society of Criminology meeting in November.

As part of her research she has developed a model to simulate crime and the costs associated with crime.

The model demonstrates that crime will increase primarily due to an increase in the population.

"However, crime per 100,000 people will decrease because the population is ageing and young people are more crime-prone than older people," Ms Kennedy said.

Another recipient, Suzanne Pillans, who is based at UQ’s Centre for Marine Studies, said her $3000 a year grant for the next three years would help finance her PhD entitled Assessing the effectiveness of no-take marine reserves in subtropical Queensland.

No-take marine reserves provide permanent closed areas to all forms of fishing and extractive activities.

In an Australian-first, Ms Pillans is currently surveying two of the existing no-take marine reserves in the Moreton Bay Marine Park.

"The grant also provides contact with an industry-based professional who is very familiar with my research area and has years of management experience," Ms Pillans said.

"You can’t gain this type of knowledge from books or lectures. This part of the grant will be invaluable to my PhD learning experience."

Premier Peter Beattie said the partnerships between PhD students and the Government would help it achieve its key priorities of more jobs for Queensland; safer and more supportive communities; better quality of life; valuing the environment; and building Queensland’s regions.

In total, 14 PhD students from three universities (UQ, Central Queensland University and Griffith University) were awarded funding. Other UQ students to receive grants included Tanya Boggon, Melanie Cox, Samantha Miller, Nicola Milson, Mark Moran and David Temple-Smith.

UQ shares in $55 million from CRC grant round

UQ will share more than $55 million funding out of a total $90 million pool announced in the Australian Research Council’s Centres of Excellence (COEs) round in December.

UQ is a partner in five of only eight COEs to receive five-year funding announced by the Minister for Education, Science and Training, Dr Brendan Nelson.

UQ is the lead partner in a new $10 million national Centre for Integrative Legume Research.

The other Centres of Excellence in which UQ will share are in Quantum Computer Technology ($14 million); Biotechnology and Development ($9,458,900); Mathematical and Statistical Modelling of Complex Systems ($10,906,575); and Quantum-Atom Optics ($10,950,000).

UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor David Siddle said he was “absolutely delighted” with the outcomes.

The CRC’s are:

- The Centre for Integrative Legume Research will focus on legumes such as peas, chickpeas, lupins and soybeans, which are important for agricultural systems because they improve soils by fixing nitrogen.
- The Centre for Quantum Computer Technology (led by the University of New South Wales) is an Australian multi-university collaboration researching the fundamental physics and technology of building, at the atomic level, a solid state quantum computer in silicon together with other high potential implementations.
- The Centre for Biotechnology and Development (led by the University of Newcastle) is a virtual institute focusing on the national priority area of genome to phenome.
- The Centre for Mathematical and Statistical Modelling of Complex Systems (led by the University of Melbourne) combines researchers in different areas of mathematics and statistics with an interest in understanding the behaviour of complex systems.
- The Centre for Quantum-Atom Optics (led by the Australian National University) combines Australian theoretical and experimental research groups to create a powerful network to advance the rapidly developing field of quantum atom optics.
Four scientists have turned their trade into art by winning the 2002 Ångstrom Art Expose Your Science competition.

THE competition challenges scientists to produce the most imaginative enhanced image of cells in their research field.

The winner of the $1000 first prize was UQ’s Gerald Hartig from the Institute for Molecular Bioscience (IMB) for Vector Jelly.

Two runners-up prizes were also presented to the IMB’s John Lock for Confocal Continuum and to Daniel Sangermani and the IMB’s Darren Brown for Cellular Monet.

Ångstrom Art convenor Associate Professor Jenny Martin said the winning images captured the imagination of the independent panel of judges.

“With nearly 50 high-quality entries to assess, the judges faced a daunting task selecting a winner and runners-up,” Dr Martin said.

“Images flooded in from all over Australia. The behaviour of gases in wind tunnels, fluorescent polyps of reef-building coral and functional studies of the human brain were just a few of the science fields represented.”

Ångstrom Art is an initiative of the IMB and was established to promote the awareness of science in the community using scientific images produced in the course of research.

