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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Following the release last week of a Government paper on Building University Diversity, it is time for the higher education sector to squarely face the problems caused by the current system of research funding.

Present arrangements penalise research-intensive universities, such as The University of Queensland, for their success. In order to produce the promised research output we must cross-subsidise, and this is almost on a dollar for dollar basis.

The current Government research funding arrangement is not viable.

In spite of this model, UQ has managed to achieve outstanding research success by employing a variety of strategies including pursuing commercialisation and internationalisation to diversify its funding base.

For many years, I have advocated the adoption of the differentiated system used in the United States, which ranges from community and liberal arts colleges to universities offering Masters-level degrees through to research-intensive universities awarding PhDs.

Funding from all sources reflects these differences, and both State-funded and private institutions compete successfully within this system.

Differentiation of the Australian system, which I believe is long overdue, is to be discussed at a national seminar to be convened by Federal Education Minister, Dr Brendan Nelson, in May.

It is vital this seminar looks not just at differentiation, but also at funding. Simply to recognise the differences between research-intensive and non-research universities will not resolve the problem.

Unless the true costs of research and research infrastructure in Australian universities are recognised and properly funded, Australia will be unable to maintain and grow its international position.

Professor John Hay, AC

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Editor: Brad Turner (07) 3365 2669, b.turner@uq.edu.au
Editorial: Chris Saxby (07) 3365 2479, c.saxby@uq.edu.au; Miguel Holland (07) 3365 2619, m.holland@uq.edu.au Art: Wendy Oakley, Felicia Chetcuti Photography: Chris Stacey (07) 3365 1735, c.stacey@uq.edu.au; Diana Lilley (photo librarian) (07) 3365 2753, d.lilley@uq.edu.au Printing: Scorton Printing, Virginia
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The University of Queensland’s Web address is www.uq.edu.au
Brisbane City Council has appointed John Holland Pty Ltd to construct a $55.47 million bridge providing a bus, bicycle and pedestrian link between Dutton Park and the University's St Lucia campus.

Tenders for the bridge were first called in February 2004 and suspended in April 2004 for a re-consultation process following the Brisbane City Council elections. The reconsultation found high community support for the bridge and Civic Cabinet agreed to proceed with tenders.

A panel including independent consultants, representatives of the Brisbane City Council, UQ and Queensland Transport selected the preferred tender from a field of three, one of whom withdrew due to other commitments.

Bridge community liaison officer Donna Marshall said preliminary activity had begun on the Dutton Park side of the river.

Activity on the UQ side of the river will start next year, with an official commissioning of the bridge planned for early 2007.

Ms Marshall said a material stockpile area was being prepared on the soccer field off TJ Doyle Memorial Park Drive, Dutton Park.

This involved fencing off the soccer field and removing topsoil to create a hardstand area.

She said some car parking spaces were being removed in the soccer clubhouse vicinity.

Parking close to the ferry terminal at Dutton Park would not be affected at this stage.

However, UQ staff and students are advised of the likelihood of more difficult parking in the Dutton Park area because of bridge construction work.

In late February, a barge undertook riverbed sampling to show the nature of soil and rock material within the riverbed before selection of appropriate construction methods.

Some intermittent noise was experienced during sampling work.

This month, a temporary jetty will be built on the Dutton Park side of the river for use during construction. This will involve the use of large cranes and other construction equipment.

UQ News will be one of many avenues providing information about the project and any issues likely to affect students and staff at the University.

John Holland has established a construction information line at 1800 214 387 and an email contact: communityfeedback@bigpond.com for further information and for community feedback.

High level accolade

A lecture by a Nobel Laureate and a prestigious award for a UQ professor were highlights of the School of Physical Sciences activities to celebrate the International Year of Physics.


The lecture launched the University’s activities for the United Nations-sponsored 2005 International Year of Physics, which will include hands-on workshops, international guest speakers, public lectures and a Physics in the Pub debate.

UQ Professor Peter Drummond was presented with Australia’s highest level award for physics at a ceremony in Canberra on February 4.

The ceremony took place at the largest-ever Australian Institute of Physics (AIP) Congress, held to celebrate the International Year of Physics and 100 years of Albert Einstein’s discoveries.

Professor Drummond received the AIP 2004 Massey Medal for theoretical work carried out over a period of time in UQ’s Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Quantum-Atom Optics.

His most significant work is the development of novel theoretical phase-space representations that have applications in laser physics, physics of ultra-cold atoms and elsewhere.

The Year of Physics is a worldwide collaboration of scientific societies to bring the excitement of physics to the public and to inspire a new generation of scientists.

It celebrates Albert Einstein’s achievements, who pioneered theories in relativity, quantum mechanics and Brownian motion in 1905.
Australian parenting expert Professor Matt Sanders is helping UK parents tame their children through a new reality television program and a national parenting study.

The UQ Psychology Professor took part in the ITV program, Driving Mum and Dad Mad, which aimed to help five families whose children were pushing their parents to the limit.

Cameras tracked the families over eight weeks as they put Professor Sanders’ Triple P – Positive Parenting Program – advice into practice to rebuild relationships, tackle discipline and set rules and limits.

The television program, which began airing in February, won its time slot with 5.1 million viewers, representing 25 percent of the audience share.

Tantrums and aggression were among the behavioural problems captured on film, with three-year-old Cameron kicking his mother if he didn’t get daily presents and six-year-old Aaron swearing and fighting with his siblings.

Professor Sanders said all the families benefitted from going through the Triple P course and he hopes the thousands of parents who watch the series will also benefit.

With a research grant from the UK government, Professor Sanders, in collaboration with the University of Manchester, is running The Great Parenting Experiment.

More than 2000 UK parents will be assessed to see whether watching Driving Mum and Dad Mad helped them improve their children’s behaviour and reduce their own stress levels.

At present, the impact of such programs is relatively unknown.

“The Great Parenting Experiment will be a significant study from which we can measure the impact of reality television on population change; we may even show that the media is an effective way for governments to address social issues,” Professor Sanders said.

The Triple P course is already used widely around the world and in Australia – it was commercialised by UQ’s main technology transfer company, UniQuest, and licensed to Brisbane-based Triple P International.

It is hoped the ITV program will soon reach Australian audiences.
UQ's Moreton Bay Research Station (MBRS) on North Stradbroke Island hosted more than 35 of the world’s top marine scientists for three weeks in February, as part of the 13th International Marine Biological Workshop.

Scientists came from the UK, Germany, USA, China, Singapore, Taiwan and New Zealand to gather more specific knowledge of the taxonomic, ecological and physiological aspects of the rich environment of Moreton Bay.

Dr Ian Tibbetts, Director of the MBRS, said having such a concentration of talented researchers in one place at the one time would leave a lasting impression on the scientific knowledge of Moreton Bay.

"It is big and it will really put us on the map," Dr Tibbetts said.

"We will get a really strong focus in terms of primary research here in Moreton Bay."

Dr Tibbetts, a marine biologist specialising in the biology of fishes, was using the workshop to gather information as part of a larger project to properly resolve the relationships between flying fishes and their allies.

There is a fair bit of confusion about the evolutionary relationships within the Order Beloniformes group of flying fishes and their relatives so we are collecting genetic and morphological data to resolve the uncertainties," he said.

