FUND RUN
Young athlete races for charity
UQ OPEN DAY
2009

St Lucia 2 August 9am–3pm
Ipswich 19 August 3.30pm–6.30pm
Gatton 23 August 9.30am–3pm

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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Academic integrity will be a cornerstone of UQ’s second century, just as it has been for our first 100 years. Like the sandstone of our heritage it needs vigilant maintenance. However, while master masons can take care of the cloisters, academic integrity demands attention from staff and students.

In July, UQ received a report from the nation’s higher education quality auditor, the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA), that contained many plaudits relating to our strong academic culture. The report stemmed from a rigorous audit, mandated as part of AUQA’s role of assessing Australian higher education providers.

The audit gave UQ the opportunity to welcome scrutiny and constructive recommendations from a panel of independent peers. As such, it contributed to our ongoing work to implement, evaluate and reinforce the policies and practices that underpin UQ excellence.

Given that there is always room for improvement, the audit would have been devalued if it had yielded only positive comments (which we did receive, in spades). Among many other things, it endorsed a review of student plagiarism, however breaches by staff would be equally reprehensible. The fact that plagiarism is a universal issue in higher education makes it all the more important that UQ be distinguished by effective anti-plagiarism measures.

As I recently reminded staff and students, there is a firm corporate commitment to stand tough against plagiarism. The first aim is prevention but, when this fails, offenders should be detected and penalised.

The review will look closely at our policy on academic integrity, and the policy’s relationship to The University of Queensland Statute No. 4. This legislation provides for sanctions including loss of marks or credit, and suspension or expulsion from UQ. The statute is also being reviewed, making the anti-plagiarism inquiry all the more timely.

Staff and students are invited to comment, confidentially if they choose, to the working party undertaking the review, which is chaired by Professor Deborah Terry, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic). The terms of reference are available at www.uq.edu.au/teaching-learning/ and submissions can be made to dvca.office@uq.edu.au. I thank people who have contributed, and urge others to do so by 6pm on Friday, August 14.

It is important that we sharpen our anti-plagiarism actions. Whilst it will be symbolically significant to underscore the sanctity of academic integrity during our centenary, the overriding imperative must be to shore up the future reputation of UQ students, graduates and staff.

Professor Paul Greenfield AO


04 SHORTCUTS – A monthly wrap up of UQ learning, discovery and engagement
13 COVER STORY – Fun run repays hospital stay
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COVER: UQ Sport Studies student and Royal Brisbane Children’s Hospital fundraiser Liz Burn
PHOTO: STEWART GOULD

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
CATS AND KITTENS

Unwanted cats and kittens are the subject of a new study at UQ’s Centre for Companion Animal Health.

PhD candidate Corinne Hanlon’s research is collecting comprehensive data on homeless and unwanted cats to help reduce Australia’s large number of cats currently being put down.

An estimated 60 percent of cats that enter Australian shelters are euthanised, with the figure higher in council pounds.

While strategies including mandatory desexing and pet registrations have been put in place, euthanasia rates have increased by 28 percent in the past year.

Ms Hanlon is working closely with the RSPCA, with her research specifically investigating the reasons cats and kittens end up in shelters.

“Ultimately, our goal is the reduction of cat euthanasia through the development of targeted management strategies,” Ms Hanlon said.

REWRITING THE RULES

UQ researchers have proved two famous physical laws that have been widely used for the past 25 years do not always work.

Dr Tony Roberts and PhD student Christophe Haynes from the School of Maths and Physics, showed the fractal-Einstein and Alexander-Orbach laws can fail in some instances, and have derived a new law to replace them.

Dr Roberts said this new discovery had implications for predicting material properties, how disease spreads through society, mapping how wild animals forage for food and improving the internet.

“We demonstrated unequivocally that two ‘exact’ foundational laws of fractal science, which have been cited more than 2000 times in the scientific literature, can fail for a class of fractals,” he said.

“These are the first definitive counter examples to these laws.”

A WINNING INNOVATION

A team of UQ students has won the inaugural Airbus “Fly Your Ideas” challenge at the Paris-Le Bourget Air Show.

The “CO2” team featured in the June edition of UQ News took out the 30,000 euro prize for its project into the use of the castor plant to develop the first-ever single plant-based high performance composite materials for aircraft cabin components.

The goal is to reduce dependency on non-renewable sources and improve end of life disposal, thus contributing to a reduction of aviation carbon footprint.

They conducted a comprehensive feasibility analysis entailing fibre production and testing, demonstrating very encouraging mechanical and environmental properties.

The team comprises mechanical engineering PhD students Michael Heitzmann from Switzerland, Alex Ng and Benjamin Lindenberger from Germany.

“We wanted to demonstrate that composite materials made entirely with castor plant fibre can reduce the aircraft carbon footprint and enhance environmental protection,” team leader Mr Heitzmann said.

“We are extremely proud to have convinced the jury with our project and we hope it will have a future in aviation.”

PHD TO LEAVE ITS MARK

UQ student Matthew Thompson is set to study the psychology behind fingerprint identification after being awarded a prestigious Queensland Government Smart Futures PhD Scholarship.

Worth $22,500, the scholarship is part of the Queensland Government’s Innovation Skills Fund.

“Fingerprint identification has been a crucial source of evidence in court for over 100 years,” Mr Thompson said.

“The misidentification of crime-scene fingerprints is potentially devastating – innocent people could be wrongly convicted, and guilty people could be wrongly acquitted – and serious cases of misidentification have occurred.”

Mr Thompson said contrary to popular belief and TV shows such as CSI, fingerprint experts don’t rely on computers to match prints found at a crime scene. It’s humans who make the final decision about whether a fingerprint belongs to a suspect or not.