Mr Hartig’s winning picture results from the rendering of a Protein Data Bank (PDB) protein using the Povray computer program.

“The picture illustrates how complicated proteins are. Not only are there flexible side chains which make up the surface of the protein, but a flexible backbone that moves the side chains around en masse,” he said.

Runner-up John Lock said the confocal fluorescent microscopy technique allowed the optical sectioning of fluorescent samples in the vertical axis.

“The result is a series of two-dimensional images which contain all the fluorescent information from the base to the apex of the sample, in this case fluorescently-labelled microtubules in epithelial cells from the Potaroo-Rat Kidney,” he said.

The other runner-up, Cellular Monet, is three activated macrophages attacking a cancer cell taken on a scanning electron microscope and modified using image software.
Education enrolments

Enrolments for the Graduate Certificate in Education (Higher Education) are being sought.

The program is directed at professional development for experienced university teachers and is offered by UQ’s School of Education.

The year-long eight-unit program encompasses curriculum design, student learning, teaching methods, using information and communication technology in teaching, student assessment, and program evaluation.

The program is supported by the UQ Staff Development Committee which provides a half-bursary of $2,000 to UQ staff. The remainder is usually covered by the staff member’s School or Faculty.

Further information: 07 3365 6550, info.education@uq.edu.au

Alzheimer’s disease

Brain imaging researchers from UQ and the University of California have produced high-resolution maps of a dynamic wave of tissue loss in the brains of Alzheimer’s disease sufferers.

The findings, which featured on the cover of the February 1 issue of the *Journal of Neuroscience*, chart how the disease spreads dynamically in the brain compared to normal ageing.

The information is crucial to understanding how the disease progresses and for mapping treatment effects.

The researchers found loss of “grey matter” associated with Alzheimer’s disease spread over time from the memory and language areas of the brain to frontal and more posterior regions.

Brain regions involved in sensory-motor functions were relatively spared and the wave of tissue loss was greater in the left side of the brain.

The novel brain mapping methods used in the study are likely to provide a powerful biological marker for clinical trials of novel treatments.

Ross from Rivermont College.

PHOTO: CHRIS STACEY
Queensland primary school students experienced the world of robotics at introductory RoboCup Junior Summer School workshops on January 17.

Eighty-five students from the Hyoseong Primary School in Korea called St Lucia home from January 8-25 as part of an English educational school, which combined a full program of English lessons with Australian cultural and sporting activities.

While the RoboCup workshops are a continuing magnet for primary-school-aged children during holidays, the visit of the Korean children was a first.

One of the many highlights was a UQ SPORT-coordinated sports afternoon on January 17 with the Korean visitors joined by more than 100 special young “country” Queenslanders.

The children were in Brisbane as part of the inaugural Bush to Beach program, run in conjunction with Rotary clubs, McDonald’s Queensland and Channel 10.

The free Brisbane visit was the first taste of life away from home for many of the drought-affected children – some of who travelled up to 30 hours to join festivities.

UQ SPORT managed activities for the Korean Summer School during their time at the University and provided sporting activities and facilities for the Bush to Beach program.

The Korean Summer Camp students were based at Emmanuel College campus and visited major south-east Queensland attractions including Dream World, the Gold Coast and Australia Zoo.

The camp will become an annual UQ SPORT event, with plans to integrate activities with children from local Brisbane primary schools.

The RoboCup Junior introductory workshops are also certain to remain on the calendar.

“It is the mission of RoboCup Junior to nurture understanding, from human to technology and human-to-human,” said Lynne Launt, Junior Activities Officer in the School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering.

During the workshops students were taught how to build robots using Lego and to program them using a programmable brick to enable them to enter RoboCup Junior competitions.

Ms Launt said the focus of RoboCup Junior was to educate children not only to understand science and technology but also to survive in a society where technology was more dominant than even early science fiction writers had imagined.
Watchful eye on natural wonders

From gorillas in Uganda to Bengal tigers in South Asia, world conservationists are working with UQ Gatton to improve management of environmental landmarks.

