ECONOMIC SAVIOUR
Plan for pristine Pacific

BLAST OFF
HyShot hits heavens

BLACK POWER
Global reach for authors
Now in its seventh year UQ Business School's Enterprize competition offers emerging innovators the chance to make their mark with a $100,000 cash prize to help get great ideas out of the pipeline and into production. The competition closes on Monday 23 July 2007. For entry details visit our website www.enterprize.uq.edu.au. For more information please email events@business.uq.edu.au or call Amy Hyslop on (07) 3365 8561.

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UQ BUSINESS SCHOOL
MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

UQ’s outstanding teachers have been indispensable in building the University’s reputation for excellence, and proper acknowledgement of their contributions benefits current and future students as much as it does the staff. From external sources, our finest teachers have amassed more national teaching awards than any other institution’s teachers in the history of the awards; for internal recognition of pedagogic achievers, UQ was the first Australian university to instigate its own teaching and learning awards.

A year ago, a desire to ensure that UQ’s appointment and promotion arrangements gave due recognition and reward to top teachers drove the establishment of a working party on Diversity of Academic Roles. With the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Ipswich) Professor Alan Rix, as chair, and senior representation from across UQ, the working party’s brief included exploring the scope for specialised teaching-focussed positions at UQ.

This involves a departure from our traditional academic position mix of teaching, research and service (also known as engagement). Teaching-focussed appointments are common at some universities, so the working party was able to consider successful Australian and international models, along with advice and comment from throughout UQ which identified a need for teaching-focussed specialists across the faculties.

The thrust of the working party recommendations is that UQ should introduce full academic positions focussed on teaching and teaching-related scholarship.

Following endorsement from Academic Board and Senate, new appointment mechanisms are in place. On the recommendation of their heads of school, 46 staff have transferred to teaching-focussed positions, and new positions can now be created.

Further new appointments are expected as the year progresses. These staff will have track records of exemplary teaching and teaching-related scholarship. They will be active in engagement (with their school, faculty, wider university, professions, disciplines, industry and the community as a whole), and be apprised of the latest advances in their disciplines.

Teaching-focussed academics who concentrate on professional practice (for example, health clinicians) will be recognised as full academic appointments.

I thank Professor Rix and his working party colleagues for completing this report. Having championed exemplary teaching and learning through UQ’s internal arrangements and through the Carrick Institute, I am delighted with this development. Students deserve the best from their teachers; exacting standards must be reinforced; and top performers ought to be granted high status. The national and international communities need a steady stream of young and motivated teachers to contribute to building social harmony and prosperity.


UQ News is delivered off-campus to our neighbours at St Lucia and across the Eleanor Schonell Bridge. We hope you enjoy catching up with news and events at the University. If you would like to comment on the magazine, telephone 07 3365 3367 or email communications@uq.edu.au

UQ News is produced by the Office of Marketing and Communications, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Qld, 4072, Australia. Telephone: (07) 3365 3367, Facsimile: (07) 3365 1488
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Two UQ academics have been awarded fellowships to help improve university education for maths and science students.

Dr Michael Bulmer, from the School of Physical Sciences, and Dr Roger Moni, from the School of Biomedical Sciences, have both been awarded fellowships to the prestigious Carrick Institute for Teaching and Learning for Higher Education.

Dr Bulmer’s project will focus on helping discover students’ attitudes towards learning maths in large classes, while Dr Moni will aim to improve the writing skills of science students.

Dr Bulmer said the fellowship would allow him to work for three months full-time on the project, which he said was “a rare opportunity for an academic”.

Likewise, Dr Moni looked forward to being able to meet and collaborate with international scholars as part of his research.

Dr Moni said his project would take a year to complete, starting in 2008. It will assess how writing is currently taught in the University’s Bachelor of Science program and how students can be taught to improve their writing skills.

He said the project was inspired by feedback from future employers that science students were not good written communicators and this posed problems for them when they entered the workforce.

“Writing is … clearly central to thinking and communication,” Dr Moni said.

“How science students learn to write goes well beyond just mechanically reproducing text types.”

He said the findings of the project could ultimately be applied in science classrooms in universities around the world.

Dr Bulmer said his project would also have a broad application in other universities. His topic, “Technology for Nurture in Large Classes”, will investigate how students feel about learning in large classes and how teachers can respond to students’ feelings.

His project will also involve establishing a one-day national forum on nurturing in higher education, which he hopes will become an annual event in Australia.

Dr Bulmer
A scramjet experiment involving UQ as a research partner safely launched on June 15 at the Woomera Test Facility, 500km north of Adelaide.

The project was a collaborative effort between the United States’ Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO), also representing the research collaborators in the Australian Hypersonics Initiative (AHI).

Scramjets are air-breathing supersonic combustion ramjet engines that could make two hour flights from Sydney to London possible.

A Talos-Castor rocket combination propelled the HyCAUSE engine to a height of about 450km, with the first stage Talos dropping off after six seconds, and the second stage Castor taking the scramjet engine to an experiment in the final seconds of the flight.

The speed achieved will be known when downrange telemetry data is received, with the goal to achieve speeds of Mach 10, or about 11,000km an hour.

While DSTO was the lead Australian research agency for the flight, the AHI’s collaborative partners include UQ, the University of New South Wales at the Australian Defence Force Academy, the Australian National University, and the State Governments of South Australia and Queensland.

UQ HyShot program leader Associate Professor Michael Smart was present at the launch, along with a number of other UQ-associated personnel.

They included Honorary Professor in the School of Engineering and UQ graduate Allan Paull, former UQ staff Dr Hans Alesi and Lisa Jensen, current PhD students Mark Bateup and Dillon Hunt, and UQ graduates Dr Ross Paul, Myles Frost and Dr Todd Silvester.

Parliamentary Secretary to the Federal Defence Minister, Peter Lindsay, said the launch was a major boost to Australian and international scramjet technology research.

“Scramjet research has taken place in Australia for over three decades. We have active research programs in niche technologies of scramjet propulsion as well as guidance and control at hypersonic speeds,” he said.

Dr Steven Walker, Deputy Director of the Tactical Technology Office at DARPA, said the test had obtained the first ever flight data on the inward-turning scramjet engine design.

“We are pleased with this joint effort between the US and Australia and believe that a hypersonic airplane could be a reality in the not too distant future.”

Hypersonics is the study of velocities greater than five times the speed of sound (Mach 5) and could have a significant impact on defence, international transport and access to space.

As part of its continuing commitment to hypersonics research, DSTO last November signed the $74 million Hypersonics International Flight Research Experimentation (HiFire) Agreement with the US Air Force.

Up to 10 hypersonic flight experiments are planned for Woomera in the next five years under the agreement.

The University of Queensland will be involved in three flights in this series through a $8.5 million Smart State National and International Research Alliances partnership announced last year between UQ, the Queensland Government, Boeing and DSTO.