“My research will improve our understanding of how people process forensic evidence, advance forensic training, and provide tools and techniques to aid the Queensland Police Service in forensic identification,” he said.

In collaboration with the Queensland Police Service, Mr Thompson will be developing computer tools, training methods and “rules of thumb” to help fingerprint experts optimise their decision making.

“We want to understand how these professionals classify and identify forensic evidence, what methodology underlies their approach, and what mental workload is involved,” he said.

“We will help to develop a research-based training program that will place Australia at the forefront of research on forensic identification worldwide.”

Mr Thompson has also received a research award from National ICT Australia (NICTA). NICTA provides $8000 per year for PhD students who show potential as future leaders of ICT research and development in Australia.

INFO → www.itee.uq.edu.au/~thompson
UQ NEWS, AUGUST 2009

Cooling Down for Love
UQ research has found when it comes to camels, staying cool may be the key to reproductive success.

Emeritus Professor Gordon Grigg, from UQ’s School of Biological Sciences, and a team of colleagues working in Central Australia, have found male camels have the ability to drop their body temperature which may help them last longer in rutting displays.

“Rutting involves very energetic daily display ‘fighting’ during which bulls contest ownership of a herd of females,” Professor Grigg said.

“He said the ability of camels to drop body temperature in the mornings, invoking hypothermia, was once thought to be only a mechanism for conserving water.

“But what we saw cannot be for saving water, we saw it only in winter, only in bulls during rut and, anyway, they had water freely available and used it routinely,” he said.

Professor Grigg said the rutting habits of male camels were fascinating as competing bulls perform elaborate, ritualised behaviour.

The research findings have been published online in Biology Letters.

FACTS + FIGURES

13 – commendations for UQ from Australia’s peak higher education quality auditor AUGA

600 – high school students who recently attended a seminar on the future of economics at UQ

$10,000 – value of each of the six citations won by UQ staff from the Australian Teaching and Learning Council

130 – graduands at the UQ Ipswich graduation ceremony in July, which included the first Bachelor of Midwifery cohort

$2.5 million – National Health and Medical Research Council grant awarded to UQ researchers to help people with acquired brain injuries communicate

$1200 – funds recently raised by UQ Bridge volunteers to help riding for the disabled at Moggill’s McIntyre Centre

40 – recommended minutes per day of sitting time that adults can reduce to improve their wellbeing through the UQ-developed Stand Up for Your Health program

GRAD CONTACT ONLINE

UQ graduates can keep up-to-date with news and information from their alma mater easier than ever before thanks to a new online version of their alumni magazine Graduate Contact.

The website, which was launched with the Winter 2009 issue and includes all of the content from the hard-copy magazine, also incorporates added features such as video, podcasts and photo galleries.

Graduate Contact editor Cameron Pegg said the website gave alumni even more reasons to stay in touch with the University, and encouraged readers to check out stories which carried an “online” icon at the bottom.

“Graduate Contact is already a great resource for alumni, and the website’s added content capabilities make the publication even more exciting and inclusive,” Mr Pegg said.

Readers can now rate and comment on articles, in addition to sending them to others via social networking sites such as Facebook. Stories are also “tagged” with key words so users can access similar articles with ease.

Dirt Bike Dreaming
UQ’s Healthy Communities Research Centre, in collaboration with Australian Dirt Bike Adventures, is currently administering the first phase of a research project into the health benefits of trail bike riding based in Queensland.

Psychological health, physical fitness and young men’s health will be explored, as well as an analysis of wider community and population health benefits.

The first phase is currently being conducted via an online survey and aims to acquire information on the needs of riders and the activities they are involved in.

The survey requests information about the kind of bikes participants ride, where they ride, benefits of trail bike riding and issues and concerns surrounding the sport.

The Healthy Communities Research Centre is based at UQ’s Ipswich Campus.

INFO → www.uq.edu.au/health

Mr Pegg said a recent Graduate Contact readership survey showed graduates were concerned about the effect of printed publications on the environment, and were interested in greener alternatives.

Established in 1990, Graduate Contact is published twice a year and sent to all UQ graduates with known mailing details.

INFO → www.uq.edu.au/graduatecontact
UQ TEACHERS
CELEBRATE EXCELLENCE

The University’s teachers have been recognised for excellence with six Australian Learning and Teaching Council citations.

UQ joins a record number of institutions from around Australia to be awarded citations as part of an Australian Government commitment to promote quality learning and teaching.

The awards recognise and reward teaching excellence in the higher education sector, with each citation worth $10,000. More than $2 million will be awarded to 206 individuals and teams.

UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Deborah Terry congratulated the citation winners, saying UQ’s academic staff were at the cutting edge of their disciplines.

“The University of Queensland has won more national teaching awards than any other Australian university since their inception, reinforcing its dedication to ensuring the best outcomes for students,” Professor Terry said.

UQ teachers will receive their awards at the Gallery of Modern Art on August 18.

UQ’s citation recipients included five individuals and one group nomination:

- Dr Stephen Anderson – For inspiring and motivating veterinary science students through a creative, relationship-centred approach.
- Dr Felicity Baker (pictured) – For innovative learning activities that develop analytical, critical and reflective thinking in music therapy.
- Dr Victor Galea – For using authentic industry cases and contexts and innovative applications for technology for plant pathology students.
- Dr Carrie Ritchie – For the development and coordination of innovative, responsive programs and courses in the health sciences.
- Professor Tapan Saha – For enhancing power engineering education through industry engagement, work-integrated learning and innovative postgraduate programs.
- UQ Librarians (Referencing Software Support Team) – Service innovation supporting scholarly writing through referencing software, training and services.

Australia will have a stronger role in global efforts to address major diseases like cancer and diabetes following a $50 million gift, the biggest donation of its kind in the nation’s history.

The gift is a Founding Chairman’s grant from The Atlantic Philanthropies to the $354 million Translational Research Institute Queensland in Brisbane.