UQ Gatton environmental management lecturer and project leader Dr Mark Hockings is working with managers of 10 of the world’s most exotic and endangered locations.

They are developing monitoring systems to assess the management of these sites, many of which are threatened by poachers, encroachers, tourism, development impacts and civil war.

The project includes the Royal National Park Chitwan, at the foot of the Himalayas with its Bengal tigers and single-horned Asiatic rhinoceroses, and the tropical rainforests and glaciers in Latin America’s Sangay National Park.

An assessment of park management has also been undertaken for the Aldabra Atoll and its giant tortoises, about 700km east of the African mainland, and an assessment is being completed for the Serengeti, in Tanzania, home of one of the largest remaining migrations of wildlife in the world.

“We’re also looking at Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in Uganda, which is home to nearly half the world’s mountain gorillas,” said Dr Hockings, who is also Vice Chair of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) World Commission on Protected Areas.

“We’re trying to get a clear understanding of where management is working well, where it can be improved and how to further tackle issues like the problems caused by civil war and impacts of surrounding land use, poaching, disease and encroachment.”

The four-year, US$2 million project, Enhancing our Heritage: monitoring and managing for success in Natural World Heritage sites, involves some of the world’s leading conservation bodies including the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation and IUCN.

The United Nations Foundation (UNF) funded the project, which also includes Africa’s Greater St Lucia Wetlands; Kaziranga and Keoladeo National Parks in South Asia; and Canaima and Rio Platano National Parks in Latin America.

Working for the past year with Sue Stolton and Nigel Dudley in the United Kingdom, and Jose Courrau of Costa Rica, Dr Hockings said the world-first project would help ensure natural wonders were managed effectively.

IMBcom appoints CEO

The commercialisation arm of UQ’s Institute for Molecular Bioscience, IMBcom Pty Ltd, has announced the appointment of its new Chief Executive Officer.

Dr Peter Isdale will be responsible for the strategic oversight of the practical application of IMB’s world-class research.

Chair of IMBcom’s Board of Directors Emeritus Professor Ted Brown, AC said Dr Isdale was highly respected in the marine science community and had strong links with government and industry as a result of his position as Business Director of the Australian Institute of Marine Science.

“The Board is pleased to welcome Dr Isdale as CEO and a Director of IMBcom, and looks forward to working with him in building on the impressive start the company has made under the dynamic leadership of Professor Peter Andrews,” he said.

Dr Isdale said he was excited and proud to be leading IMBcom at such a critical period in the development of Queensland’s bioscience industry.
Farewell to long-serving staff

UQ Bursar Jim Tolhurst has retired after more than 31 years at the University.

MR Tolhurst was appointed Assistant Bursar in May 1971, Deputy Bursar in 1972 and Bursar in 1978.

Before joining the University Mr Tolhurst worked for the United Nations in New York and Vienna for five years.

“When I accepted the position of Assistant Bursar I was not looking too far ahead but I certainly didn’t expect to be at the University for the remainder of my career,” he said.

Mr Tolhurst was an employer-nominated Director of UniSuper from 1993 and 2002 and Deputy Chair for the past three years.

He has also been Chair of the UQ Press Board since 1986.

Mr Tolhurst said he received tremendous support from Business Services staff.

“They are a very professional group of staff who are committed to the University and have provided great loyalty and support,” he said.

“UniSuper has asked me to continue as Chair of the Gold Coast Airport and as an alternate Director of Leichhardt Coal Pty Ltd.”

Mr Tolhurst said he and wife Carolyn plan to travel and he also hopes to reduce his golf handicap.

Professor Wayne Hooper joined UQ’s School of Medicine for 10 months in 1966.

THE 10 months stretched to 36 years for Professor Hooper, who is now heading Q-Pharm Pty Ltd – a world-class clinical trial facility that will take new drugs from the scientific laboratory to patient tests to ensure they are safe for human use.

Professor Hooper said he had not intended to stay with UQ for so long.

“I started a 10-month appointment and genuinely expected that that would be it,” he said.

“I am astonished that I stayed so long, but at every point the job kept me interested and challenged.”