The partnership will allow UQ to build advanced scramjet prototypes and undertake prolonged flight tests at speeds of more than Mach 8, or 8000km/hour.
New research suggests economic development might play a vital role in preserving the environment of some Pacific Island countries.

In a unique study, Associate Professor John Asafu-Adjaye from UQ’s School of Economics investigated carbon dioxide emissions to chart the relationship between financial growth and environmental quality of some of Australia’s Pacific neighbours.

Dr Asafu-Adjaye’s research found that as the economies in Kiribati, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands improved, carbon dioxide emissions decreased. He said the improvement in environmental quality could be tied to economic growth via factors such as technological advancement and political and legislative changes.

“All of these environmental management measures are made easier by a strong and growing economy. If you don’t know where your next meal is going to come from you aren’t concerned about the environment because you are just trying to survive.”

However, Dr Asafu-Adjaye said economic growth and the associated benefits would not solve the environmental problems in these countries alone.

“In order for environmental quality to improve, there has to be an attitude of change,” he said.

“Most important, I think, is effective legislation. That is legislation with teeth. Governments need to be assertive in passing legislation with the appropriate penalties for environmentally damaging behaviour and have the will to strictly enforce them.”

Dr Asafu-Adjaye conducted the research while in Japan as a Visiting Associate Professor with the Research Centre for the Pacific Islands at Kagoshima University, with the results of his work published recently in the *South Pacific Studies* journal.

Queensland’s capacity to conduct vital health research will be further enhanced with the appointment of a UQ researcher as Chief Scientific Officer of the Australian Stem Cell Centre (ASCC).

Professor Melissa Little will be seconded to the ASCC until mid-2011 from her current position at the Institute for Molecular Bioscience (IMB) at UQ, where she leads a team of researchers investigating the potential of stem cells in treating chronic kidney disease.

Professor Little will continue running her research at IMB as she takes on her new role heading the scientific program at the ASCC, developing strategy, scientific review and management.

The role will also involve consolidating the Brisbane-based groups funded by the ASCC to form a Brisbane node, which will be run out of UQ’s Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology.

The ASCC funds stem cell researchers from around Australia, with two major geographical groups in Melbourne, where the Centre is headquartered, and Brisbane.

“We aim to provide this rapidly-developing Brisbane group with more resources, specific support services and direction, all leading towards more cohesive national research results,” Professor Little said.

“We are also looking to develop synergy across the entire scientific program of the ASCC, engaging all of our researchers, no matter where they are based.

“Australians have high expectations of stem cell research. We need to be both clever and resourceful in all areas of science management to ensure results can be delivered as soon as possible and are of the highest quality.”
Advancements in agricultural science will be shared across the Tasman after the launch of a research partnership by New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark at UQ last month. Ms Clark announced that AgResearch – a New Zealand Crown research institute – and UQ had agreed to jointly fund the AgResearch Chair in Systems Thinking and Practice, which will be based at the University’s Gatton campus.

The Chair will travel to New Zealand several times a year as part of their duties, working with AgResearch scientists, key pastoral industry players and policy agents.

AgResearch Chairman Rick Christie said the issues confronting agriculture were complex and required a comprehensive approach that looked not only at the physical environment but also at the rural community and economic situation.

“They are all intertwined. In the past decades New Zealand has dealt with each separately to the detriment of farming,” Mr Christie said.

UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC said the University welcomed the collaborative arrangement, which took advantage of the research and education strengths of both institutions.

Professor Hay said there was a natural synergy between the two organisations which would help provide international leadership in this area.

The AgResearch Chair in Systems Thinking aims to benefit Australian and New Zealand communities and economies by refining systems theory and methods to better solve problems in farming and agro-ecosystems.

Head of the School of Natural and Rural Systems Management Professor Ockie Bosch said the new Chair would develop systems theory and practice and would assist the next generation of agricultural science experts.

“We see an interdisciplinary approach as the only way to deal with complex management problems to help build a more sustainable future,” Professor Bosch said.

The Chair will have a strong relationship with AgResearch’s Agriculture and Environment Science and Technology Group, which works to ensure the global competitiveness of New Zealand’s pastoral industries.

AgResearch General Manager of Agriculture and Environment Peter Benfell said The University of Queensland was the logical choice for the partnership.

“I believe UQ’s systems research is of international standing and at the leading edge in Australasia. In addition, they have a very strong education program that will up-skill our researchers and provide us with access to first-rate postgraduates.”

He said the Chair would assist AgResearch to deliver on its 2020 Science strategy and associated “big ideas.”

These include doubling the dairy, meat and textiles industries’ value while halving their costs and impacts, reducing the risk of pests and diseases, maintaining strong relationships between agribusiness and communities, and securing new scientific and commercial opportunities.

Trans-Tasman link enriches pastures

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE EXPERTS FROM AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND WILL COLLABORATE MORE CLOSELY, THANKS TO A NEW UQ RESEARCH CHAIR.

Rhodes Scholarship for study at the University of Oxford

www.uq.edu.au/rhodesscholarship

Closing Date – 3 September 2007.

Applications are invited from women and men aged between 19 and 25 for the Queensland Rhodes Scholarship for 2008.

Information seminars will be held at The University of Queensland, Griffith University, QUT and Bond University.

Details of dates and venues are available by ringing (07) 3365-1318 during office hours. Information about the Scholarship and application forms can be obtained from Mr D Porter, Honorary Secretary, Queensland Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee, The University of Queensland, Brisbane Qld 4072.
Officeworkers who rarely exercise are at increased risk of back injuries, according to UQ researchers working on a European Space Agency study.

The researchers participated in the Agency’s Berlin Bed-Rest Study, monitoring 20 healthy young men who spent 56 days lying down.

Lead researcher Dr Daniel Belavy said prolonged inactivity shrunk the deep muscles that protected the men’s backs.

In some cases it took six months to recover but even then the muscles did not return to their normal size.

Dr Belavy and his team have monitored the men’s reactivity to exercise and it is now up to a year after their normal activity levels.

“If you sit around too much long-term, such as a desk job with no sport in your spare time, the muscles can slowly change in a bad way, giving you a bigger risk of hurting your back,” he said.

Short-term inactivity such as sitting at a desk for a couple of hours was not a major risk, but a long-term habit of driving to work, working a desk job, going home to watch TV and then going to bed would increase the chances of back problems.

UQ’s Dr Julie Hides, Dr Stephen Wilson, and retired Associate Professor Carolyn Richardson also worked on the project.

Dr Belavy has been appointed study coordinator for the next round of research in Berlin, which will simulate the body’s fluid shift that occurs in the microgravity of space.
The University launched three new aerospace degrees and an agreement with 17 Queensland high schools allowing students direct entry into these programs recently.