TRI Queensland will enhance and accelerate the translation of medical research breakthroughs into better patient care.

It is the largest ever gift from a non-government source to a single Australian medical research/higher education institute.

Atlantic’s founder, Mr Charles F. Feeney, was instrumental in encouraging a coordinated funding approach to the project, which also has funds from the Queensland and Australian Governments, UQ and the Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

Mr Feeney, who shuns the limelight and never seeks thanks for his generosity, made a rare public appearance in Brisbane when Queensland Premier Anna Bligh and Federal Treasurer Wayne Swan announced Atlantic’s gift, on July 27.

Paying tribute to his late friend Ken Fletcher, a tennis star who introduced him to Queensland and Australia in the 1990s, Mr Feeney said: “I can’t think of any place in the world where I have made such good, honest friends.”

TRI Queensland Chairman, Dr David Watson, praised Atlantic’s unprecedented gift, which crowns more than three years of fundraising efforts. “This is a great day for Queensland and a great day for Australia,” he said.

TRI Queensland will be built at the Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH), a UQ teaching hospital, by a joint venture comprising UQ, QUT, PAH, Mater Medical Research Institute and the Queensland Government.

Eventually housing more than 700 researchers, it will be an Australian first, and one of only a few places in the world where new biopharmaceuticals and treatments can be discovered, produced, clinically tested, and manufactured in one location.

Atlantic’s contribution is part of an unprecedented $102 million parcel for Brisbane-based research, unveiled together. The other gifts are $27.5 million for the Queensland Institute of Medical Research’s Smart State Medical Research Centre, and $25 million towards QUT’s Hub for Sustainable and Secure Infrastructure.

Total value of the three projects exceeds $700 million.

“I can’t think of any place in the world where I have made such good, honest friends”
A group of UQ journalism students participated in a national radio broadcast from Musgrave Park in Brisbane as part of NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee) Week celebrations in July.

The broadcast was the grand finale for the inaugural UQ School of Journalism and Communication NAIDOC Project initiative.

Students participated in live crosses from the Family Fun Day to 98.9FM and their interviews were featured in two hour-long broadcasts on the National Indigenous Radio Service (NIRS) and news bulletins.

Ms Stewart said students had travelled to Bundaberg, Stradbroke Island and Toowoomba prior to the event to gather their content.

“The idea was to give students an opportunity to generate real content about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues for industry outlets with the support of experienced journalist mentors,” Ms Stewart said.

“Too often reporters are thrown into the field without any understanding of the complexity of these issues and many do not have any cross-cultural awareness about the need to approach these stories sensitively.”

Eighteen students from UQ, Griffith University, QUT and Triple-A Training gathered content on Indigenous issues, including stories on the 2009 NAIDOC theme “Honouring our Elders, Nurturing our Youth”.

NIRS Manager Matthew Leonard said the Indigenous Voice project had enabled the station to supply valuable additional coverage of NAIDOC week events to its audience from the NAIDOC national focus city for 2009, Brisbane.

“Highlights for me were a great package on the Sam Watson play Oodgeroo - Bloodline to Country produced for our industry partner SBS radio and a fascinating interview with Toowoomba elder Uncle Wally McCarthy.

“I was particularly pleased to see the students engaging with and learning from the Indigenous community. It’s a great start to an important ongoing journey.”

Ms Stewart and Michael Williams, Director of the UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit, won a $65,000 Higher Education Equity Support Program grant to develop teaching materials for journalism education relating to reporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content.

Supporters of the project included QUT and Griffith University, Brisbane Indigenous Media Association (BIMA), SBS and NIRS.

“I was particularly pleased to see the students engaging with and learning from the Indigenous community”
New GP clinic for Ipswich

The University will establish a $2.5 million GP Super Clinic at Ipswich that will focus on key local health issues.

Federal Health Minister Nicola Roxon signed the agreement at the Ipswich Hospital on July 1 to develop a facility which will provide standard services complemented by a focus on chronic disease and mental health.

The Ipswich GP Super Clinic, to be situated on the UQ Ipswich Campus, will be led by the Faculty of Health Sciences, one of the largest educators of health professionals in Australia.

The Faculty's Deputy Executive Dean (Academic), Professor Helen Chenery, said the GP Super Clinic would offer greater access to health services and provide a dynamic educational environment for the next generation of health professionals.

The Super Clinic will provide services from a range of health professionals including general practitioners, nurses, psychologists, pharmacists and allied health professionals.

Professor Chenery said UQ would be seeking to work closely with local providers and the community.

A new UQ Sport program which aims to help elderly people exercise in their own homes has been launched by Queensland’s Minister for Disability Services and Multicultural Affairs, the Honourable Annastacia Palaszczuk MP.

UQ Sport is working in partnership with the Home and Community Care Resource Unit from Queensland Health to increase physical activity levels in frail older individuals in the North Brisbane area by improving access to rebateable Accredited Exercise Physiologist (AEP) services.

In the St Lucia area, UQ Sport runs an AEP clinic which offers home visits to patients unable to travel to the University campus.

Project Manager Emma Taylor said improving the opportunities for elderly people to access individualised exercise programs allowed them to live at home for longer and reduced healthcare costs.

"It is well accepted that increasing physical activity in frail/pre-frail older individuals will lead to substantial health benefits and medical savings," Ms Taylor said.

"However the vast majority of the older population do not obtain sufficient physical activity for health benefits."

Dr Clare Devlin from the Kedron-Wavell MediCentre said the program was a move in the right direction.

"I think this is an excellent idea and ideally suited for those with chronic illness and limited mobility which would otherwise preclude attendance at exercise sessions elsewhere," Dr Devlin said.

INFO ➔ Clients with a referral from their GP can organise UQ Inter-Professional Clinic home visits on (07) 3346 3241.