Q-Pharm Pty Ltd was formed in 2002 by the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR) and UQ’s technology commercialisation company UniQuest Pty Ltd.

Professor Hooper is the company’s Managing Director.

Along with Professor Ron Dickinson, Professor Hooper worked as Co-director of UQ’s Centre for Studies in Drug Disposition in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Professor Hooper has completed four degrees at UQ: a Bachelor of Science (1965); a Master of Science (1972); a PhD (1975) and a Master of Business Administration (1989).
UQ Centre graduates with honours

Approximately 5000 degrees, including three honorary degrees, were conferred at the University’s thirteen December graduation ceremonies most of which were held for the first time at the new $20 million UQ Centre at St Lucia.

At the Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science’s ceremony on December 9, world-renowned Syd Miller, who pioneered cattle embryo transfer surgery, formally received his degree certificate – 52 years after completing his veterinary science degree.

Bachelor of Agricultural Science graduand Cindy Trevor was valedictorian and Queensland Department of Primary Industries’ Agency for Food and Fibre Sciences Executive Director and UQ Adjunct Professor Dr Rosemary Clarkson was guest speaker.

The ceremony also involved Faculty of Biological and Chemical Sciences graduands. At a further ceremony on December 9, Queensland Institute of Medical Research Director Professor Michael Good was guest speaker and Bachelor of Science graduand Nathan Kilah was valedictorian.

Dutch Ambassador to Australia, His Excellency Dr Hans Sondaal, was guest speaker at the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences’ ceremony on December 11.

First class honours valedictorian Melissa Teh became one of the first UQ students to complete a Bachelor of Psychological Sciences.

Ten years after receiving a permanent brain injury in a car accident, Mark Sherry received a PhD for research into brain injury in terms of disability, impairment, identity and embodiment.

Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine Chair, UQ Adjunct Professor Graham Hughes, was guest speaker at the Faculty of Health Sciences’ December 11 ceremony and was also presented with an honorary PhD for his distinguished service to Queensland and the insurance industry.

the first PhD recipient to attend a UQ Ipswich graduation...

Mr Hughes has worked tirelessly to advance community awareness and research into the prevention and management of injury in his role as Queensland Chair of the Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety.

Bachelor of Dental Science (first class honours) graduand Veronika Valena was valedictorian.

At the Faculty’s December 13 ceremony UQ Adjunct Professor Nicholas Nicolaides, of Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology, was presented with an honorary Doctor of Medicine...
in recognition of his distinguished career as a pathologist and his outstanding contribution to the University and to medicine in Queensland.

Professor Judith Whitworth of the John Curtin School of Medical Research was guest speaker. Bachelor of Pharmacy (first class honours) graduand Suzanne Liang was valedictorian.

**UQ Gatton** held a ceremony on December 13 for nearly 400 graduands. Keith De Lacy, former Member for Cairns, Queensland Treasurer and 2000 UQ Gatton Gold Medal recipient, was guest speaker.

Bachelor of Environmental Management (first class honours) graduand Travis Robinson was valedictorian.

Bachelor of Applied Science (first class honours) graduand John Goopy was presented with the Bryan Medal for his research into environmentally friendly wastewater treatment.

About 170 students collected degrees at the UQ Ipswich graduation ceremony on December 16. They included Marie Kavanagh, the first PhD recipient to attend a UQ Ipswich graduation ceremony, the first graduands in the Bachelor of Behavioural Studies program and the first 11 honours degree recipients.

Valedictorian Mandy Mutzelberg became one of UQ’s first behavioural studies graduates.

Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay delivered the welcome address. Guest speaker was UQ graduate Wing Commander Gregory Hampson, Commanding Officer of 1 Air Transportable Health Squadron at Amberley Royal Australia Air Force Base.

**Faculty of Engineering, Physical Sciences and Architecture** graduands donned caps and gowns at two ceremonies on December 17.

Sun Microsystems State Manager Andrew Boulus and Mt Isa Mines Director Nick Stump were guest speakers. The valedictorians were Lisa McAulay (Bachelor of Information Technology) and Caitlin Marley (Bachelor of Civil Engineering).