Head of UQ’s School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering Professor Paul Bailes said the specialties in Electrical and Aerospace Engineering, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and Software Systems and Aerospace Engineering were appropriate considering Queensland’s growing reputation as the nation’s aerospace hub.

The opportunity for high-achieving students from the 17 “Aerospace Gateway Schools” to gain direct entry to these courses comes through a pilot program made possible by a collaboration between UQ, Education Queensland and aviation industry partners including Aviation Australia, Australian Aerospace, Smiths Aerospace, Boeing Australia Ltd and Brisbane Airport Corporation.

The pilot program is the first time that high school students have been offered direct entry to engineering programs at UQ, and marks a new era in partnership between Education Queensland, industry and the University.

Professor Bailes said the announcement was a step forward for both the University and potential aerospace students.

“From the students’ perspective, the transition from aerospace-oriented studies at school to aerospace-oriented studies at UQ will be much smoother, without even the shadow of doubt over their being accepted to the aerospace degree of their choice,” Professor Bailes said.

“From the university’s perspective, we are able to accelerate the process of developing relationships with the best and most committed students, even before they complete high school. “Furthermore, the institutional relationship with the Aerospace Gateway Schools opens up a range of possibilities in collaborative developments in teaching and the wider student experience.”

Professor Bailes said the aerospace industry was a burgeoning one in Australia.

“The aerospace industry is a priority for UQ because it represents a domain where UQ’s record of national leadership in teaching, combined with UQ’s leading position in industry-oriented research, can be applied with significant social and industrial impact,” he said.

The “gateway” schools involved in the agreement are: Aviation High, Balmoral SHS, Bremer SHS, Brisbane SHS, Cairns SHS, Caloundra SHS, Good Shepherd Catholic College, Indooroopilly SHS, Iona College, Ipswich Grammar School, Miami SHS, Oakey SHS, Redbank Plains SHS, Springwood SHS, St Patrick’s College, Toowoomba SHS and Townsville SHS.

UQ has joined a select list of universities including Stanford and Princeton to become the first Australian branch member of the International Institute for Complex Adaptive Matter (I2CAM).

UQ’s membership gives the US-based research centre a total of 31 branches and three affiliates, linking together 52 institutions in the United States, Europe, Japan, Israel and Australia.

Head of UQ’s Condensed Matter Theory Group, Professor Ross McKenzie, said the membership would give the University access to cutting-edge workshops, symposia, and international research networks.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor David Siddle, said UQ’s membership signalled the beginning of an exciting exchange between the two institutions.

“UQ’s work on emergent behaviour in matter will bring great strength to I2CAM and the University’s membership will broaden the base for international consortia,” Professor Siddle said.

“I2CAM is also committed to building bridges between disciplines such as materials science and condensed matter physics and the biological and physical sciences and as world leaders in these areas, UQ can make a significant contribution.”
ST LUCIA 5 August, 10am – 4pm
IPSWICH 19 August, 10am – 2pm
GATTON 26 August, 9.30am – 3pm

uq.edu.au/opendays
Pharmacy student Daina Surka narrowly missed out on breaking a long-standing record at this year’s Great Court Race – an annual highlight of the University sporting calendar.

Ms Surka, who took top honours in the women’s event for a fifth successive year posted a time of 1:41:91, only a third of a second behind the elusive record set in 1993 by Sandra Dawson (1:41:68).

Human Movements student Mitchell Kealey was also on a roll, completing a hat trick of wins in the elite men’s race.

Mr Kealey, who has also been selected to represent Australia in the 2007 World University Games in Bangkok, said it was a tough race to win.

“It’s something different from just running around a track or doing cross country racing,” Mr Kealey said.

“It’s completely different to anything else, you’re sort of going around right angle bends and off-camber bends,” he said.

The Queensland 1500m champion was the only competitor to finish the race under a minute and a half, coming in with a time of 1:28:82.

The current men’s race record is 1.26.40 set in 1988 by four-time victor Simon Still.

The 636-metre one-lap dash around the sandstone cloisters of UQ’s Great Court is based on the Cambridge University Race featured in Chariots of Fire.

With both Ms Surka and Mr Kealey in their final year at UQ, the mantle will be passed to a new generation of athletes all bidding for Great Court supremacy next year.

In other events on the day, Cromwell College took out the novelty sack race and women’s inter college relay, while Kings college student Duncan Short won the sprint race and went on to lead his team to victory in the men’s Inter College relay.

SMART STATE PhD AWARDS

UQ students won 10 of 24 grants allocated statewide and shared in almost $200,000 in Growing the Smart State PhD Program funding announced last month.

Queensland Premier Peter Beattie said the competitive grants worth up to $15,000 each over three years helped cover research costs and provided important mentoring support for recipients.

He said that since its inception in 2002, the program had awarded more than $940,000 to 113 students at universities across the state, with UQ winning more grants in 2007 than any other institution.

In addition to the funding, each student is partnered with a mentor from a State Government agency who provides the researcher with a range of assistance such as access to networks and statistics.

The PhD students are then required to provide a final paper outlining their research findings and drawing some policy implications.

UQ winners were:

Joanne Bradbury (Health Sciences faculty) for research on whether Omega 3 fatty acids are protective in stress related mental health conditions such as depression and anxiety by reducing the inflammatory impact of stress.

Jeffrey Foley (Engineering, Physical Sciences and Architecture faculty) for research evaluating and comparing the global environmental costs and benefits from the construction and operation of different waste water treatment and reuse technologies.

Kelly Greenop (Engineering, Physical Sciences and Architecture faculty) for research on current and historical places in Brisbane that are important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people now.

Ben Jones (Southern Clinical School of Medicine) for research on Improving kidney patient transplant outcomes through development of a new adult stem cell-based therapeutic.

Martina Linnenluecke (Business, Economics and Law faculty) for research examining how institutions shape different corporate strategies in response to global climate change in Australia and Germany.

Elisabeth Lord (Business, Economics and Law faculty) for research clarifying the nature of learning in biotechnology R&D collaborations.

Ian Vela (Health Sciences faculty) for research examining the factors involved in why prostate cancer spreads to bone.

Charlene Willis (School of Population Health) for research on whether a newly discovered family of scabie mites genes are a new target for chemotherapeutic controls.
The University is developing an education policy to improve student and staff understanding of Australian Indigenous issues. As part of the University’s special year of focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues, the UQ Senate has adopted a Statement of Education Principles on Indigenous Australian Matters.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Michael Keniger said the principles acknowledged the importance of Indigenous Knowledge in enriching the University community and its intellectual traditions.

“With these principles we begin a process of challenging our preconceived notions of knowledge creation, transmission and recognition, and to consider how we will recast these notions within an Indigenous Knowledge framework,” Professor Keniger said.