Encouraging exercise

Participants take part in a home exercise demonstration at the program launch at the Ashgrove Respite Centre.

UQSPORT_UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND NEWSPORT PROGRAMS

Federal Health Minister Nicola Roxon, Head of the Queensland Brain Institute Professor Perry Bartlett and Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield tour the QBI.
New government funding will assist a UQ team in applying “nanopatch” technology to develop new vaccination methods to potentially guard against swine flu.

Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (AIBN) researcher Professor Mark Kendall heads a team testing the potency of mass vaccinations using only a fraction of the standard dose.

The project also targets cross-protection by delivering the seasonal vaccine to protect against challenge from the swine A H1N1 influenza virus.

Professor Kendall said this research used new nanopatch technology which did away with the needle and syringe and stimulated a potent immune response with a reduced dose.

“The beauty of the nanopatch is that it could enable large-scale rapid vaccinations in a cost-effective manner that is currently not available with the needle and syringe.

“The nanopatch could also potentially eliminate needle phobia and the risk of needle stick injuries while being easy and cost-effective to administer.”

The team includes researchers from the University of Melbourne, the Australian Animal Health Lab and UQ collaborators including Professor Ian Frazer from the Diamantina Institute for Cancer, Immunology and Metabolic Medicine.

The project is supported under the fast-tracked National Health and Medical Research Council’s H1N1 (swine flu) Medical Research Projects scheme.

INFO ➔ www.imb.uq.edu.au

“`The beauty of the nanopatch is that it could enable large-scale rapid vaccinations in a cost-effective manner`”
BUSINESS STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Seven UQ Business School students have learned a valuable lesson – business isn’t just about making money, it’s about improving people’s quality of life.

The postgraduate students changed the lives of Maria Bruckner and her 12-year-old daughter Claudia, who has cerebral palsy and severe epilepsy, when they raised more than $7000 so a machine able to weigh Claudia and other students at Woody Point Special School could be purchased.

Lecturer Dr Lance Newey said it was the first time an innovative learning experience like Project Claudia had been undertaken as part of the Entrepreneurship and New Ventures course, and a similar project would be launched this semester.

“Project Claudia was born when I perceived the intersection of two different sets of needs. As a local resident, I knew that the Woody Point Special School needed community support to obtain vital equipment for their kids, and at the same time, every semester I deal with talented, imaginative and energetic students looking for opportunities to put theory into practice,” Dr Newey said.

“It was about taking the learning out of the classroom and into the community, providing a chance for students to construct a not-for-profit project and learn how to manage it in real time with real customers.”

Because Claudia is wheelchair-bound and her treatment regime depends on weight measurements being collected regularly, Ms Bruckner had to travel from the Redcliffe Peninsula to the Royal Children’s Hospital in Brisbane every week so Claudia’s weight could be monitored.

Woody Point Special School principal Jan Baildon and Claudia’s classroom teacher Julianne Grice said Dr Newey and students Millie Yin, Ko-Sheng Yong, Faizan Khan, Aida Yusop, Lindsay Morrison, Fei Xue and Joanne Lee made a great impact.

“A lot of the kids here have trouble communicating, and can’t tell us if they’re feeling unwell, so being able to weigh them really helps us judge how healthy they are,” Ms Grice said.

The University of Queensland Bridge Volunteer Organisation has again provided support to the McIntyre Centre in Pinjarra Hills, which offers horseriding lessons for children with disabilities.

An on-campus barbecue and trivia night raised more than $1200 for the McIntyre Centre, which suffered $15,000 worth of damage in the recent floods.

UQ Bridge Vice-President Lucy Bechtel said the organisation was dedicated to supporting small charities.

“As Bridge is a local community organisation, we believe it is important to support those smaller organisations that do not have the same exposure and sponsorships as some of the larger charities operating in Australia,” Ms Bechtel said.

“We strongly support the service provided by the McIntyre Centre, including its therapeutic benefits and the sheer enjoyment it gives to the children and young adults riding.”

“We hope that our sponsorship can expand these services so that more people with disabilities can enjoy the benefits of horse riding.”

UQ Bridge was established in 2001 with the aim of developing strong ties between the University and the wider community.

It is Australia’s first student-formed and led volunteer organisation, and puts students in contact with a variety of charities in areas ranging from animal care to youth services.

“Many people are keen to volunteer but are unsure how to get started,” Ms Bechtel said.

“Charities often involve the giving of donations, which can be harder for university students on a budget.

“The best thing about the Bridge is that your involvement is hands on, the results are immediate and it’s so easy to get started in areas you’re particularly passionate about.”

The Bridge currently has 200 members and aims to provide local volunteer opportunities for UQ students and staff.

Ms Bechtel said the organisation was always looking for new local charities to support.

INFO ➔ www.uqbridge.org

Volunteers raise funds

Samuel Whiskers enjoys a riding lesson at the McIntyre Centre
Their legacy transcends their love of the colour pink and UQ Adjunct Professor and writer Sue Rider has shared the life of “the Pink Twins” as part of an original musical work at QPAC.

A Brisbane-based writer/director who has worked in Australian theatre since 1975, Ms Rider became aware of Toowoomba twins Dorothy and Moyia O’Brien several years ago but had initially only heard of their eccentricity.

The Pink Twins, nicknamed for their affiliation with the colour pink, were sisters with undoubtedly big hearts who worked with people with disabilities as part of the Sunshine Welfare and Remedial Association (SWARA).

“In 2004, I read that Dorothy O’Brien had passed away, survived by her sister Moyia. I was drawn by the idea of one twin living without the other and began to research their lives,” Ms Rider said.

“Their involvement with SWARA, their life-long devotion to each other, the theatricality of their ‘pinkness’ – all this seemed wonderful material for a play.”