Accounting pioneer Professor Raymond Ball received an honorary Doctor of Economics and was guest speaker at a second **Faculty of Business, Economics and Law** ceremony of December 18.

At the age of 26 he was the youngest ever UQ Professor and has been acknowledged by the American Accounting Association with co-researcher Philip Brown as having penned one of the most influential papers in accounting research during the past 30 years.

Senior Vice-President (Australia) and Conrad Jupiters General Manager Grant Bowie was guest speaker at the other ceremony. Bachelor of Business Management graduand Melissa Mayhew and Bachelor of Economics (first class honours) graduand Joseph Clark were the valedictorians.

At the **Faculty of Arts** ceremonies on December 20 the Catholic Archbishop of Brisbane, the Most Reverend John Bathersby, and Centre for the History of European Discourses Professor Peter Cryle were guest speakers.

Bachelor of Science graduate Richard Mollee became the first person at UQ to complete the new Graduate Certificate in Arts: environment and culture and Bachelor of Arts (first class honours) graduand Sophia Close and Bachelor of Music (performance) (first class honours) Alexis Kenny were the valedictorians.
Graduate work success
The Graduate Careers Council of Australia’s Graduate Destination Survey 2002 released late last year revealed UQ graduates under the age of 25 and available for full-time work continued to be highly sought by employers.

In the national performance figures compiled by the Federal Government, UQ achieved a full-time employment rate for 2002 bachelor degree graduates of 81.6 percent against the national figure of 81.3 percent.

In national figures, UQ achieved full-time employment rates averaging 88 percent over the past five years, against a national figure of 78 percent.

UQ bachelor degree graduates under 25 years old in full-time employment reported higher male median starting salaries of $38,000 (average $37,000) and matched the national female median of $35,000.

EDUCATION
The Australian reported that UQ had the highest number of Internet visits of any Australian university during December (171,000 hits and 161,000 unique visitors).

EMPLOYMENT
Professor Jeff Wilks (School of Tourism and Leisure Management) was quoted extensively about “back-to-work blues” on Channel 10, in The Courier-Mail, The Daily Telegraph, Sunshine Coast Daily, Launceston Examiner, Ilawarra Mercury and on radio stations across the nation.

COMMUNITY
Recent visits to the St Lucia campus by a group of Korean primary school children and 300 children from outback Australia received coverage in numerous publications, including Westside News, Ipswich’s Own, Stanthorpe Border Post, Beaudesert Times, Clifton Courier, Gold Coast Sun, Central Telegraph, Innisfail Advocate and Blackwater Herald.

LITERACY
A study on emotional literacy of children by Professor Candi Peter- son and Dr Virginia Slaughter (School of Psychology) received extensive national coverage.

MEDICINE
Comments made by then State Opposition Leader Mike Horan that UQ should return to offering medicine as an undergraduate degree were reported in The Townsville Bulletin, Cairns Post, The Toowoomba Chronicle, Daily News and on Brisbane 4KQ radio.

RESEARCH
The world-first discovery by a UQ team led by Associate Professor Ranjeny Thomas (Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research) of a mechanism to turn off an autoimmune disease once it has started, received substantial national coverage in The Australian, The Courier-Mail, Daily Telegraph, The Age, Canberra Times, West Australian, www.newscientist.com, and radio stations in most states and territories.

The New York Times reported on DNA research by Professor John Mattick (Institute for Molecular Bioscience).

Channel 9’s Today program interviewed Louise Earnshaw (School of Psychology) about similarities between youth at risk and entrepreneurs.

The Weekend Australian reported on groundbreaking stem cell research by Professor Perry Bartlett and his team (School of Biomedical Sciences).
Student support key to international event

UQ hosted the inaugural Universitas 21 (U21) symposium for student services staff.

**Student Support Services: An International Perspective**

Hosted by UQ's School of Education, the conference will be held on February 25-28. It will be opened by Minister for Justice Rod Welford. 