"In research terms, this is a major undertaking with our colleagues in the US from the Smithsonian Institution."

Dr Julie Phillips, a phycologist (algal specialist) with UQ’s Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis, said Moreton Bay had been a long-neglected area for research at the species-level and the workshop was a great way to gather leaders in their fields together for an intensive bout of baseline science.

"Species-level research in the bay has been badly neglected for the past 30 years, so to be able to have this workshop gather so much new data in one hit is a real boost," Dr Phillips said.

"Before this workshop there were only nine species of seaweeds recorded for Dunwich, and now I’m up over 50 so it has been an invaluable process."

The workshop, organised by the South East Queensland Branch of the Australian Marine Sciences Association, hosted a visit by Queensland Natural Resources and Mines Minister Stephen Robertson.

Mr Robertson was able to get a first-hand look at some of the research being conducted.

The results of the workshop will be published in 2006, in two volumes, by the Queensland Museum and will be an invaluable addition to the knowledge of Moreton Bay for future generations.

UQ’s Moreton Bay Research Station allows scientists to map the biodiversity of one of Australia’s most eclectic ecosystems. Andrew Dunne, Elizabeth Kerr and Chris Saxby travelled to the facility to speak with those attending the 13th International Marine Biological Workshop.
Anemone out there?

Marine biologist Professor Daphne Fautin is finishing a research project initiated by her former professor more than 50 years ago.

Professor Fautin, from the University of Kansas in the US, travelled to the 13th International Marine Biological Workshop as part of her project to identify the various species of sea anemone found in Australia.

Sea anemones are considered to be the flowers of the sea, coming in many different sizes and colours. They attach themselves to rocks or coral, or burrow into sand or mud, and spend most of their lives in one place.

Professor Fautin’s former professor, Cadet Hand, made the same journey to Queensland in the 1950s but did not publish the results of his study, leaving behind just his notes.

Since then, little has been done to identify and categorise the different species of sea anemone.

“Australia has never had an anemone specialist so we didn’t really know what was here,” she said.

Professor Fautin said just over 1000 species had been recorded worldwide, 120 of them in Australia.

“It is just about knowing what is out there,” she said.

Together with her research assistant Andrea Crowther, from the Queensland Museum, Professor Fautin is noting the characteristics of each different species.

The anemones are also photographed and dissected.

Professor Fautin said the workshop and the facilities at the research station had greatly assisted her project.

“Anemones are not in abundance so bringing all these people together is good – all these other pairs of eyes,” she said.

Professor Fautin said she hoped her work would promote further research into sea anemones and the marine life that live in and around them.

Marine life heats up

Sea snails that can withstand extreme heat and new findings about the fiddler crab have baffled an international expert who found Moreton Bay’s marine life to be more spectacular than first expected.

Associate Professor Shirley Lim, an ecologist at Singapore’s Nanyang Technological University, took part in the 13th International Marine Biological Workshop to expand her research on the fiddler crab and periwinkle snail.

Dr Lim also made a significant discovery about the fiddler crabs of Myora Creek.

Until now, research has shown different species of fiddler crab are usually confined to a specific habitat.

Dr Lim’s research in Singapore has been consistent with this hypothesis and the country’s two common species each live separated in two habitats.

In contrast, Moreton Bay has four to five different species of fiddler crab and none of these are confined to a specific habitat.

This finding has raised questions about fiddler crab habitat and physiology in other areas of the world.
Information saturation

By pushing a group of academics to their mental limits researchers have determined how much information the human mind is able to process.

Has anyone ever told you during a conversation: “Stop, that’s too much information?” Well UQ psychologists have discovered just how much too much information actually is.

Emeritus Professor Graeme Halford and his colleagues at UQ’s School of Psychology have discovered most humans cannot represent relations between more than four variables.

Their study, How Many Variables Can Humans Process?, pushed a group of 30 academics to their mental limits.

Participants were given incomplete descriptions of interactions between variables, with accompanying bar graphs representing the interactions.

They were then required to complete the descriptions so that they correctly described the graphs.

“At the level of the four-way interactions, participants made comments such as ‘Everything fell apart and I had to go back’,,” Professor Halford said.

“Only chance levels of performance were obtained for five-way interactions.”

The results have implications for the design of high-stress work environments such as the coordination of fire-fighting operations.

“If the number of variables to be considered exceeds human processing capacity then the worker will drop his or her mental bundle and become unable to proceed,” Professor Halford said.

“More seriously, the worker may revert to a simplified version of the task that does not take all aspects into account and therefore may make the wrong decision.”

“This type of problem is particularly acute in tasks that have to be performed under time pressure or where unusual combinations of circumstances are likely to arise.

“Modern high-technology industries produce many situations of this kind because of the number of variables that have to be taken into account in decision-making.”

Professor Halford’s team included Dr Rosemary Baker and Dr Julie McCredden from UQ’s School of Psychology and Professor John D Bain from Griffith University.

Their results showed that as the complexity of the interaction increased, performance and confidence levels dropped significantly.

“While all levels of complexity are logically possible, the evidence suggests that they are not cognitively manageable,” Professor Halford said.

He said complex ideas were conceptual structures built in the temporary working area of the mind called the working memory.

His findings are the outcome of a decade of research.

“Four-way interactions require humans to represent relations between relations between relations between pairs of bars; which can be reframed mathematically as a four-dimensional task,” he said.

“We found that four dimensions are the most that humans can conceive of.

“Therefore, if the world was five-dimensional, rather than three, we would not be able to understand it.”

Dr Greg Bamford received a telephone call 10 years ago that prompted him to help community groups design better public buildings.

The caller was Anne Livingstone, the coordinator of the Clayfield Respite Care Centre, which provided day respite services to senior citizens and people with disabilities.

She said the centre, an old Queenslander, was crowded and needed to be redesigned but she did not want it replaced with a sterile institution.

So Dr Bamford, a senior lecturer in Architecture at UQ, helped centre managers form their own design guidelines to avoid an institutional look.

“People liked going there because it was a house not an institution,” Dr Bamford said.

“I helped them understand what to ask of the architects.”

It was this project, combined with several community projects since 1992 and involving his students in these projects, that earned Dr Bamford one of 25 Year of the Built Environment (YBE) Queensland Awards.

YBE is a national program that raises awareness about the buildings and spaces in which we live, work and play.

In 2003, Dr Bamford’s students provided design ideas for Aged Care Queensland offices at Jindalee, the Dinmore Murri Baptist Church and Beaudesert Respite Care and Senior Citizens Centre.

UQ also had one of 10 YBE National Award winners, architectural graduate Dr Shaneen Fantin, and one of 400 exemplars, Professor Michael Keniger, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Physical Sciences and Architecture (EPSA).

Dr Fantin was part of a team from global engineers, Arup, that won the YBE 2004 Healthy Environment Award for buildings for the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health.

Professor Keniger’s nomination said he had turned EPSA into one of the nation’s most creatively progressive schools.

“He has numerous extra-curricular roles on important committees in Brisbane and nationally including his position as Queensland Government Architect,” the nomination said.
An important annual event brings students face-to-face with a large range of potential employers.

**Future stock**

UQ students will have a unique opportunity to meet with potential employers at the UQ Careers Fair on March 16.