As the script began to unfold, Ms Rider soon realised that the work was never going to be a straightforward play.

“The O’Brien twins continually acted ‘outside the square’ and I have wanted from the start to embody their belief that ‘anything is possible’ in the telling of their story,” she said.

“Their birth was a complete surprise (the doctor only ever heard one heartbeat); as children they gave away their belongings to others in need; they were amongst Australia’s earliest occupational therapists; they lived together for 80 years; and they were not always pink.”

From Ms Rider’s first contact with Moyia, themes developed that helped to propel the story onto stage. The theme of “twinning” was explored through text, music and movement. Also, “sameness” was underlined by intersecting and simultaneous dialogue, singing in and out of harmony, echoed thoughts and repeated actions.

“Extending out from the twins, the notion of ‘same, but different’ applies also to perceptions of people with disabilities,” Ms Rider said.

“The presence of the SWARA community choir brings the raw energy of authenticity as well as a physical and musical dimension to this integral concomitant theme.”

Identical twin performers Anni and Maude Davey and twin musicians Heather and Marjorie Michael were also in the cast.

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BREAKFAST TIPS
Entrepreneurs can pick experts’ brains when the UQ Student Alumni program hosts its Backpack to Briefcase Career Breakfast on August 14.

The seminar topic, “Enterprise and the Young Entrepreneur: Making the Dream a Reality”, explores how students and alumni can become successful business owners.

Panel members include 2008 UQ Young Alumnus of the Year, Alissa Phillips, trainer/mentor Michael Rodgers-Bell and commercialisation expert Dr Paul Sernia.

INFO ➔ www.alumni.uq.edu.au

UQ LIBRARY TAKES AWARD
The University has won a prestigious award for an innovative program linking high-school students with library resources.

UQ was awarded the $5000 Library Board of Queensland Award for its UQL Cyberschool program, which connects schools to the university library.

The Cyberschool program was acknowledged for the impact it has had on students and teachers since its launch in 1999. More than 300 Queensland secondary schools are currently involved.

The program was also recognised for the way it is making history by helping to bridge the gap between secondary school and university.

TOURISM BOOST IN SIGHT
South-east Queensland’s regional tourism operators will benefit from a program initiated by The University of Queensland.

UQ School of Tourism students participating in the Tourism Regional Internship Project (TRIP) will work with tourism organisations from Ipswich and the Scenic Rim on real regional tourism destination challenges.

Students working in the Scenic Rim will assess packaging opportunities for the key market segments and present the proposals to industry. The Ipswich project focuses on a visitor survey including data collection and analysis and recommendations for change.

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"From top: Adjunct Professor Sue Rider with Moyia O’Brien, and the SWARA choir practises"
Inappropriate intervention in child protection cases has left many parents feeling bewildered, confused and distrustful of the system, new UQ research suggests.

The research, conducted by Associate Professor Heather Douglas and Dr Tamara Walsh from UQ’s TC Beirne School of Law, found that parents experiencing poverty and domestic violence were often targeted for intervention by child protection departments but that child protection workers did not have the skills or resources to support families.

As a result, some children may be unnecessarily removed from their parents.

Dr Walsh said while children should be protected, it may no longer be perceived necessary to remove children if families were appropriately resourced and their issues properly understood.

“Child protection workers and parents’ advocates must work together to displace the mistrust and uncertainty that is preventing more collaborative and open practices,” she said.

“It is the child’s interests that will ultimately suffer if there continues to be a lack of communication.

“Much more asking, rather than telling, needs to occur”
UQ student Liz Burn has combined her passion for distance running with helping others to become one of the 10 top fundraisers in the Royal Brisbane Children’s Hospital Running4Research Fundraising event.

The 17-year-old (pictured) paced through the 10km challenge at the Roma Street Botanical Gardens on June 21 to raise $595 for the hospital – a fitting gesture after being treated there for a traumatic head injury in 2008.

Liz, who is studying a Bachelor of Arts (Sport Studies), developed her love of long-distance running at high school and has since dedicated her time to nurturing her talent. She competed in the Gold Coast half marathon on July 5 and was also first in her age group in the Women’s Classic 10km in September last year.

“I love seeing everyone else getting involved,” she said.

“It’s great to see people of all ages running and the atmosphere is great.”

In preparation for each event, Liz can be seen hitting the pavement three to four times a week with her running team. This year her goal is to beat her 10km personal best of 45 minutes.

Liz aims to use her skills gained at university to work as a nutritionist, with her studies already proving useful in her training.

“I load myself up on carbohydrates the night before each run and imagine myself running,” she said.

“I think it is a lot of mental strength to get you over the finish line... you have to stay positive.

“I’ve seen people struggle and hit the wall and have to start walking.”

In addition to competing in the Bridge to Brisbane Fun Run on August 30, Liz will also represent UQ at the upcoming Australian University Games.

“UQNEWS, AUGUST 2009 ➔ 13
COVER STORY
STEWART GOULD

Striding ahead for hospital research

UQ student Liz Burn has combined her passion for distance running with helping others to become one of the 10 top fundraisers in the Royal Brisbane Children’s Hospital Running4Research Fundraising event.

“I think it is a lot of mental strength to get you over the finish line... you have to stay positive.”
UQ leads the way on water

UQ’s St Lucia campus continues to significantly decrease its water consumption levels.

The latest available data (March 2009) reveals that UQ’s ongoing efforts to conserve water have resulted in a 45 percent reduction compared to 2004/2005. This is an improvement on the same time last year which achieved a 41 percent reduction.

“If the trend continues to the next collection of data, the campus will achieve the lowest water consumption ever, despite the recent construction of several new buildings on campus,” Property and Facilities Division Environmental Project Officer Leigh Burgess said.