Director of The University of Queensland’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit Michael Williams said the statement was a significant step in advancing UQ’s commitment to reconciliation.

“To start this we need to reconsider our institutional culture to ensure that all staff have a respect, understanding and awareness of Indigenous Australian issues and can think creatively about how to incorporate this into their teaching and research practice,” Mr Williams said.

A ustralia’s Indigenous writers and storytellers will be yarning to the world via a literature website launched last month. Black Words is the newest subset of AustLit, an online database of Australian literature information housed at UQ’s St Lucia campus.

Updated daily and fully searchable, AustLit contains more than half a million records relating to Australian authors and includes biographical entries, extensive information on library and manuscript holdings and some full text articles.

Indigenous author and academic Dr Anita Heiss has led a team of researchers for the past year on the Black Words project, with more than 1000 storytellers included in their survey so far.

“Our main aim is to build up the content of the Black Words website and index Indigenous titles, plays, poetry, children’s literature, non-fiction, relevant oral histories, memoirs and anthologies,” Dr Heiss said.

“The major goal for the Black Words subset is to showcase and promote Indigenous writing in Australia and the broader community.”

UQ Vice-Chancellor and AustLit General Editor Professor John Hay, AC said Black Words was now the most authoritative source of information on Indigenous Australian writing.

“Through its scope and quality of scholarship, AustLit supports the research of Australia’s diverse literary cultures like no other resource,” Professor Hay said.

Dr Heiss said by harnessing new technologies the subset would capture the changing nature of Aboriginal storytelling in the 21st century.

“It began as tens of thousands of years of oral storytelling, but we are now publishing increasingly literary novels through authors such as Tara June Winch, Alexis Wright, Larissa Behrendt and Kim Scott,” she said.

“Black Words really demonstrates well the ways in which Indigenous literature has evolved in the last 10 or 20 years.”

AustLit Executive Manager Kerry Kliner said the site tapped into a growing public consciousness about Indigenous literature, which in turn would support greater scholarship in the area.

“There’s an enormous amount of interest in Indigenous writing around the world, and this is going to be part of that network of information resources relating to first nations people globally,” Ms Kliner said.

People are encouraged to explore Black Words by visiting www.austlit.edu.au/BlackWords (temporary user name: bw, password: guest).
**HEALTH IN CRISIS**

New figures show the magnitude of a chronic disease epidemic among Indigenous people in remote Northern Territory communities.

Professor Wendy Hoy, Director of UQ’s Centre for Chronic Disease, said the situation had reached “crisis proportions”.

She said new research had provided for the first time a clear comparison of the rates of high blood pressure, kidney problems and diabetes in Aboriginal people, compared with the general Australian population.

“The risk of having one or more of these conditions is up to nine fold,” Professor Hoy said.

“The risk of having two or more conditions is increased up to 14 fold.

“By early middle age, the great majority of Indigenous people have one or more chronic diseases. Between ages 30 and 45, 60 percent of people already have at least one condition.”

The research was based on a study of three communities in the Northern Territory between 2000 and 2003.

The study, published recently in the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health, showed that residents of remote Indigenous communities are up to 10 times as likely to have diabetes, up to eight times more likely to have high blood pressure and up to five times more likely to have kidney disease.

Professor Hoy said similar patterns were likely in the rest of remote Aboriginal Australia.

She said the government needed to provide robust and sustained health care resourcing, based on the needs of individual communities and regions.

One option could include expanded and more flexible Medicare reimbursement that included regular screening as well as treatment, and for services delivered by health workers as well as nurses and doctors.

Professor Hoy said powerful incentives to attract and retain high quality health care providers in rural and remote areas were also essential.

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**TAKE LOCKHART TOUR BY LAPTOP**

The acclaimed Our Way: Contemporary Indigenous Art from Lockhart River exhibition can be viewed by people all over the world, thanks to an innovative 3-D computer program.

The virtual tour allows people to view computer-generated images of the UQ Art Museum in the James and Mary Emelia Mayne Centre at the University’s St Lucia campus.

Visitors can use their computer mouse to move around the museum and view high-resolution images of the artworks.

Program creator Associate Professor Joanne Tompkins said the program used computer gaming technology to model the gallery and art on exhibit.

“The virtual tour provides an experience of the exhibition that is almost like being there,” Dr Tompkins said.

“It’s a tour that you devise for yourself, just as you would if you went to the gallery.”

Students studying the Indigenous art on display will benefit from the virtual tour, as it allows them to revisit the works after they have left the museum.

“We’re not using it as a replacement, but for people who can’t visit the gallery or are in remote locations, such as the artists themselves, it’s the next best thing,” Dr Tompkins said.

“The virtual tour ensures that others in the (Lockhart River) community can also view the exhibition.”

Dr Tompkins said the virtual modelling program had originally been designed for the performing arts industry, so theatre practitioners could get a feel for the “space” of a theatre before having access to the building.

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**HANDIWORK HOLDS SWAY**

UQ Ipswich student Sonja Regenberg was announced the winner of the inaugural Diversity Week art competition during the University’s Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity Awards ceremony held in May.

Marburg-born Sonja said her award-winning design was inspired by her home community, where she lives and studies.

“I grew up in Ipswich surrounded by different people and different cultures every day and I think that diversity is something we sometimes take for granted,” she said.

“I believe that UQ’s Diversity Week gives us an opportunity to reflect on the value of diversity in our communities and to celebrate our differences.

“This competition also gave me a chance to express myself and to show appreciation for the cultural diversity of the community I live in.

“My design reflects the theme of Diversity Week 2007, ‘We All Count’, which relates to the 40th anniversary of the referendum that changed the Australian Constitution to give fairer recognition to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.”

Ms Regenberg described the markings on her work as being universal with three handprints representing three skin types: white, brown and black. The hand prints are the same size and shape, representing equality.

As winner of the competition, Ms Regenberg was awarded $1000, with her design to appear in a range of UQ materials such as greeting cards and posters.
THE 1967 REFERENDUM...
FOUR DECADES LATER

THIS IS AN EDITED VERSION OF A SPEECH BY UQ’S DR JACKIE HUGGINS, REFLECTING ON THE 1967 FEDERAL REFERENDUM WHICH SAW INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS RECOGNISED IN THE FEDERAL CENSUS FOR THE FIRST TIME.

T he opportunity to speak about the anniversary of the 1967 referendum has made me thinking a great deal about my own life, conducting a kind of internal retrospective.

I remember the day of the referendum well and see it still, in many ways, through the eyes of the 11-year-old girl I was at the time. My father died when I was two and I was raised by a determined mother who was politically involved in the early years.

The referendum campaign became my dear mother’s life, and it shaped mine. Those social functions and fundraisers were an opportunity to knock on the doors of people who’d never met an Aboriginal person before and to let them know we were still here after so many different attempts to silence us.