Dean of Students Dr Lisa Gaffney said the sixth annual fair had attracted many major private industry and government employers who recognised the quality of UQ students.

The fair will run from 11am to 4pm at the UQ Centre, St Lucia campus, where students will be able to speak with representatives of major companies and collect relevant literature.

“Final-year students who are beginning to think about life after University will gain the most from the Careers Fair,” Dr Gaffney said.

“Being able to talk to potential employers will allow students to think about the range of career opportunities open to them.

“They may discover options they had not previously considered.”

Employers attending the Careers Fair include: Accenture; Brisbane City Council; Coles Myer Ltd; the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources; Deloitte; Ernst & Young; KPMG; and Qantas Airways Ltd.

The event also aims to showcase the services offered at UQ to help students prepare for employment and to provide them with an opportunity to explore postgraduate study options.

During the event, UQ’s Student Support Services will conduct presentations demonstrating job interview skills, resume-writing and other career-planning activities.

“The Careers Fair will raise awareness of what students need to do to get a job and will help them make useful contacts,” Dr Gaffney said.

“Employers recognise UQ as one of the finest universities in Australia and know our students are of outstanding quality.

“They are very enthusiastic to talk with UQ students. We are committed to meeting our students’ needs and helping them make the transition from study to rewarding careers.”

Information: www.uq.edu.au/careersfair/

Ms Stirling needs about 50 volunteers aged between 18 and 60 years who have had a spider phobia for more than a year. Volunteers will be split randomly into three groups, each receiving varying treatments.

All participants will be offered whichever treatment proves superior.

The sessions will be held in the Psychology Department at the St Lucia campus this month.

“We train them up then we expose them to the spider,” Ms Stirling said.

While her research is specifically aimed at spider phobia, Ms Stirling said rhythmic tapping could potentially be applied to a range of other phobias.

Information: volunteers can contact Ms Stirling on 0412 333 269 or keryn@jimstirling.com

Conquering a fear of heights or spiders might be as easy as some strategic body drumming, according to a postgraduate researcher.

Psychologist Keryn Stirling is investigating the technique called rhythmic tapping therapy where patients tap on strategic acupuncture pressure points.

Ms Stirling, a postgraduate researcher at UQ, said she had used the tapping method at her private practice at Brisbane’s Mater Hospital for a range of anxiety disorders and it had been more effective than traditional treatments.

She said her study would compare the tapping method with conventional treatments and hopefully provide the scientific data to prove it worked.

**Body drumming is a hit**

**in brief**

Hydrogen energy breakthrough

A new hydrogen storage technology being commercialised by UQ spin-off company, Hydrexia Pty Ltd, could propel hydrogen gas into the mass market as an alternative green fuel.

Hydrexia was established by UQ’s main commercialisation company, UniQuest, to commercialise the technology developed by Dr Arne Dahle and Dr Kazuhiro Nogita from the Division of Materials Engineering.

Professor Dahle said practical storage was one of the largest barriers to hydrogen’s adoption as a clean fuel source.

“Current hydrogen storage methods are expensive and suffer from performance disadvantages but we’ve developed a range of magnesium alloys which has the potential to overcome these problems,” he said.

Grant pumps up commercialisation

VasCam Pty Ltd has been awarded a Queensland Government Innovation Start-up Scheme (ISUS) grant that will help progress its technology to the clinical trial stage.

The start-up company was established by UQ’s main technology transfer company, UniQuest, to commercialise a technology that could potentially allow patients to grow their own replacement blood vessels.

VasCam Executive Chair, Craig Estwick, said the ISUS grant would greatly support the company’s commercial activities.

“The ISUS grant will assist VasCam to raise the capital necessary for clinical trials as well as do further market research and analysis to clearly identify our path to market,” Mr Estwick said.
Pharmacy opens its doors to observers

Japanese pharmaceutical industry leaders visited UQ in February to learn more about pharmacy in Australia.

UQ’s Institute of Continuing and TESOL Education hosted the Japan Association of Chain Drug Stores (JACDS) Introduction to Pharmacy in Australia program.

JACDS, which toured the School of Pharmacy during the visit, represents approximately 530 companies and 8500 pharmacies across Japan.

The delegation included the Vice-Chair of JACDS, Hyoma Oda.

During the visit, Dr Peter Cabot and Dr Sarah Roberts-Thomson from the School of Pharmacy gave an overview of the Australian pharmaceutical industry and pharmacy education in Australia.

Direct your expertise on a company board

If you would like to be a non-executive director on a company board you can now register on the Business/Higher Education Round Table’s (B-HERT) new Directors Register.

B-HERT is a forum where leaders of Australia’s business, research, professional and academic communities can address important issues of common interest to improve the interaction between Australian business and higher education institutions.

B-HERT’s Assistant Executive Director Chris Goldsworthy said companies were being encouraged to widen their pool of non-executive directors to diversify the talent around the board table and go outside the normal pool of candidates.

Information: to register visit www.bhert.com

Opportunity is medium rare

A food safety advocate has won a scholarship allowing her to learn from world leaders in the livestock industry.

A UQ graduate has received a select invitation to attend talks with global beef bosses in the US on the introduction of new food safety and quality systems.

Nellie-May Shannon, UQ Gatton’s 2004 Valedictorian, is one of only three young Australians to receive the International Stockmen’s Educational Foundation Travel Fellowship to attend the 2005 International Livestock Congress in Houston, Texas.

She will meet industry leaders from North and South America, Japan, Europe and Australia and participate in talks to further one of the beef industry’s highest priorities, the introduction of a product traceability system based on individual electronic animal identification.

Receiving the fellowship caps off a busy few months for Ms Shannon.

She received the Queensland Cotton Award for Excellence as the top achiever in the Bachelor of Agribusiness program.

In January, she took up a graduate trainee position with leading Queensland meat company, Nolan Meats, in the group’s quality assurance team.

A passionate advocate for enhanced food safety and quality systems, Ms Shannon is a firm supporter of the Australian beef industry’s new National Livestock Identification System and is excited by the opportunities that await her.

“I’m thrilled to receive this chance to learn from the experiences of beef industry experts around the world and their efforts to introduce more secure systems of product assurance,” she said.

“Australia has an excellent record but we must be proactive and embrace new technology and better systems as they become available to enhance that record and improve the marketability of our product even further.

“I’m hoping to bring back a lot of lessons and new ideas that we can use here in Australia.”

The highly coveted International Stockmen’s Educational Foundation Travel Fellowship awarded to Ms Shannon is one of a number of overseas study and research opportunities available at UQ Gatton.

The award is supported by the Bob and Vivian Smith Foundation.

Celebration of our differences

The President of the Australian Arab Women’s Association, Nadia Masarweh, will speak at UQ’s Diversity Week celebrations in May.

Mrs Masarweh and her husband Samir, who is the Ambassador of Jordan, will also attend the third annual Diversity Week lunch at Customs House.

Diversity Week was introduced in 2003 to promote diversity within the UQ community.

This year’s event runs from May 9 to 13 under the theme Differences in Common.

The highlight of the week, the Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity Awards, will be presented at the lunch on May 13 at Customs House.

Students and staff are encouraged to apply for Diversity Week grants to hold activities during the week.