The Queensland Law Society will co-host Electronic Commerce Law on March 28. It will be opened by Queensland Attorney General and Minister for Justice Rod Welford.

Proposals for 20-minute papers or one-hour workshops should be submitted in a 200-word abstract and should relate to the conference theme of the Australian self, both historical and contemporary, or any other aspect of French studies.

Keynote speakers include Professor Michael Sheringham (University of London); Professor Raylene Ramsay (University of Auckland); and Professor Ross Chambers (University of Michigan).

Sponsors include UQ's School of Languages and Comparative Cultural Studies, UQ Ipswich's Contemporary Studies Program, Queensland University of Technology's Centre for Social Change Research and the French Embassy. Early-bird registration closes April 28.


**FASHION**

**Making an appearance: An international conference on fashion, dress and consumption: July 10-13, Brisbane**

Hosted by UQ’s Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies, the conference will debate fashion, identity, the body and consumption and will provide an opportunity to discuss how dress is central to gender, culture and race, and critique its current place, meanings and future.

**Keynote speakers include Professor Elizabeth Wilson (formerly of University of North London) Dr Valerie Steele (Fashion Institute of Technology Museum, New York); Professor Christopher Breward (London College of Fashion, London Institute); and Associate Professor Stella Bruzzi (Royal Holloway University, London).**
Refund of GST on Student Services Charge

The University of Queensland charged GST on its Student Services Charge (SSC) until the end of 2002. The University has received a favourable private ruling from the Australian Taxation Office, deeming the SSC to be GST-free. The ruling is retrospective to 1 July 2000. The University is now undertaking a process to refund eligible students. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has approved this process.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Students who have paid SSC for any of the semesters from the Second Semester 2000 to Second Semester 2002 may be eligible for a refund of the GST charged on these fees. GST refunds will range from $2.00 to $70.00, depending on study load.

APPLYING FOR A REFUND

Applications are to be made in first instance, online. For further information please visit The University of Queensland website at www.uq.edu.au

Students who are eligible for a refund and are continuing their studies in First Semester 2003 can choose not to apply, as their refund will be offset against their charges this year.

The Southern Hemisphere’s most powerful Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanner arrived in Brisbane last month for a project involving UQ.

THE instrument, which offers an effective, reliable, safe and non-invasive method of “seeing” human organs, was installed in the western annex of The Wesley Hospital.

“It is the first of a new generation of scanners worldwide,” said Professor Graham Galloway from UQ’s Centre for Magnetic Resonance.

“Airfreighting the magnet, which is the key component of the system, from Germany to Brisbane, was a major logistical exercise.

“It went from Germany to Melbourne via Luxembourg and then from Melbourne to Sydney before heading to Brisbane by road.”

Professor Galloway said the 4 Tesla wholebody MRI system located in a purpose-built facility at the hospital would complement a state-of-the-art clinical scanner installed 18 months ago.

University research staff will be collaborating with the clinicians at the hospital on a range of innovative projects.

“Proposals are already well advanced to use the scanner for research into neurological, cardiac and joint disease, with an anticipated commencement date as early as April,” he said.

“Discussions have also taken place for possible further studies in endocrinology and metabolic disorders.”

He said the arrival of the scanner was the result of a collaboration between the Centre for Magnetic Resonance; Bruker Biospin-MRI GmbH, a manufacturer of research MR equipment; and Siemens Medical AG, manufacturers of clinical MRI systems.
Summer school solace

Hoard of high school students headed to UQ St Lucia last month to participate in the numerous vacation schools on offer.

ABOUT 250 Queensland and northern New South Wales students entering Year 12 took part in UQ’s annual Leo Howard Vacation School from January 13-17.

The program aimed to provide students with an opportunity to experience university life and learn about tertiary study options.

Students lived on campus at King’s College and Emmanuel College and attended various lectures about UQ programs, career planning, the transition from secondary to tertiary study, financial issues and accommodation.

They took part in hands-on workshops, visited UQ Ipswich and UQ Gatton and toured numerous teaching and research museums and libraries.

Nearly 180 inquisitive high school students from throughout the State also converged on UQ’s St Lucia campus for The Siemens Science Experience from January 21-23.