We children didn’t quite fathom the significance of what happened on May 27, 1967. Mum told me we would be counted in the census now, along with the sheep and cattle. She also said we would be free people at last. I never quite knew what she meant.

It’s a time that also gave me my earliest memories of the struggle that Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people have fought together, recognising that if a group of us is not free in this country, nor are the rest of us.

It’s the struggle that at some stage we started calling reconciliation. Lots of people hate the word, black and white people, but it seems to be a word we’re stuck with now. And people have to work out for themselves what it means, and doesn’t mean. I reckon it’s also about your actions and what you do rather than a label.

Like my mother, I’ve always wanted to reach non-Aboriginal people as well as my own people and I suppose this explains, in part, why I was drawn, and keep being drawn, to reconciliation.

I was schooled by the early reconciliationists in this country. I had reconciliation in my genes. And, to me, like my mother who understood what it meant a long time before the struggle was called anything, reconciliation has always encompassed three things: recognition, justice and healing.

Recognition that as the First Peoples of this country, we have existed here over 70,000 years and are one of the oldest, surviving cultures on the planet. That we have maintained and cared for land and for people.

Justice is about overcoming all the social disadvantages that can be summed up in one stunning statistic which says our children can expect to die on average 17 year earlier than the children of other Australians.

“It’s a time that also gave me my earliest memories of the struggle that Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people have fought together”

I have absolutely no doubt that we can only meet this enormous challenge if we work together as Indigenous and non-Indigenous people who care about it.

Healing because that is really our fundamental goal as human beings. And we will only achieve it in this country if we achieve reconciliation.

And it ain’t gonna happen if the spiritual side of reconciliation gets neglected. You can have so-called practical reconciliation where you give a Blackfella a house, a car or a job but if the symbolic is not addressed we will never achieve reconciliation in this country. By symbolic, I mean all the many things that have to do with building a respectful relationship.

Many good Australians have nurtured the flowers of this noble cause over the last 40 years, people who understand how much better it would be for all of us to live together respectfully, and to share in this country’s vast opportunity and prosperity.

It was something Australians understood in 1967, if only for a moment, but it has driven and inspired many people since, more and more all the time. And not just a certain type of person, left leaning, religious, or just people who like stirring the pot.

The reason I think more people are getting involved in reconciliation lately, and I’m talking more about Whitefellas at the moment, is that they’re feeling not only should something be done about Indigenous disadvantage, but maybe something can be done about it.

They’re hearing enough good stuff happening involving Indigenous people to think things can be better. Enough to chip away at their misconceptions.

But getting there is going to require of us, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, that we shift out of entrenched positions.

We need to see and learn about what’s actually working in improving Indigenous people’s lives, and think about how we can reasonably apply it in different contexts. We need to be prepared to listen to one another.

The referendum anniversary is a good thing for Australians to hear about and think about because it marks a fine and decisive choice once made by the people of this nation.

The job may have been finished in the parliament and with a vice-regal signature, but the real work was done in kitchens and workplace cafeterias, camps and community halls.

This didn’t start like any other movement for constitutional change, just because a government wanted it to. It started because enough of the Australian people wanted it...

Australians need to know about these networks of changemakers who brought out the best in us. Because the best is always there waiting to be tapped by true leaders.

Pearl Gibbs and Faith Bandler are recognised names, prominent players in the better known parts of the referendum story. So is Jessie Street who worked with Faith in Sydney, complaining when she discovered Faith ‘wasting her time’ making curtains for a new home when she should have been circulating a draft petition.

I’m proud of how Reconciliation Australia is using this anniversary to commemorate past, great achievements, but also to persuade and inspire and if necessary entertain people into understanding how much they can do now.

Being involved in reconciliation has brought me into contact with the best of people, both black and white. Which is why my decision to retire from my formal role as Co-Chair of Reconciliation Australia at the end of the year feels very strange and already quite scary.

My professional plan is to concentrate on promoting leadership and education for my people.

I want to give back and support others who are striving to make a difference. I want to put back to my community around the lessons learnt in reconciliation over the years.

I need to spend more time at The University of Queensland, my actual workplace, and where I was so grateful last year to receive an Honorary Doctorate. How I love those guys.

I will always think of reconciliation as a fine and noble cause to be involved in. I feel very lucky indeed to have been so closely involved with it for such a long, long time.

Nobody questions whether a strong economy is a good thing. Nobody should doubt that reconciliation is in all of our best interests.

Because it’s right and because it’s absolutely in our grasp.
It was a usual day at the annual agricultural show in Dirranbandi, Queensland, in 2001 – except for the Japanese professor scurrying around asking people to drawl into a microphone.

The academic was Professor Kazuo Misono, who has recently completed his PhD at UQ on regional English accents in America, Britain and Australia, focusing on how the vowels in those accents are interpreted by Japanese speakers of English.

Professor Misono visited the south-western Queensland cattle and cotton town of Dirranbandi in 2001 as part of his field research to see how the local brogue compared to other accents.

His supervisor Dr John Ingram, senior lecturer in linguistics at UQ, had suggested commissioning Mr Misono, an Archibald Prize finalist in 2006, for the portrait.

Mr Misono said he was pleased to be able to be part of the unveiling during a brief visit to Australia from Barcelona, Spain, where he is in the latter stages of a 12-month residency.

Mr Churcher said Professor Hay had attended his exhibitions at the Philip Bacon Galleries prior to portrait sittings totaling 20 hours, and having met him previously had made doing the painting particularly enjoyable.

"John was very easy to paint because we got on so well. We had a lot of good conversations, and that always helps," Mr Churcher said.

"He was engaged with what I was doing. Some people don’t actually engage that much with the act of making the picture, but he did, and that made it more interesting for me."

Professor Hay agreed, telling guests that their "conversations were very interesting and largely centered around portraits Peter had done of friends of mine, portraits he liked, portraits he didn’t like, and others things that he was painting."

When thinking about the portrait prior to the sittings, Mr Churcher said he decided to have a neutral background behind Professor Hay.

"I felt very much based on the times I have met John that I didn’t have to do too much around the figure," he said.

"I really felt that I could focus right in on John himself, because I think he has an interesting presence as a person I admired."

"So it is quite pared down and quite simple, with a very neutral background."

The official portrait of UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC, by celebrated Brisbane artist Peter Churcher has been unveiled.

Mr Churcher unveiled the portrait at an informal afternoon tea last hosted by Professor and Barbara Hay at the UQ Art Museum in May that was attended by 30 guests from within and outside the University.

Secretary and Registrar Douglas Porter said the commissioning of portraits of Vice-Chancellors was a UQ tradition and was appropriate given Professor Hay’s retirement from the University at the end of the year.

Professor Hay, UQ’s fifth Vice-Chancellor, said his friend, prominent Brisbane art dealer, patron and philanthropist Philip Bacon, had suggested commissioning Mr Misono, an Archibald Prize finalist in 2006, for the portrait.