UQ’s Ally Network, a group of students and staff identifying as lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual or intersex, will be launched on May 12, in the Social Sciences and Humanities Library Conference Room.

Jazz great James Morrison will play at the UQ Centre in conjunction with Diversity Week on May 9.

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Ipswich) Professor Alan Rix, who is responsible for equity matters, said diversity was one of the University’s great strengths.

“The student and staff populations of UQ are highly diverse. Different cultures, races, religions, world views, languages and points-of-view contribute to the richness of work and life at UQ, and benefit us all,” he said.

Information: www.uq.edu.au/diversity-week or 07 3365 3052.
Forget global warming or war – nothing can kill off a society faster than losing contact with neighbours. Being shut off from its trading partner about 400 years ago was a death wish for a tiny Polynesian community in the Pitcairn Islands on the eastern edge of the Pacific rim.

In a new international bestselling book by Pulitzer Prize winner Professor Jared Diamond, UQ archaeologist Dr Marshall Weisler has revealed how trade in tools, food, plants and marriage partners was vital for survival on the Pitcairn Islands. Professor Diamond’s book, Collapse: How societies choose to fail or survive (currently on the New York Times’ bestseller list for non-fiction), delves into the mysterious collapses of past civilisations.

Chapter three, The last people alive, Pitcairn and Henderson Islands, explains how people arrived in the resource-poor Pitcairn Group about 1000 years ago. Dr Weisler said small founding groups were only sustainable with outside help from their trading partners on Mangareva, islands about 400 kilometres to the west.

He traces the prehistoric downfall of a small society who lived on the jagged limestone of Henderson, about 100 kilometres north of Pitcairn Island – made famous by the mutiny of the English naval ship Bounty in 1789.

“It’s a marginal place. It’s a raised limestone island with a very rough landscape and limited fresh water that could only support a few dozen people,” Dr Weisler said.

He details how these Polynesians almost became extinct as they slowly lost touch with their neighbours and bigger trading partners in the Mangareva Islands.

“After colonisation of the Pitcairn Group at about AD800, there was a continuous exchange of stone adzes (blades), pearl shell fishhooks, volcanic oven stones, planting stock, pigs and the like from the high volcanic islands of Mangareva,” he said.

“After trade ended, about AD1450, the small communities on Pitcairn and Henderson died out and were found abandoned in 1606 by the Spanish explorer Ferdinand Queros.

“This is a classic example of the need to maintain good relations with your neighbours.”

He said the Polynesian decline showed that successful societies were those in which people enjoyed good relations with their neighbours.

“It shows that trading partners are extremely useful even in our world today – as everyone is connected some way or another,” he said.

Trading places

by Miguel Holland

The isolation that sounded the death knell for small Polynesian societies 400 years ago showed the value of a good neighbourhood policy.

Dr Weisler examines artefacts from Pitcairn Island
Students celebrated the start of the new academic year with activities at the St Lucia, Ipswich and Gatton campuses.

by Chris Saxby
The heartbeat of the University – its students – pounded quicker than ever in February when new and continuing students flooded in for Orientation Week 2005.

About 6500 first-year students from all over the world converged on UQ’s St Lucia, Ipswich and Gatton campuses from February 21, taking their first steps into University life.

Orientation is one of the highlights of UQ’s student calendar and this year included a rock concert featuring Spiderbait, as well as sporting and other social activities.

The first stage of the new state-of-the-art Student Centre at St Lucia was open to welcome the influx of students.

The new centre is designed to be a one-stop-shop for student services. The old décor and fluorescent lights have been replaced with an orange and lime colour scheme, vinyl artwork and bright lights.

Project Manager Sherron Irwin said the open-plan centre was designed to be vibrant, stimulating, casual, family-friendly and to glow from within thanks to modern lighting.

“arid we told the interior designers Cottee Parker to make it glow so it would be people’s first port of call at the University and they could see that something exciting was there,” Ms Irwin said.

The UQ Union’s biggest event of the year, the St Lucia campus Market Day, took place on February 23, where students took free showbags and diaries and signed up with some of the 140 clubs and societies.

During the campus Market Days, UQ SPORT held its annual Expo showcasing 40 sport and recreation clubs

Marketing Manager for UQ SPORT Rowan Foster said demonstrations by Swing and Latin dancers showed that sport at UQ was about more than just competing.

“It is important to balance the demands of University life and take time out from study every now and then,” Mr Foster said.

“UQ SPORT provides an opportunity to access a huge range of programs, events and activities.

“There is such a diverse group of people participating across UQ SPORT activities, which means you can meet new people and keep fit at the same time.”

Mr Foster said that during the UQ SPORT Expo, activities such as triathlon and rowing proved popular, while more adventurous clubs such as sailing, water ski and Uni Dive also attracted plenty of interest.

Any students with any comments or suggestions about the Orientation process can email orientation@uq.edu.au
Study puts damper on fireweed fears

One of the most visible environmental nuisances on Moreton Bay is not as bad for human health as had been thought.

It might contain a cocktail of 70 potentially harmful chemicals and bloom around Moreton Bay, but fireweed doesn’t seem to be causing too many serious health problems.

A study by the National Research Centre for Environmental Toxicology (EnTox) at UQ has revealed fireweed grows in explosive bursts in warm water and sunlight and is most toxic at the peak of its spread and density.

Fireweed is a blue-green algae called Lyngbya majuscula, which contains toxins that turn some marine animals off their food and can give people rashes, itches, burns, tingles blistering and breathing problems.

Despite summer blooms, which have been recorded measuring up to 40-square-kilometres wide in Moreton Bay, the study found fireweed had not had a dramatic effect on recreational water users.

UQ PhD graduate Dr Nicholas Osborne, who spent several years researching fireweed, surveyed 1370 Bribie Island residents about their exposure to Moreton Bay waters.

About 35 percent of people reported at least one side effect, with skin itching the most common with 23 percent and fever, the least reported with less than one percent.

About three percent of people surveyed (29 people) reported severe skin symptoms, for which 12 people saw doctors.

“Even though it does have the potential to be a health hazard, at the moment it doesn’t appear to be one,” Dr Osborne said.

“People tend to walk 50 metres up the beach to avoid the weed, especially if they are informed about the potentially toxic nature of this organism.”

Dr Osborne collected fireweed samples from eastern Moreton Bay, north Deception Bay and Bribie Island and found tenfold differences in toxin concentrations in some samples only metres apart.

“Having different toxins in different areas means that there is some sort of regulation of toxin production going on,” he said.

“If we can work out what factors affect this regulation we have a good handle on predicting when Lyngbya will be toxic and when the public should be warned.”

Younger people were more likely to report skin, eye, fever and headache symptoms and females reported greater skin rashes, possibly because of their swimwear, which could trap algae.

He said large Lyngbya blooms often disappeared after big storms and that while strong sunlight helped the cyanobacterium grow, it might also reduce its toxicity if washed on to beaches.

The new fireweed discoveries are revealed in his 246-page thesis entitled, Investigation of the toxicology and public health aspects of the marine cyanobacterium, Lyngbya majuscula.

It was funded by a $217,061 joint grant from the Australian Research Council and Queensland Government in response to several reports of burns from fireweed in South East Queensland.

Dr Osborne, who also worked for UQ’s School of Population Health, said more work had to be done to explain the toxicology of fireweed.