This significant achievement is due to combined efforts of UQ staff and students over a number of years. Water saving initiatives include:

• Installing approximately 200 water meters, consisting of smart and manual meters, on UQ buildings on campus to monitor water consumption levels.
• Retrofitting bathrooms with new toilets, urinals and taps.
• Improving the efficiency of processes such as cooling of lasers, furnaces and other laboratory equipment where water is used only once.
• Installing water tanks on campus, including two 110,000 litre tanks that are connected to the new Sir Llew Edwards Building.

The installation of smart water meters on all University cooling towers is also helping to improve the monitoring of water usage which has resulted in subsequent water savings.

UQ Property and Facilities Engineering Manager Stewart Hobbs said the University had saved about 18.8 ML of water (more than 12 Olympic swimming pools) from the cooling towers.

“Since successful trials on cooling towers in 2007, we have exceeded the Water Efficiency Management Plan water saving target of 10.8ML by 74 percent,” he said.

UQ has also achieved significant water savings at Ipswich and Gatton campuses.

At Ipswich, initiatives have included the installation of a rainwater tank that supplies water to the library water fountain, while at Gatton, rainwater is used in place of potable water to water stock and to irrigate.

INFO ➔ www.pf.uq.edu.au/unigreen

Energy partnership SWITCHES ON

A new partnership between UQ, the Australian Power Institute (API) and Powerlink Queensland is set to energise the future of the state’s power sector.

The initiative will fund a Chair in Electricity Transmission to support the existing research and teaching partnerships between the power industry and UQ.

UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield welcomed the commitment, which will ensure that the industry benefits from both a supply of high quality specialist graduates, and new technologies to improve its sustainability.

“Queensland’s energy industry is the second largest in Australia and the fastest growing, and this partnership will enhance its capacity to responsibly address the demands of an expanding market in the face of climate change,” Professor Greenfield said.

Powerlink Queensland’s Chief Operating Officer and current Chair of the API, Simon Bartlett, said both groups recognised the need for senior academic leadership to attract, inspire, and retain the top academics in the field and foster research opportunities in partnership with industry.

“The establishment of the Australian Chair in Electricity Transmission at the University will help us to achieve this goal at a critical time for the industry in Queensland and in Australia as a whole,” Mr Bartlett said.

Transmission companies across the country are currently facing an unprecedented demand to develop and refurbish their networks to meet expectations for reliable energy supplies.

Mr Bartlett said the initiative would help the industry address these and future challenges.

“The electricity transmission networks will play a pivotal role in facilitating Australia’s response to climate change,” he said.
Green energy goal

Scientists based at UQ are working towards one of sustainable energy’s holy grails – harvesting the untapped potential of sugarcane.

Aided by new technologies and an international research network, the Australian team aim to have the first sugarcane genome sequence ready by the middle of next year.

The Australian arm of the research project, “Understanding the Sugarcane Genome”, is expected to bolster research into sought-after energy sources and provide future business opportunities for the local sugarcane industry.

Led by Dr Prakash Lakshmanan and Dr Priya Joyce, the project aims to develop commercially useful biotechnology tools for sugar production and value-added bioproducts, such as bioplastics.

“The latest results from our trials are very promising for one of Australia’s most valuable agricultural commodities,” Dr Lakshmanan said.

“They provide a sound platform from which genetically enhanced sugarcane can be developed for the benefit of our industry and bring us one step closer to commercial release of genetically enhanced canes.”

Dr Lakshmanan said one hurdle to the research was securing investment for further trials to show the new products didn’t pose any health or environmental risks.

Greater access to sugarcane genes would also be key to the project’s success.

The CRC SIIB research team have developed three improved biotechnology methods – two of them involving the popular “gene gun” biolistics system and the other using a soil microorganism.

These advances have improved the technology and made the process more efficient. Hundreds of independent lines using the new methods have been generated and more than 100 of these are now being tested in the field.

Additionally, the team has generated canes with new characteristics. This is a major advance compared to previous trials of biotech sugarcane plants, where significant variations in important traits were observed.

According to Dr Joyce, the findings from the latest trials are very encouraging.

“The CRC SIIB sugarcane technologies project is laying the foundation for developing commercially useful biotechnology sugarcane, and we are very pleased with the results”, Dr Joyce said.

CRC SIIB research is an integral part of current work being undertaken to strengthen the Australian sugarcane industry, which is estimated to be worth $1.75 billion to the local economy each year.

INFO → www.crcsugar.com

“The latest results from our trials are very promising for one of Australia’s most valuable agricultural commodities”
GENETIC CENTRE EXPANDS FOCUS

A UQ genetic centre is promising if something has DNA, they can test it.

The Australian Equine Genetics Research Centre (AEGRC) recently relaunched after securing funding to expand into further areas of genetics testing and research.

AEGRC Director Associate Professor Ann Trezise said 2009 marked the beginning of a new era for the centre, with a vision that included genetics analysis and research in any species, including humans.

“Relaunching the AEGRC will highlight our ability to perform DNA analysis on almost anything. If it’s got DNA, the AEGRC can test it,” Dr Trezise said.

The funding boost will come from the Victoria Racing Club and the Australian Jockey Club, over a period of 20 years.

Dr Trezise said when she took over as Director of the AEGRC in 2006, she realised there was a significant need for expert genotyping services and the centre had both the infrastructure and expertise to move into this market.

“For the past 30 years the AEGRC has provided independent confirmation of the pedigree (bloodlines) of all racing thoroughbreds and many other horse breeds in Australia, including Arabians and quarter horses,” Dr Trezise said.

“Until 2001, equine pedigree confirmation relied on blood typing.

“The centre now uses the faster, internationally accepted, technology of DNA profiling to confirm a horse’s identity and pedigree.”

Australian thoroughbred horses need AEGRC verification before they can be bought, sold or raced.