The annual program promotes opportunities in the science and technology industries and is offered by 33 universities around the country to students about to enter Year 10.

Queensland’s Education Minister Anna Bligh opened UQ’s program.

During the three days students attended lectures, performed experiments and other practical work in UQ laboratories and visited local industries and places of scientific interest.

UQ’s Sustainable Minerals Institute coordinated the north east region’s Australian Student Mineral Venture – an annual initiative of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy Endowment Fund.

Nearly 40 Year 10 and 11 students from Queensland and Northern Territory participated in the UQ coordinated program, which was held from January 11-23, with students residing at UQ St Lucia for the second week.

Axiss scholarship

Federal Government agency Axiss Australia has awarded fourth-year commerce/economics student Mark De Ambrosis $10,000 and a prestigious placement at the Reserve Bank of Australia as part of the 2003 Axiss Scholarship Program.

UQ Business School Head Professor Tim Brailsford said the program was mutually beneficial for both students and sponsoring organisations.

“The calibre of our students not only provided the highest average Grade Point Average scores for the program, but gave sponsoring organisations a choice of our future industry leaders,” he said.

“The program also enables us to further our links with industry and to provide our students with valuable experience at Australia’s leading institutions.”

Rhodes success

UQ graduate Ben Juratowitch has won a 2003 Australia-at-Large Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford University in England.

The Bachelor of Arts/Law (first class honours) graduate received a University Medal in 2001 for his outstanding academic achievements.

He was also joint editor of the UQ Law Society’s publications Legal Directions and Obiter.

Mr Juratowitch will study for a Bachelor of Constitutional Law before undertaking research into the recognition of new rights or principles in Australian law that have their origin in international human rights law.
Detecting, timing and tracking a stroke are the most crucial and difficult issues for health professionals dealing with one of the nation’s top killers – and a UQ study is making this much easier.

Stroke is the third most common cause of death in Australia, and is most often caused by a blood clot in the brain.

Senior research officer and neurologist Dr Michael Walsh and his team are at the forefront of the development of a predictive model for strokes being developed by UQ.

Dr Walsh said determining the time of a stroke was critical when deciding on treatment and medication for the patient.

Traditionally Computerised Axial Tomography (CAT) scans have been used to find the location of the clot in the brain, but this type of imaging gives no information on when the stroke occurred – and timing is everything.

Stroke is the third most common cause of death in Australia

Dr Walsh said the critical time-frame for administering medication to dissolve a clot in the brain was within three hours (sometimes six) of the initial stroke.

“After this the brain becomes ‘mushy’ and if you then dissolve the clot, it can bleed into the brain,” Dr Walsh said.

“If someone wakes up with a stroke, no one has any idea of when it started.”

Predictive modelling allows a medical team to determine how much of the brain “isn’t happy”. This means they can see not only the clot, but also how much of the brain tissue around the clot has been affected.

Dr Walsh said the technology the team used to collect the data included Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), sodium imaging and EEG imaging (electroencephalogram).

“This combination of techniques is specific to our facility,” Dr Walsh said.

“We’re running a concurrent set of studies, and we’re acquiring the data then using it to answer a number of important questions.”

The team is based at UQ’s Centre for Magnetic Resonance. They perform the studies at the Wesley and Royal Brisbane hospitals using three dedicated research MRI machines.

Two UQ academics have been awarded the Douglas Hay Medal by the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy.

Dr Hsin Wei Wu and Associate Professor Stewart Gillies from UQ’s School of Engineering, along with consultant Tony Nixon, were awarded the medal for the best paper published in IMM Transactions, based in the United Kingdom.

The paper entitled Controlled partial mine ventilation recirculation trial at Mount Isa Mines, was based on Dr Wu’s PhD thesis, which was supervised by Dr Gillies.

The three-year project investigated the use of controlled partial recirculation ventilating for cooling deep and hot Australian mines, with Dr Gillies acting as Dr Wu’s supervisor.

“The project carried out the first major field trial of a controlled partial recirculation system in Australia,” Dr Gillies said.