Trap is rotten luck for mosquitoes

A biodegradable mosquito trap will soon be the latest weapon against the spread of dengue fever in far north Queensland.

UQ researchers are working with a biodegradable packaging business, Plantic Technologies, James Cook University and Queensland Health to design and produce the traps.

Project leader UQ Associate Professor Peter Halley said the environmentally friendly bucket, the size of a golf sand bucket, did not have to be refilled or collected as it would break down.

Plantic’s Business Development Manager Mark Fink said the mosquito trap could be safer and cheaper than current dengue control methods.

Mr Fink said developing the traps would be an 18-month project funded by a $243,000 Federal Government Biotechnology Innovation Fund grant.

As the Director of UQ’s Centre for High Performance Polymers, Dr Halley has been involved in the development of Plantic since 1995.

With its credo of plastic from plants, Plantic was born out of a Cooperative Research Centre in 2002, of which the University was a key member.

UQ scientists including Associate Professor Rowan Truss, Dr Martin Markotosis and PhD students Celine Chaleat and Melissa Russo are spearheading Plantic’s new materials and prototype products.

Plantic’s first commercial product, a biodegradable packing tray, is used in Cadbury Dairy Milk Trays, Freedom Foods biscuits and other food products.

The glossy, transparent trays are made from cornstarch and free from genetically modified material.

They are stable in humidity but dissolve in water and will decompose in your garden in a month.

Dr Halley said Plantic was a good example of where Australian research was leading the world.
Ten years of hard work have paid off for the UQ Boat Club (UQBC) with endorsement as one of Australia’s leading elite rowing clubs.

In February, Rowing Australia agreed to provide $20,000 per annum to the UQBC for the next two years as part of a new Elite Club Funding Program to strengthen the top level of Australian rowing.

UQBC is one of four clubs in Australia to receive the funding and the only club in Queensland. The program is the first step towards the national body’s goal of making rowing Australia’s leading sport at the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008.

Rowing Australia has recognised the investment UQ SPORT and UQBC have made in employing top-level coaches, including a Head Coach in 2003, the upgrading of facilities and equipment and the results club rowers have achieved at state, national and international level.

“We feel honoured to have our elite rowing program recognised by Rowing Australia,” Head Coach Joe Rodrigues said.

“This will enable the club to enhance rowing programs across the board, from the elite rowing programs to Learn to Row.”

We feel honoured to have our elite rowing program recognised by Rowing Australia.

The funds will allow the club to employ more coaches and further develop its current coaches so they can undertake elite development of athletes involved in the national programs.

“It is essential to have qualified coaches to support developing rowers,” Mr Rodrigues said.

UQBC has a long and rich history in rowing and has benefited from the dedication and drive of key volunteers, coaches, a dynamic club membership and the support of the University’s Sports and Physical Recreation Association, UQ SPORT.

Over the past four years, UQBC’s aim has been to produce athletes who can be successful in the sport, as well as in their chosen study and career paths.

This focus has clearly paid off and can be seen by the success of club members in all levels of competition.

UQBC, led by Olympian Sean Coulton, won a record 36 gold medals at the Queensland State Championships in January.

The results highlighted the strength and depth of the club in both the male and female categories and bode well for good performances at the Australian National Championships this month.

UQ SPORT’s rowing base, the Eric Freeman Boathouse, recently underwent a $500,000 refit and extension extending safe storage capacity from about 120 boats to 200.
Dimmer switches on fruit

An international scientific study is using genes to make plants more interested in producing fruit than new branches.

I
n a bid to fill orchards with plumper fruit and cane fields with denser stems, Australian, French and UK scientists have isolated a new plant gene that controls shoot growth.

One of the chief scientists, UQ’s Dr Christine Beveridge, said the gene Ramosus1, which means “many branches” in Latin, regulated two unknown plant hormones that control branching.

Ramosus1 was discovered in 2004 by the same team from the Australian Research Council Centre for Integrative Legume Research at UQ, the Station de Genetique de Amelioration des Plants in France and the University of York in the United Kingdom.

But its job of regulating at least two new plant hormones was not known until now.

“If we could use this new gene as a tool to discover new hormones, we could not only increase the number of plant hormones, we could also define new economical and natural methods for controlling branching in many plant species,” Dr Beveridge said.

With more research into hormone interaction, scientists could tweak plants to produce more or fewer shoots, which would free up plant resources for sweeter cane or bigger fruit.

Dr Beveridge said scientists had previously known of nine plant hormones, which controlled such factors as growth and cell division.

“It now appears that some as yet unknown hormones play critical roles in plant growth and development,” she said.

“Identifying these hormones is a crucial first step in improving our understanding of the molecular processes involved and may provide significant benefits to many agricultural and horticultural industries.

“It is not like you even have to transfer across species, you just go and find the similar gene in the new species and use that.”

She said Ramosus1 and its hormones were like a dimmer switch that could turn shoot growth on and off if the plant was too dense or bare.

The researchers have experimented on a variety of garden pea, which resembles a stick to make it easy to spot shoots.

Their research is featured in the online journal The Plant Cell and is attracting considerable interest from the sugar industry.

“It’s stuff you think we should have learned perhaps hundreds of years ago,” Dr Beveridge said.

Excellent taste

UQ hospitality management lecturer David Solnet is the new chair of judges for Queensland’s Restaurant and Catering Industry Awards for Excellence.

Past chairs include the CEO of the Queensland Tourism Industry Council and the owner of Pier Nine Restaurant and Oyster Bar in Brisbane.

Mr Solnet is a former General Manager of Brett’s Wharf Seafood Restaurant and is now the Director of Industry Partnership Development for the UQ School of Tourism and Leisure Management.

His consulting work focuses on service quality, the introduction of performance-based incentive programs and organisational reviews.

Travelling strongly

UQ’s Head of Tourism is breaking into the literary world with three new books and a fresh take on travel.

Security fears, Internet bookings and the burgeoning budget airline industry are among the contemporary and timely issues Professor Chris Cooper explored in his latest works.

The first of his publications, Tourism principles and practice, has been published in five languages and is already receiving critical acclaim overseas and in Australia.

Worldwide destinations – the geography of travel and tourism and accompanying case book have also been embraced as a resource linking higher education and industry application.

Gambling study

UQ psychologists need volunteers for a therapy program designed to examine the benefits of cognitive behavioural treatments for problem gamblers.

The program provides participants with information, skills and strategies to help them understand and change dysfunctional gambling behaviours.

Participation is free and those involved can withdraw at any time.

Participants will be asked to complete a confidential questionnaire at the beginning of the program and again at three, six and 12-month intervals after its completion.

Information: contact Hui Lim on 07 3346 9417.

Ipswich scholarships

Continuing UQ Ipswich students can tap into more than $40,000 worth of scholarships on offer this year under the campus’s scholarship scheme.

Applications close Friday, March 25 for awards ranging from $1000 to $5000 each.

Some are specific to individual study programs while others, such as the Friends of UQ Ipswich and Ipswich City Council City of Ipswich scholarships, are open to all students.

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Ipswich) Professor Alan Rix said the scholarships were generously donated by numerous businesses and organisations within the Ipswich region.