DNA is extracted from hairs in the horses’ manes, with about 50 hairs usually sent for analysis.

“An annual, five-day residential school, FEAST offers high school students the chance to explore the career options in the agricultural, animal, environment and food industries.

FEAST is hosted by UQ’s Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science and was developed in conjunction with the Queensland Agricultural Teachers Association.
CORAL REEF CLEANER FISH THAT LIVE OFF PARASITES USE THE POWER OF COLOUR TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AND ATTRACT POTENTIAL CLIENTS, Writes Penny Robinson.

Even parasite-eating fish recognise the benefits of good advertising, UQ research has found.

Dr Karen Cheney and Professor Justin Marshall, along with colleagues from the School of Biological Sciences, found cleaner fish – which are in the business of removing parasites from larger reef fish – used colour to catch the attention of potential clients.

Published online in scientific journal Current Biology, their study shows how cleaner fish have evolved a specific advertising signal involving a blue and yellow colouration, combined with conspicuous stripes.

“A combination of color and pattern is an important component of cleaner signals and helps attract client species to cleaning stations,” Professor Marshall said.

Cleaner fish operate out of cleaning stations, usually found among the rocks and seagrass of the reef.

By using visual models, the researchers were able to “look through the eyes of potential clients”.

“We were actually able to see what message the cleaner fish is sending from the perspective of the client,” Professor Marshall said.

“We measured the visual response of three coral reef fish: the barracuda, the UV-sensitive planktivorous damselfish and the herbivorous surgeonfish.

“For all three visual systems, blue categories were the most contrasting colors against an average coral background, and yellow is the most contrasting colour against a blue water background.

“Therefore, blue and yellow appears to be the most conspicuous colours when signaling to potential clients.”

Using behavioural trials, the researchers also showed reef fish were more likely to visit cleaners whose bodies contained blue patterns.

“We tested the response of wild client fish to seven fish models made from resin and painted with a range of colors and patterns,” Professor Marshall said.

Reef fish – which ordinarily would eat the smaller cleaner fish – swim up and pose in a way which indicates they are ready for cleaning.

“The reef fish needs to be cleaned and the cleaner fish needs to eat the parasites in order to survive, so there’s a mutually beneficial relationship that exists between the cleaner and the host,” Professor Marshall said.

A cleaner fish could be cleaning the teeth of a large coral trout and somehow it knows not to close its mouth.

“What we think the cleaner fish are saying – with colour – is that they have a service to offer.

“What we’ve managed to do is decode the language of the club.”

Professor Marshall and Dr Cheney are also co-authors of a paper featured on the cover of the latest edition of the Journal of Experimental Biology.

The study found Elacatinus gobies, a species of cleaner fish found in the Caribbean, had developed blue and yellow stripes so they stood out to passing reef fish.

“Yellow and blue are the two colours which transmit best in the ocean,” Professor Marshall said.

“It’s interesting that these fish have managed to pick the right physics in terms of the colours that transmit the longest distance.”

“The reef fish needs to be cleaned and the cleaner fish needs to eat the parasites in order to survive, so there’s a mutually beneficial relationship that exists between the cleaner and the host”
new leader for sbs faculty

The University has appointed Professor David de Vaus as Executive Dean of its Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences (SBS).

He succeeds Professor Cindy Gallois who has acted in the position since January 2008.

Professor de Vaus joins UQ following a long association with La Trobe University as Head of the School of Social Sciences, and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Professor de Vaus has also previously worked as a secondary school teacher and as director of research at the Australian Institute of Family Studies.

He has published widely in areas including social science research methodology and retirement and ageing, and has consulted for many organisations including the World Health Organisation and government departments at state and federal level.

Professor de Vaus said he was excited about leading the SBS Faculty into the future and was looking forward to building on the excellent work Professor Gallois, and her predecessor Professor Deborah Terry, had done to establish a strong and vibrant SBS Faculty at UQ.

He said top priority will be given to responding constructively to the opportunities and goals of the Bradley reforms and to position the faculty to build on the support foreshadowed by government for quality research.

“To make the most of these opportunities and the changed context they provide we must ensure that we are providing the right programs and that we provide these in a way that a diverse and changing student body can access,” Professor de Vaus said.

Professor de Vaus said to thrive in the new research environment the faculty would need to prioritise, focus and collaborate.

“There are excellent opportunities to collaborate across schools and across faculties to position the faculty to continue to be the leading research faculty of its type in Australia,” he said.

“I expect the faculty to continue and even expand its focus on research that makes a difference – on research that contributes to our understanding of contemporary problems and enables effective action.”

UQ’s Vice Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield welcomed Professor de Vaus, saying his recruitment was a significant gain for the University.

“David will be a strong asset and a very good fit for the UQ community,” Professor Greenfield said.

“He possesses a range of fine qualities for a UQ leader, including a commitment to excellence, a strategic mind-set, a focus on innovative teaching and high-impact research, and an enthusiasm for collaboration.”

Professor de Vaus commenced at UQ on July 1.

“A MAN OF INFLUENCE

A UQ scientist has been recognised as one of Australia’s most influential men under 45 by a leading men’s magazine.

Professor Stuart Phinn (pictured) was selected in the second annual Men’s Style magazine Men of Influence Under 45 list.

The list recognises those who have “affected the cultural, physical and emotional landscape, on a grand scale and in their own patch”.

“I’m surprised and very pleased to be selected,” Professor Phinn said.

“To be included in a list of people with major impacts on Australia’s political, cultural, business and sport endeavours, is an honour. It’s also very positive to see environmental science recognised.”

Professor Phinn’s work in the School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Management’s Centre for Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Science uses regularly collected images from satellites to map environmental features over Queensland and Australia.