Professor Hay agreed, telling guests that their "conversations were very interesting and largely centered around portraits Peter had done of friends of mine, portraits he liked, portraits he didn’t like, and others things that he was painting."

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His supervisor Dr John Ingram, senior lecturer in linguistics at UQ, said Professor Misono’s data gathering resulted in a fascinating snapshot of the English language as it is today.

"His research is important from a cultural perspective – spoken language change mirrors societal changes," Dr Ingram said.

"It is not recorded whether people were surprised to be confronted by a professor brandishing a microphone who wished to record their vowels.

"However, they cooperated willingly enough and a good deal of potentially valuable data was collected that day."

Professor Misono’s research was already proving useful to people teaching English as a second language to Japanese people.

Dr Ingram explained that English has some relatively complex features for Japanese learners, having approximately 20 distinct vowels in Australian English as opposed to the Japanese five-vowel system.

English also has complex word stress, intonation and syllable structure that can prove challenging to foreign speakers, he said.

Professor Misono’s work was published this year in the book Vowel Space in English: regional variants and their perception by Japanese learners of English released by Hokuseido Press.

His PhD thesis is the culmination of years of field research, serving on national advisory committees, and almost three decades’ experience teaching English to Japanese college students.
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Listening to radio plays sounds like a nice way to pass a few hours, but for the moment it’s Dr Toni Johnson-Woods’ full-time job.

The UQ Arts faculty academic has been granted a fellowship with the National Archives of Australia in Canberra to research Australian radio serials of the 1950s.

Focusing on detective serial Carter Brown Mystery Theatre, Dr Johnson-Woods said she was looking forward to discovering more about a time when the Australian entertainment industry was making its mark on the world.

In the 1950s, American-imported material had been banned to protect Australian business, allowing local radio to come into its own by making American-style programs, she said.

“Of course there was no TV in the early 1950s – so people tuned in to listen to their favourite shows much as we turn on the telly today,” Dr Johnson-Woods said.

“It sounds like many of them (the serials) are made and produced in America but they weren’t, they were made in Australia and we exported them overseas.”

Not only did Australia export its American-sounding radio plays to countries like the United States, Canada, South Africa and New Zealand in the 1950s, but the industry was ahead of its time in other areas as well, Dr Johnson-Woods said.

“Radio was choc-a-bloc with women: women producers, women writers and women voice artists and they were on equal pay and I’d pretty much say it was unprecedented,” she said.

Dr Johnson-Woods pointed out that many well-known Australian television actors, such as Bud Tingwell, Ruth Cracknell, June Salter and Leonard Teale, made their foray into the entertainment industry through 1950s radio.

Dr Johnson-Woods’ main role in Canberra is to reorganise the radio archive to make it more accessible to researchers.

Her time there will also form the basis of a chapter on radio serials for a new book – a follow up to Pulp, an examination of Australian popular fiction published by the National Library of Australia.

Watching The Wiggles is serious business for a group of UQ academics studying local firms that take off overseas.

Professor Peter Liesch, Dr Jay Weerawardena and Stuart Middleton from the UQ Business School are investigating the post-entry market development activities of early and rapidly internationalising Australian firms, with the colourful children’s entertainers a prime example.

Professor Liesch said although “born globals” – firms that go international early and rapidly, sometimes without launching in the domestic market – were becoming better understood, little was known about what happened next.

The project team has selected several successful firms from four states including The Wiggles and other readily-recognised businesses from the engineering, manufacturing and service sectors.

“We don’t know how these firms build a strong presence in international markets to support further growth,” Professor Liesch said.

“This can include going as far as to establish a manufacturing plant, setting up an office to manage capital-raising, or simply employing an agent.

“Our research will also examine the value to Australia of these activities in terms of dollars, intellectual property benefits, and expertise and capacity building.

“We hope to identify the range of trajectories to deepened internationalisation and assess the nature, extent, and significance of their contributions to the national economy.”

The research builds on findings from the team’s ARC Discovery project on initial phases of the early and rapid internationalisation phenomenon.

A special issue of selected papers on the topic will be published in the prestigious Journal of World Business this month.
Nicholas Nielsen, who is in Year 12 at St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace, and has a vision impairment, said the Tertiary Taste showed him UQ Ipswich could accommodate his needs.

“I was definitely nervous about uni, but the Tertiary Taste day gave a great insight to the atmosphere of the campus and an understanding of how to go about life there,” Mr Nielsen said.

He said his daily life had already taught him that his disability could be managed.

“I use a laptop to do most of my school work which has a program on it called ZoomText and I use binoculars to see the board in class and ridiculously big magnifying glasses.”

Year 11 St Mary’s College student Tara Heffernan, who also has a vision impairment, agreed that the event had made her feel university was an achievable goal.

“The biggest concern I had about going to uni was that I would be alone,” Miss Heffernan said. “When I found out that both TAFE and UQ have resources and make accommodations for people with disabilities, I felt much more comfortable with the idea of uni, especially knowing I would always have support.”

Mr Nielsen is considering a Bachelor of Behavioural Studies at UQ Ipswich and Miss Heffernan is interested in studying Visual Arts.

Embarking on life as a university student is stressful enough without dealing with a disability.

That’s why UQ Ipswich held “Tertiary Taste” last month, an orientation session for high school students with disabilities.

UQ-Link Manager Deborah McLachlan said the event, which was run in conjunction with USQ Springfield campus and Bremer TAFE on May 23, provided information about transitioning from school to higher education.

Students who attended the information session were from Bremer State High School, St Mary’s College and St Joseph’s College, Gregory Terrace, and had a range of disabilities including vision and hearing impairment, cerebral palsy, attention deficit disorder and autistic spectrum disorder.

Ms McLachlan said the event aimed to encourage students and their parents to consider their higher education options. Information was provided on travelling to and moving around campus, using the library, assessment considerations, industry placement and confidentiality issues.

Tertiary Taste participants Tara Heffernan and Nicholas Nielsen at UQ’s Ipswich campus

HELP LIFT BRIDGET

A cocktail event will be held this month by the “Give Bridget a Lift” committee raising funds to help purchase a wheelchair-enabled vehicle for a 15-year-old girl.

Bridget, the daughter of two UQ staff members, survived a life-threatening brain disease which hospitalised her for a year.

She depends on taxis that have hydraulic lifts to load her 115kg wheelchair. The event is on July 27 from 6pm to 8pm in the foyer of the UQ Centre in Union Rd, St Lucia.

The compere will be 97.3FM breakfast radio host Terry Hansen and the keynote speaker will be David Conroy of Young Care.