Information: visit www.uq.edu.au/ipswich or telephone 07 3381 1011.
A re-evaluation of Paralympic sport by a UQ exercise scientist could see some major changes by the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

The classification system for Paralympians competing in athletics is changing and a UQ exercise scientist Sean Tweedy is leading the overhaul.

The sports scientist with the School of Human Movement Studies has developed a classification system with a scientific rationale, which will replace four systems that were based on an athlete's diagnosis.

It is hoped the system will be in place for the 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing and be used for elite-level to amateur competition.

“Classification is obviously an essential part of Paralympic sport but because it is so important to the results, it can sometimes be quite controversial,” he said.

“It is not always beer and skittles, particularly in cases where athletes and coaches come to classification with a pre-conception about what class they should be.

“We can’t always deliver the news that they want to hear.”

In September, Mr Tweedy spent three weeks at the Athens 2004 Paralympic Games working as a classifier and as chief investigator of the new system.

His job was to watch athletes in competition, help crosscheck the classifications of over 200 new athletes, rule on classification protests and collect data for the new system.

Mr Tweedy has been involved in disability sports since 1984 and is currently a Research Fellow in Physical Activity and Disability at the Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine.

His next major classifying event is the forthcoming National Junior Disability Sports Championships.

The current systems of classification are based on outdated concepts considering the huge variety of people with disabilities who currently wish to compete in track and field,” Mr Tweedy said.

He leads a classification review team of 24 people on five continents, backed by the International Paralympic Committee and a $47,000 grant from the Australian Sports Commission.

Mr Tweedy said he believed some of the principles of the new classification system could be applied to some of the other 18 Paralympic sports.

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HEALTH
Success and failures in telehealth conference: August 4-5, Royal Children's Hospital, Brisbane
This annual conference will explore successes and failures in telehealth and provide an opportunity for delegates to present the latest research and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of telemedicine, telehealth and e-health. Abstracts of up to 300 words should be submitted by April 1. Proposals should relate to original, unpublished work in any area of telehealth. Email abstracts to sft@ccs.uq.edu.au

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING
Australian Software Engineering Conference (ASWEC) 2005: March 29-April 1, Carlton Crest Hotel, Brisbane
ASWEC provides a forum for exchanging experience and new research results in software engineering. It is the premier technical meeting for the Australian software engineering community and attracts a significant number of international participants. It provides an opportunity for interaction between researchers and practitioners. In addition to the technical program, workshops will be held on topics in software engineering.

PEACE AND CONFLICT
Justice, peace and reconciliation in the Asia-Pacific region: April 1-3, University of Queensland
The objective of this conference is to create a congenial and safe environment to discuss ways in which peace, justice and reconciliation can be advanced in the region at community, national and regional levels. Academics, policy makers, foreign affairs, legal defence and security professionals, representatives from humanitarian and peace-building organisations, as well as students with an interest in sustainable peace in the Asia-Pacific region are invited to attend the conference. The conference will also be open to interested members of the public.
Information: Nadia Mizner, n.mizner@uq.edu.au

Irish peace in public’s hands
Despite a recent record bank robbery and a pub brawl stabbing, Northern Ireland has seen more peace and stability in the past six years than in the past 30, according to a senior British minister.

The Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office, John Spellar, said the British and Irish Governments had political frameworks for peace but the process was still being driven by the public.

Mr Spellar said the $60 million heist from the Northern Bank and the stabbing of a 33-year-old man in a Belfast bar, both allegedly involving the Irish Republican Army (IRA), had caused a massive public outpouring against violence.

Speaking at a UQ public lecture at Customs House on February 18, Mr Spellar said there were demonstrations and public disgust shown in pro-IRA areas after the Belfast stabbing.

“I think that is enormously encouraging because once again it is the voice of ordinary people coming up that deserves all of our support,” Mr Spellar said.

He said the Good Friday Agreement from 1998 had guided Northern Ireland but it could not guarantee stability, peace or reconciliation.

“It cannot guarantee those things. There still needed to be ongoing discussion and an awful lot of trust had to be generated,” he said.

“What we have seen is greater stability and peace and reconciliation, much greater than we have seen for generations.”

Professor Kevin Clements, UQ’s Foundation Director of the Australian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, said the conflict was rooted in history and had painful memories that often inflamed different parties.

“One of the biggest challenges is how you deal with those long and deep traditions,” Professor Clements said.

There have been 3600 deaths, mostly Catholic men under 30-years-old, since the 1968 troubles began.

Professor Clements said one of the problems since the suspension of the 1998 agreement was that political mom-entum had returned to London.

“Politicians do not generally resolve conflicts. It is the parties themselves that have to solve the conflicts,” he said.

“This is why it is important to reactivate a more inclusive political process aimed at bridging the divisions at a community level.”
Like bumps in a road, corrugations on a train line can be annoying, costly to fix and dangerous.

But a team of UQ mechanical engineers and QR, Rail Corp, the Australian Rail Track Corporation and the Cooperative Research Centre for Railway Engineering and Technologies are working to predict and prevent corrugation, which plagues rail lines around the world.

Rail corrugation appears as waves in tracks, usually on busy routes or lines that experience heavy cornering, accelerating or slowing.

“It is caused by a complex interaction between vehicle and track vibrations and contact wear occurring over many wheelset passages,” team leader Dr Paul Meehan said.

“The essence of this interaction is a vicious cycle that amplifies corrugations over each wheelset passage.

“The trick will be to identify a means of breaking or at least retarding this feedback cycle.”

To predict corrugation, the group is building a rail corrugation software estimator that will show how fast corrugation will grow on lines around Australia based on factors such as traffic, tonnage, speeds and track radius.

To prevent corrugation, the team is looking at the feasibility of several solutions such as lubricating the rail/wheel contact, vibration dampeners or speed control.

Dr Meehan said badly corrugated lines were noisy and unsafe and were only fixed by grinding the track, which added five to 20 percent in maintenance costs to the rail industry.

So far, the UQ team has developed an experimental rig to recreate rail corrugations and is testing its mathematical prediction formula.

“Wherever you get vibrations occurring, you can get fatigue cracks growing,” he said.

“If left unchecked, these cracks cause surface shelling and track failure, then you can get derailments.”

Their software could analyse a range of variables, which would optimise maintenance strategies to avoid rail corrugation. They hope to have the software finished by 2006.

The team includes UQ researchers Dr Bill Daniel, Robin Horwood, Ning Ning Song and Tien Vuong.

Dr Meehan with a patient.
PHOTO: Don Thompson

Wherever you get vibrations occurring, you can get fatigue cracks growing

Drinks hard on teeth

Drinks hard on teeth

Children are putting their teeth at risk of excessive damage from sports dehydration by re-hydrating with sugary drinks, according to a UQ oral health expert.

Associate Professor William Young said dehydration had the effect of shutting off salivary protection against the acids in soft and sports drinks that caused tooth destruction.

He said sports dehydration was a common problem among the children he had seen with dental erosion.

“Dehydration causes the body to conserve water and saliva flow is shut off for about two hours thereafter,” he said.

“When saliva flows slowly it lacks bicarbonate, the main buffer that neutralises acids on teeth.

“When the child is dehydrated and saliva protection is lost, acids can corrode the calcium hydroxyl apatite – the mineral that gives the teeth their unique hardness.”