“The trial results indicated there is an excellent potential to significantly reduce ventilation costs by controlled partial recirculation.”

Dr Wu, Dr Gillies and Mr Nixon received their awards in October and details of the accolade will be published in the forthcoming issue of IMM’s journal.

“The Institution of Mining and Metallurgy Transactions is one of the oldest and most prestigious mining engineering publications in the world,” Dr Gillies said.

“It has always been regarded as one of the prestige journals in the fields of mining and metallurgy and papers published in Transactions have been through the highest standard of peer-review processes,” Dr Gillies said.
CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSE-SWAP/TO RENT
- Couple need unit/house 10 km from city. House-swap avail., St Ives, near Cambridge, 4-6 wks from Apr. Sophie: sophie@business.uq.edu.au
- Family needs rental/house-sit to Jul. Pets, garden ok. Paulette: paulette@cate-mail.de

HOUSE-SITTING
- Mature teacher for free house-sitting to Jul. Pets, garden ok. References. Tracey: 07 3201 0317, traceyedu@iprimus.com.au
- Two house-sitters available in Brisbane area, Feb-Nov. Joanne: joanne_picton@hotmail.com

FOR SALE
- Household goods including sofas, bed, crockery, table, saucepans etc. Leah: 07 3371 4908

PRIZES
- The Queensland and Freemasons Scholarships 2003: for full-time undergraduate students in at least fourth year. Based on academic merit. Preference to Freemasons and sons or daughters of Freemasons of five years’ good standing. Worth: $500 each. Closing: March 5.
- The R.N. Hammond Scholarships 2003: for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander undergraduate and postgraduate students who have completed at least one year full-time study at selected institutions. Tenure: duration of program. Worth: determined by selection committee. Closing: March 28.
- The Constantine Asproumougos Memorial Scholarship for Greek Studies 2003: for bachelor or masters students of not more than five years’ standing who are undertaking a post-graduate program with a least one area of Greek study at UQ or any other university deemed acceptable by the committee. Tenure: one year. Worth: $4500. Closing: March 28.

Institute for Molecular Bioscience, Structural studies of holiday junction resolution in the archaea. The resolving enzymes Hyc and Hyc, Dr Charlie Bond, University of Dundee, Scotland (noon, Seminar Room, Temporary Administration Bldg).

Institute for Molecular Bioscience, New insights into nuclear organisation revealed by proteomic analysis of human nuclei, Dr Archa Fox, University of Dundee, Scotland (12.30pm, Seminar Room, Temporary Administration Bldg).

School of Biomedical Sciences, Adult neural stem cells: insights from in vitro, Hiram Chipperfield (1pm, Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

Friday, February 28
School of Biomedical Sciences, Molecular biology of the human NaSi-1 and marine sat-1 transporters, Aven Lee (1pm, Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

Thursday, March 6
School of Medicine, Violent Child Death, Dr Guy Lampe, Queensland Pathology and Scientific Services (noon, Keidanren Auditorium, Level 5, Woolworths Bldg, Royal Children’s Hospital).

Friday, March 7
Institute for Molecular Bioscience, Gene and protein defects in muscle disease, Prof Nigel Laing, Welcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, Oxford, UK (noon, Seminar Room, Temporary Administration Bldg).

School of Biomedical Sciences, Decision selectivity in the retina, Prof David Vaney (1pm, Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

Friday, March 14
Institute for Molecular Bioscience, Adaptor and scaffolding proteins in receptor tyrosine kinase signalling, A/Prof Roger Daly, Garvan Institute of Medical Research (noon, Seminar Room, Temporary Administration Bldg).

School of Biomedical Sciences, Oxygen-regulated gene expression during early development, Prof Jeremy Thompson, Adelaide University (1pm, Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

Friday, March 21
School of Biomedical Sciences, Colour vision pathways in primates, Prof Paul Martin, University of Melbourne (1pm, Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

UQ NEWS, FEBRUARY 2003

Library Hours for 2003
Information on library hours is available on the Library’s homepage www.cybrary.uq.edu.au or telephone (07) 3365 6703.
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