Information: (07) 3365 9075 or givebridgetalift@hotmail.com

ONE-STOP SUPPORT

The development of innovative new drugs for obesity, diabetes, cancer and multiple sclerosis is being assisted by Australia’s only “one-stop” integrated drug development organisation.

TetraQ, a preclinical contract research and development facility providing services to the global pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, was launched at UQ in May.

The facility, which helps move medicines from the laboratory to the market, provides expertise and support through preclinical trials of new drugs.

LOGISTICS LINK

Maersk Logistics will work with the UQ Business School under a partnership model covering scholarships, graduate recruitment, executive education, and intellectual capital sharing.

Business School logistics expert Dr David Parker said Maersk was a global leader in logistics and supply chain management.

“Their participation will deliver a range of benefits to students – as well as opening up exciting research opportunities,” he said.

“In the short term, Maersk will fund one scholarship and aim to recruit one or two graduates.”

Tempting tertiary taste
Famous for being one of the three female artists who were included in the National Gallery of Victoria's 1968 exhibition The Field, Janet Dawson's work later shifted from minimal abstraction to still life and landscape.

Janet Dawson survey 1953–2006, a Bathurst Regional Art Gallery travelling exhibition, has drawn together more than 60 art works from a large number of public galleries and private collections, including 22 works from the National Gallery of Australia.

“This survey exhibition examines Dawson's extensive career from her early abstract works to her figurative and semi-figurative work,” exhibition curator Christine France said.

“The exhibition looks at Janet's practice over 50 years and confirms her place as one of our country's most accomplished painters.”

Born in 1935, Dawson's talents were recognised early and from the age of 11 she studied privately before attending the National Gallery Art School in Melbourne from 1951-56.

In 1956 she was awarded the National Gallery of Victoria Travelling Scholarship, enabling her to travel to London to enrol at the Slade School of Fine Art and study lithography.

She extended her technical knowledge in 1960 at the Atelier Patris in Paris, a lithographic printing workshop producing hand-printed, fine-art editions.

During the 1960s, Ms Dawson became one of Australia's most prominent female artists, winning widespread critical acclaim for her colourful and large-scale paintings.

Ms Dawson established a lithographic workshop in 1963 at Gallery A in South Yarra, Melbourne, and helped revitalise contemporary printmaking in Australia by working with various Melbourne and Sydney artists.

After a period spent living in Sydney from 1965, in 1973 Ms Dawson and her husband Michael Boddy moved to Binalong in rural NSW, where her practice shifted to focus on the landscape of the area.

In the same year, Ms Dawson's portrait, Michael Boddy reading, won the Archibald Prize.

A fully illustrated catalogue, with essays by Christine France, Deborah Edwards and Michael Boddy, was produced with the assistance of the Gordon Darling Foundation.

The exhibition, supported by Visions of Australia, the Commonwealth's national touring grant program, will be open free to the public at the UQ Art Museum until August 19.
Two young engineers have seen their studies shift from the classroom to the production line thanks to a successful industry placement program.

Fourth-year UQ students Ben Brooks and Chris Conway are working at Volvo’s Wacol truck manufacturing facility for their Professional Engineering Placement Semester, otherwise known as PEPS.

The program allows students to hone their knowledge and skills in the workplace while working on research which counts towards their degree.

Mr Conway’s project involves analysing the assembly line process and developing ways to make it more efficient.

“This is great as it has not just been a theoretical exercise, I have actually seen my designs and methods built, installed and implemented,” he said.

The Brisbane factory was the second Volvo outfit globally to make the change, with Mr Conway’s research leading the way.

Mr Brooks said his project – which looked at improving a paint shop process – had allowed him to move outside his mechanical and space engineering specialisation to develop other skills.

“I think it is vitally important that all graduates, not just engineers, get the opportunity to work in the field prior to graduating,” Mr Brooks said.

“Communicating on a professional level with people other than your peers is a skill best learnt in the workplace.”

Mr Conway said one of the many advantages of participating in the program was learning to approach challenges in new ways.

“At university when we are given a problem, we know there is a solution and we sit down and figure it out. In the industry, the hardest part I have found is not how to solve a problem but how to identify it in the first place.”

Volvo’s Production Engineering Manager Sergio Kunzel said programs like PEPS were valuable as they benefited both universities and industry.

“It is very important to retain a connection with the academic world, as this connection enables us as to keep up to date with the most recent techniques and knowledge,” Mr Kunzel said.

The School of Engineering has been running similar work experience initiatives since 2000, and has placed over 100 engineering students in 30 different workplaces around the country.

Participants complete a research thesis for academic credit and are supported with a scholarship during the semester.

Individuals and businesses wanting to find out more about PEPS can contact course coordinator Dr Tony Howes on (07) 3365 4262.
MALOUF MAKES TYPEWRITER MUSIC

The latest book by acclaimed Australian author and UQ alumnus Dr David Malouf, AO, was launched at the University recently.

Published by the University of Queensland Press, Typewriter Music is Dr Malouf’s first collection of poems in 26 years and was launched by UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC in the UQ Art Museum on June 4.

Adding to the occasion was a specially commissioned piece of music of the same name by UQ’s Professor Philip Bracanin, which was performed by the Sanctuary String Quartet on the evening.

The 96-page book includes 38 poems and is an uplifting exploration of memories of first love, history, music and the wonders of nature.

The poem Out of Sight recalls Dr Malouf’s home in Sydney in the late 1960s with its yellow-painted walls and Harbour view: “a place where I forgot to be happy because I was.”

In Recalled, Dr Malouf describes the new day with the sky “rekindling” and how the “tea-tree disentangles from fog, water-lilies lift into light.”

Born in Brisbane in 1934, Dr Malouf graduated with a Bachelor of Arts with first-class honours from UQ in 1955, remaining at the University for two years afterwards as a junior lecturer before leaving Australia for a decade. After teaching in the United Kingdom and travelling through Europe, Dr Malouf returned to Australia in 1968 and published his first book of verse, Bicycle and Other Poems, two years later.

In 1974 he published Neighbours in the Thicket before producing what many consider to be his masterpiece, Johnno, in 1975.

The portrayal of Brisbane during the 1940s and 50s quickly became a classic of Australian literature, and he has since won many accolades for his work including the Miles Franklin Award – the country’s top literature prize.

His other highly regarded titles include Remembering Babylon (1993); The Conversations at Curlow Creek (1996); and recent short story collection Every Move you Make (2006).

His work spans many genres including fiction, libretti for opera, a play, Blood Relations, and autobiography.

Remembering Babylon won the first International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award in 1996 as well as the Commonwealth Writers Prize (South East Asia and South Pacific Region, Best Book), and was also shortlisted for the Booker Prize.

In 1992, the University recognised Dr Malouf’s distinguished contributions to Australian literature by awarding him an honorary Doctor of Letters.

Typewriter Music is available in bookstores nationally.