Dr Young and his team, which includes Associate Professor Peter Davies from UQ’s Children’s Nutritional Research Centre and research dietician Surita Meintjes, have examined and documented more than 200 children with excessive tooth wear.

The project, Oral Health Promotion for Asthmatic Children, is currently in its third year of National Health and Medical Research Council funding.

Dr Young said it was easy for children to become dehydrated in Australia’s hot climate and if a child had a soft or sports drink during that time there would be little saliva protection.

He said analyses of children’s diets had shown some children were receiving less than the recommended dietary intake of calcium, suggesting soft drinks were becoming the drink of choice.

“Their diet diaries show they are having less dairy foods – milk, yoghurt and cheese – but more soft drinks,” Dr Young said.

“Hence their diets are low in calcium essential for the growth of healthy bones and teeth.

“This is also a problem as dairy products prevent dental erosion.”

Dr Young with a patient.
PHOTO: Don Thompson
Venetians lap up Aussie studies

A UQ academic is spending two years in Venice where she is teaching Italian students about Australian Indigenous culture.

Italians are flocking to Australian Indigenous courses at Ca’ Foscari University of Venice and the university has recruited a Brisbane academic to teach the growing numbers.

In December UQ anthropologist Dr Franca Tamisari headed for Italy, funded under the Italian Government’s Return of the Brains decree designed to bring Italian academics back to its universities.

University of Venice staff approached Dr Tamisari to apply for the fellowship and she was selected by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) in Rome.

She said she would continue her research into Aboriginal songs, paintings and dance from northeast Arnhem Land and her multimedia research work on the maintenance and transformation of traditions in Sicilian communities of north Queensland.

She will also return to Australia mid-way through her appointment to carry out fieldwork in northeast Arnhem Land and in Tully.

She is studying rituals and religious feasts to show the cultural similarities and differences between Tully and its Italian sister city Piedmont Etneo, a small village in Sicily.

Her previous trip to Venice was for temporary teaching in 2001 and 2002 and she still has family in the city after finishing secondary school there.

She said she was proud to have won one of the 38 MIUR positions offered in all fields and hoped it would build links between UQ and the University of Venice.

New Academy fellows

Three Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences staff members at UQ have been acknowledged by the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia for their contribution to research and scholarship in the social sciences.

Dr Alex Bellamy from the School of Political Science and International Studies has been awarded the Early Career Award, while Professor Geoff Lawrence, Head of the School of Social Science, and Professor Penny Sanderson from the School of Psychology, have both been elected Fellows of the Academy.

The Academy’s Early Career Award honours Australians in the early years of their career and each year, the Academy grants one award to an early career researcher in the social sciences for research excellence.

Weather station news

Now in its second year of operation, the UQ automatic weather station continues to provide weather data to the University and the world.

An initiative of Dr Hamish McGowan, a senior lecturer in Climatology from the School of Geography, Planning and Architecture, the station has been linked to a website at www.geosp.uq.edu.au/UQweather/

The station records a large number of weather-related measurements including heat index, rain-rate, rainfall, solar radiation, temperature, humidity, wind-chill, wind-direction and wind-speed.

A weather Web camera will soon be installed to capture real-time video of significant weather events.

Information: telephone 07 3365 6528 or email a.victor@uq.edu.au

Dr Tamisari in Venice.
PHOTO: courtesy Dr Tamisari
A new book has captured some of the many stories and long history of larrakinnism at UQ Gatton as a permanent record of the campus’ rich heritage.

Entitled *The Stories So Far...*, the book provides a fascinating and often amusing account of the Gatton campus’ 107-year history and was officially released at the Past Students’ Association annual Back to College Weekend in December.

Written for students and staff from all eras, history buffs and visitors, the book accompanies a signed heritage tour of the Gatton campus launched in August by UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC.

Author Bruce Thompson, an honours student in Protected Area Management at UQ Gatton, said the new book was not quite a history book and not quite a guide book.

“The Gatton campus is steeped in some wonderful heritage,” Mr Thompson said.

“Every one of its old buildings is a storehouse of memories.

“The book is designed to unlock those storehouses and share the stories that have made Gatton such a special place for so many people be they students, staff, the Americans who served here during World War II or people who have passed through the place at some time.”

While there have been plenty of tough times too, larrakinnism has been a constant theme throughout the campus’ history thanks largely to the imagination and resourcefulness of its students through the years.

One of the most famous stories relates to the landmark avenue of Canary Palms.

During the 1960s, mischievous students placed a road-closed sign on the Warrego Highway diverting a steady stream of semi-trailers and other traffic on to the former road, through the middle of the campus and past the Principal’s bedroom window all night.

Another relates to the mysterious footprints, which the campus awoke one morning in 1955 to find running up one side of the water tower.

An enraged Principal ordered the footprints then appeared running down the other side.

“By relating stories like these to the history of the campus’ development and operation over time, we have tried to bring Gatton’s heritage to life in a way that many more people can appreciate and enjoy,” Mr Thompson said.

To obtain copies of the book, telephone 07 5460 1279 or email cablett@uqg.uq.edu.au

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**How to get the job you want**

A careers and marketing consultant who conducts workshops at universities has written a book to help jobseekers.

Dawn Richards said the book, entitled *Selection Criteria Toolkit*, would help either people who had not previously applied for a job, or people who were responding to specific selection criteria.

“In a nutshell, the book is about how to use a strong marketing approach to apply for positions in the public service and private sector that require responses to selection criteria,” Ms Richards said.

“In the book, I use real life examples based on successful applications I have written for clients from all walks of life over the past 10 years.”

Ms Richards said she had written thousands of successful applications for people from bank managers to bartenders, including many graduates.

For further information, visit www.smartstartmarketing.com.au

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**Bill Condon: No Worries ($18.95)**

Brian Talbot: 17; virgin; high school dropout; nightshift worker at the local dairy; in love.

When life is kicking you down you need to kick back, but when your old man lives in the shed in the backyard and your mum has problems of her own, that’s not always easy.

Sometimes though, you have just got to hang in there and you never know what might happen.

Both humorous and confronting, Bill Condon has created a gripping urban tale of life, death, love, joy, and family, which reminds us all to hold on to the important things, however difficult that might be.

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**Sue Taffe: Black and White Together ($24.95)**

This is the first history of the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, the grassroots lobby group of black and white Australians whose collective efforts brought about sweeping political and social change.

Together they campaigned nationally for the momentous 1967 referendum, equal wages and land rights.

Honest and engaging, with rare photos and interviews with key members, this history reveals the harmony as well as the division in the first organisation to put Indigenous affairs on the national agenda.
Team has the winning formula

The UQ Racing team is continuing to clock up impressive performances in top competition.

PHOTO: courtesy UQ Racing

UQ’s motor racing team has finished fourth in a student racing competition outside Melbourne but still had the quickest car.

In December, the team raced 22 university teams including some from the United States, United Kingdom and New Zealand, for the Australian Formula Society of Automotive Engineers student competition.

The event is designed to expose young engineers to practical experience and teamwork by building and racing their own formula-style car, an open wheeled race car with a 600cc Honda motorbike engine.

UQ team manager Michael Atherden said the team had to re-weld the mounting for the car’s drive line but won the acceleration event.