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND BOOKSHOP CURRENT BESTSELLERS

1. Typewriter Music – Malouf, D. UQP (HB) $29.95 POETRY
2. Our Way – Butler, S. UQP (HB) $80 ART
3. God Delusion – Dawkins, R. Bantam (PB) $35 RELIGIOUS STUDIES
4. God is not Great – Hitchens, C. Allen & Unwin (PB) $29.95 RELIGIOUS STUDIES
5. Orpheus Lost – Turner Hospital, J. Harper Collins (PB) $32.99 FICTION
6. Infidel – Ali, A. Harper Collins (PB) $34.95 BIOGRAPHY
7. To the Light – Flynn, P. UQP (PB) $16.95 CHILDREN’S FICTION
8. Lollipop Shoes – Harris, J. Random House (PB) $32.95 FICTION
9. How to do just about Everything – eHow. Harper Collins (HB) $19.95 GIFTS
10. A Thousand Splendid Suns – Hosseini, K. Allen & Unwin (PB) $32.95 FICTION
Three of UQ’s best young athletes will face tough international competition when they compete at the 24th World University Games in Bangkok next month.

Mitchell Kealey (Human Movements), Melanie Kleeberg (Arts) and Joshua Robinson (English) are in fine form leading up to the games, which take place from August 8 - 18. After claiming his third successive win in this year’s Great Court Race, Mr Kealey is looking to continue his success in Thailand. The 23-year-old won gold in the 1500m at the Queensland Championships in February before finishing fifth at the Telstra Australia Championships in March, and said it was an honour to be chosen to represent Australia at the event.

“It’s a great feeling to be selected to represent your country, that’s what you dream of as a kid,” Mr Kealey said. “It’s not quite an Olympic Games or World Championships but hopefully it’s a stepping stone to those kinds of meets in the future. It’s also a great opportunity to represent The University of Queensland on the world stage.”

Mr Kealey, who departed for Europe late last month in a bid to intensify his preparation for the meet, said he was confident of recording a fast time. “I’ve been training really hard the last couple of months and have been doing more work than I previously have so I’m aerobically fitter than I’ve ever been,” he said.

“I’m confident that by the time the World Uni Games come around I’ll be in easy personal best shape.”

As one of Australia’s best javelin throwers, UQ scholarship holder Joshua Robinson is also expected to shine in Thailand. Sprint star Melanie Kleeberg makes up the trio of UQ students heading to Bangkok, and the national champion will be hoping she can make it a double on the track in the 100m and 200m.

The 24th World University Games are being held as one of the principal events to commemorate the 80th birthday of His Majesty Bhumibol Adulyadej, the King of Thailand. Staged every two years, they are the second largest elite multi-sports event after the Olympics and, in many sports, the competition is of a comparable standard to the Commonwealth Games.

OARBODIES STRIKE GOLD

Months of early morning training sessions paid off recently for the Oarbodies – a rowing team assembled from staff and students of JKTech, the software development arm of the Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre.

In only their second meet together, the team – consisting of Alan Tordoir, Michael Buhot, Dave Hatton, Malcolm Powel, John Dixon, Perti Lamberg, Tuan Lu, Timothy Vizzarrai and Clare Stark – took gold in the 2007 Life Stream Rowing Regatta held on the Brisbane River. During their 500m heat the Oarbodies raced along the Coronation Drive straight to win convincingly and earn a place in the Eight’s Gold Final – one of the most highly anticipated races of the day.

In what turned out to be a repeat of the previous round, the UQ team took out the title easily ahead of a group representing BMA (BHP’s coal division). The winners were presented with a trophy and vintage oar inscribed with the regatta’s insignia, with the spoils of victory proudly on display in the JTech foyer at Indooroopilly.

The performance was a successful follow up to the Oarbodies’ first outing at the All Hallows Corporate Regatta in April, which saw the team achieve third place in the grand final and take home gold in the handicap.

Above: The Oarbodies in action and top: the team celebrates after their win

ON TRACK FOR SUCCESS
**FESTIVALS**
- Friday July 6 – Saturday July 14
  58th Australian Intervarsity Choral Festival.

This national event incorporates a diverse public concert series with highlights including the Australian premiere of Carl Orff's *The Trionfi*, a performance of Camina Burana, and Rachmaninoff's Liturgy of St John Chrysostom at St John’s Anglican Cathedral. Information: 0418 893 804 or www.biv.aicsa.org.au/

**SEMINARS**
- Tuesday, July 31
  Australian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies Seminar, “Local Peace Commissions and Restorative Justice in Nicaragua”. Dr Vernon Jantzi (12:00-2:00pm, Don Carruthers Room, Level 5, Dorothy Hill PSE Library, Hawken Building 50). Information: acpacs@uq.edu.au

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**General Classifieds**

*Classifieds are free, but are available only to staff, students and visiting academics. Please send listings to c.pegg@uq.edu.au*

**WANTED TO RENT**
- Couple from the Northern Territory new to UQ seek a house to rent for 12 months, pet friendly. References available. Contact: myfturpin@netspace.net.au

**TO RENT**
- Well maintained Herston Queenslander, 3 bedrooms, study, close UQ Medical School, RBH, Children’s Hospital. Polished floors, new kitchen, modern bathroom. A/C in master bedroom, gardener incl. in rent. Avail. July. Rent $470/wk. Contact: place@PLACE.com.au or 07 3858 0388.

- Indooroopilly three bedroom, fully furnished house near schools and transport. Available from August 2007 for long term lease. Contact: driddif@uq.edu.au.

- Full furnished 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom house in Westlake avail. 6 months from Aug 2007. Formal dining, lounge and study room, big rumpus room, pool, garage. $300/week (neg). Contact l.zheng@minmet.uq.edu.au or 07 3365 4312.

- Three bedroom, one bathroom home in Toowong available to rent. Quiet location and close to all amenities. $360/week. Contact: 0407 385 276 or 08 9221 7700.

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**Prizes**

- **General Staff Self Development Prize 2007**
  Awarded to the member of the general staff who has been employed at UQ for at least three years who, in the opinion of the President of the UQ Secretaries’ and Office Professionals’ Association, demonstrates the most outstanding achievements in self-development. Closing: 27 July, 2007. Worth: $150. Information: ugsscholarships@uq.edu.au or phone (07) 3365 1984 or 3365 7113.

- **Thomas Morrow Prize 2007**
  Awarded to an undergraduate who, as part of a course of study, writes the best essay on a topic in the field of “Scientific inquiry in Australia.” Well-presented honours theses will be considered. Closing: 16 November, 2007. Worth: approx $440 (at least $100 is to be used for the purchase of books). Information: 07 3365 1984. Forward applications to Mrs Joan Johnstone, Faculty of Engineering, Physical Sciences and Architecture, Hawken Engineering Building, The University of Queensland QLD 4072.

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