Teams made four standing start runs over 75 metres and UQ Racing was the fastest with 4.05 seconds, which corresponded to a zero to 100 kilometres-an-hour time of 3.1 seconds.

PHOTO: courtesy UQ Racing

Professional Internships

FOR UQ INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

- Gain valuable work experience in your chosen area of study
- Receive professional training, a work report and reference
- Internationalise your resume/CV
- Enhance your career opportunities

INFORMATION SESSION
Friday 8 April 2005
1.30pm, Room 516/517, Joyce Ackroyd Building
At the end of the presentation, time will be made available for students to speak with representatives to discuss the program in more detail.

For further information on the Professional Internship Program (PIP), contact ICTE-UQ by email pip@icte.uq.edu.au or visit www.icte.uq.edu.au

INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING & TESOL EDUCATION (ICTE-UQ)

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

PHOTO: courtesy UQ Racing
School of Music
School of Music
School of Music
Queensland Alcohol & Drug
published in this section. Entries, including date, time, contact name and
numeral telephone number, should be sent to c.saxby@uq.edu.au

SEMINARS

- Wednesday, March 23
  School of Geography, Planning and Architecture, Sustainable planning housing and urban design – Southeast Queensland towards 2030 (noon – 2pm, Kathleen Room, Staff Club).
- Tuesday, April 12
  Queensland Alcohol & Drug Research & Education Centre, seminar series, Drunk and dangerous: a randomised controlled trial of brief alcohol intervention in a judicial setting, Kerrianne Watt (10am-noon, Room 113,School of Population Health, Herston). Details: 07 3365 5189 (bookings essential).
- Thursday, April 7
  School of Music, chamber music recital, directed by Spiros Rantos with Gwyn Roberts (cello) and Brachi Tilles (piano) (11am, Nickson Room). Details: 07 3365 3505.
- Sunday, April 10
  School of Music, Sundays at Customs House, the Symphonic Wind Band and the Brass Ensemble (11.30am The Long Room). Details: 07 3365 3505.
- Wednesday, April 13
  School of Music, Staff Club twilight concert, the prize-winners of 2004 perform their favourite works (6pm, the Eleanor Room). Details: 07 3365 3505.
- Thursday, April 14
  American Australian Association 2005 Australia to USA Fellowships: for Australian graduate and postdoctoral students in business, science, technology, medicine or engineering to conduct research and study at American universities and scientific organisations. Closing: applications must be submitted by 5pm New York time on March 15. Information: www.americanaustralian.org
- General Staff Prize 2005: for a member of the general staff with a period or periods of full-time service totalling at least three years and who graduated in the previous calendar year. Closing: March 31. Information: 07 3365 1984.
- RN Hammon Scholarships 2005: for Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students who have successfully completed at least one year of study. Closing: April 1. Information: 07 3365 1984.
- RD Arida Bursary 2005: for students who have undertaken no previous study at tertiary level and whose home residence is in Charters Towers, Dalrymple, Flinders or Conancy. Closing: April 15. Information: 07 3365 1984.

WORKSHOPS

- Thursday, April 14 – Friday, April 15
  UniQuest, Research commercialisation workshop, for UQ PhD and postdoctoral students, will include speakers from industry, start-up companies and venture capitalists. Details: www.uniquest.com.au (applications close March 18).

CONCERTS

- Wednesday, March 16
  School of Music, Staff Club twilight concert, the St Lucia Singers conducted by Réka Cserynyik (6pm, the Eleanor Room). Details: 07 3365 3505.
- Thursday, March 17
  School of Music, free lunchtime concert, On the sunny side of the street (12:30pm, Nickson Room). Details: 07 3365 3505.
- Friday, March 18
  School of Music, Violin and piano recital (1pm, Duchesne College). Details: 07 3365 3505.
- Thursday, March 24
  School of Music, free lunchtime concert, Masters violinist Christy Morgan (12:30pm, Nickson Room). Details: 07 3365 3505.
- Thursday, April 7
  School of Music, free lunchtime concert, the Ensemble do Sol and the Brisbane Allstars Jazz Sextet will feature the music of Antonio Carlos Jobim (12:30pm, Nickson Room). Details: 07 3365 3505.

OTHER

- Saturday, April 9
  UQ Medicine Rugby Team reunion (7pm, UQ Staff and Graduates Club, tickets $85 and partners welcome, RSVP by March 23). Details: 07 3511 6352.

CLASSIFIEDS

* Classifieds are free, but are available only to staff, students and visiting academics.

TO RENT/HOUSER SIT
- Kelvin Grove: 3bd hse, fur,nr opt, avail August. Cts to all amenities. Home exchange in Vancouver, Canada available. Haida: haidaluke@yahoo.ca or haida.luke@uq.edu.au
- Sinnamon Park: f/3rm 3 bd, 2bth, A/C hse, short drive UQ St Lucia. Ideal for overseas family. Short or long-term rentals. Patricia: 07 3372 9412 or 0407 376 133.
- Ideal for overseas family.  Short or long-term rentals. Patricia: 07 3372 9412 or 0407 376 133.
- WANTED TO RENT/HOUSE SIT
  Family in the process of moving hse needs short or long-term house sit. Will look after pets, pools and gardens. Tom: 0415 698 348 or 3372 9412 or 0407 376 133.
- Visiting academic needs rental accommodation for family of 5 from July 2-24. Peter: peter@elec.canterbury.ac.nz

FOR SALE
- Laboratory equipment – Agitator (1500ml, 100rpm, 8cm dia) – Laboratory Wedding 1000C, 1000 litres, 420W, 380V. Closing: March 23. Details: 07 3365 1984.
- Visiting academic needs rental equipment for a female student who is a lineal descendent of a person eligible to be accepted as a member of the War Widows Guild, Australia, Queensland Branch. Worth: $750. Closing: March 24. Information: 07 3365 1984.
- General Staff Prize 2005: for a member of the general staff with a period or periods of full-time service totalling at least three years and who graduated in the previous calendar year. Closing: March 31. Information: 07 3365 1984.
- RN Hammon Scholarships 2005: for Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students who have successfully completed at least one year of study. Closing: April 1. Information: 07 3365 1984.
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Library hours are available on the Library’s homepage at www.cybrary.uq.edu.au

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School and Centre Reviews for Semester 2, 2005
Listed below are details for the school and centre reviews being undertaken by the Academic Board Office in semester 2, 2005:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL/CENTRE</th>
<th>REVIEW DATE</th>
<th>SUBMISSIONS DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Sciences</td>
<td>25-29 July</td>
<td>14 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural and Rural Systems Management</td>
<td>1-5 August</td>
<td>20 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work and Applied Human Sciences</td>
<td>1-5 August</td>
<td>20 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Minerals Institute</td>
<td>9-12 August</td>
<td>27 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre for Marine Studies</td>
<td>22-24 August</td>
<td>11 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography, Planning and Architecture</td>
<td>29 August-2 September</td>
<td>18 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>29 August-2 September</td>
<td>18 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australasian Centre on Ageing</td>
<td>26-28 September</td>
<td>15 August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Submissions are invited from all interested persons. Terms of Reference for the Review can be obtained from the Academic Board Office by telephoning extension 51321.

Please note that submissions must be received by the due date.