This information forms the basis for understanding changes in Australia’s atmosphere, forests, grasslands, wetlands, coastal and coral reefs, trying to answer whether this element of change is natural or due to human development.

“Satellite is such an important tool to obtaining images and people have been storing images of the earth collected from satellites since the early 1970’s.”

“After Google Earth, people saw how detailed the technology could be and began to take the field extremely seriously. Our expertise provides bona fides, in a court case say, so the images genuinely represent what’s on the ground.”

Professor Phinn is in distinguished company; Federal Shadow Treasurer Joe Hockey, Federal Minister for Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry Tony Burke and Queensland Treasurer Andrew Fraser also featured in the list, as did actor Hugh Jackman, Socceroos star Tim Cahill and Australian Test Cricket Vice Captain Michael Clarke.

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“It’s also very positive to see environmental science recognised”
Charity fundraising and helping aspiring actors are the twin motivators that have helped a marketing lecturer at UQ turn a dream into a full-length feature film.

Dr Doan Nguyen wrote and directed *Home of Strangers* using a cast of young Brisbane actors and students.

The movie is set to raise funds from screenings and DVD sales for a Vietnamese orphanage through Que Huong Charity.

Shot at UQ, Toowong, the Gap, Wynnum and Manly, *Home of Strangers* has screened at the Schonell Cinema and is planned to play as part of University of Melbourne’s Asia Week festivities this month.

Negotiations are also under way for inclusion on an international film festival circuit.

*Home of Strangers* tells the story of a young Vietnamese man who escapes a gang and flees to Brisbane, only to have the gang’s leader track him down and try to force him back into a life of crime.

Because the movie project was self-funded, Dr Nguyen was fearful no one would respond to the casting call, given that the cast would not be paid for their work.

“There was no money to pay people, from the top right down to the bottom, but within hours we had so many applications – even from professional people. We had to turn some applications down,” she said.

High-profile actor Steff Dawson waived a fee to add a song to the soundtrack, Lindy Morrison flew to Brisbane for a cameo, Sally Tang contributed the theme song and members from Camira group Shotokan Budokai Karate completed action sequences in the movie’s fight scenes.

Away from the movie set, Dr Nguyen’s marketing students sought sponsorship and design students put together a poster and a website.

At last count, the Vietnamese orphanage had 322 children in need of care.

Dr Nguyen hopes to make further movies and raise money for charities such as Rotary and Red Cross.

INFO ➔ www.outside-the-box-movies.com

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Not many people would swim through a river populated with piranhas and electric eels while researching their first book, but Andrew Westoll isn’t your typical author.

The Canadian primatologist-turned-journalist (pictured) travelled to South America to pen *The Riverbones*, which was recently published by University of Queensland Press.

The book traces Mr Westoll’s love affair with Suriname, a tiny country in South America that has the largest tract of pristine rainforest on earth and was his home for a year while researching capuchin monkeys in 2001.

After returning to Canada he couldn’t shake his experiences, and looking for a new challenge decided to enrol in postgraduate studies in creative writing at the University of British Columbia.

The book gives readers an insight into the former Dutch colony, its local inhabitants the Maroon people, and the scars remaining from civil unrest that shook the country in the 1980s.

Woven through the narrative is the hunt for the bright-blue okopipi frog – an extremely rare species that lives only in Suriname.

Mr Westoll said he hoped *The Riverbones* was a rollicking read that showed the importance of preserving what’s left of our planet.

“First, I hope readers enjoy the adventure. Second, I hope my book can somehow serve as a testament to Surinamese Maroon culture, a wake-up call for the Surinamese government to begin living up to the human rights treaties it signed long ago,” Mr Westoll said.

“But if nothing else, I’d like readers to learn and perhaps fall in love, as I did, with Suriname itself, a remarkable little land of rivers and jungles and monkeys and tiny blue frogs just north of the Amazon that may represent our last chance to save what remains of South America’s once-sprawling rainforest.”

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**Nominate now!**

Our Women, Our State Awards 2009

Do you know a student, lecturer, researcher or university employee who encourages and supports Queensland girls and women in science, engineering or technology?

Nominations close 11 September 2009.

Winners receive $3,000 in prize money.

Proudly presented by the Office for Women Queensland Government.

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**THE CO-OP BOOKSHOP CURRENT BESTSELLERS**

1. *Breath* – Tim Winton, Penguin (PB) $24.95 FICTION
2. *The Slap* – Christos Tsiolkas, Allen & Unwin (PB) $32.95 FICTION
3. *Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* – Steig Larsson, Quercus (PB) $22.95 FICTION
5. *Just Macbeth!* – Andy Griffiths, Pan Macmillan (PB) $14.99 CHILDREN’S FICTION
6. *Brooklyn* – Colm Toibin, Picador (PB) $32.99 FICTION
7. *The Brain that Changes Itself* – Norman Doidge, Scribe (PB) $35.00 SCIENCE
8. *Between the Assassinations* – Aravind Adiga, Atlantic Books UK (PB) FICTION $32.95
9. *Dreams from my Father* – Barack Obama, Penguin (PB) $24.95 BIOGRAPHY
10. *D-Day; The Battle for Normandy* – Anthony Beevor, Viking (PB) $59.95 HISTORY

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**AMAZON ADVENTURER**

**GIVEAWAY**

UQP is giving away three copies of *The Riverbones* to UQ News readers. Simply email your details to communications@uq.edu.au with “UQP giveaway” in the subject line. Winners will be notified by September 8.
Band power

BLUES, ROCK AND FUNK HAVE FUSED TOGETHER IN UQ STUDENT BAND THE CHUTES’ FIRST RELEASE, WRITES ELIZA PLANT.

They’ve studied business, law and medicine at UQ, and now Brisbane band The Chutes have put their textbooks aside to showcase their debut EP.

Local lads Andrew Russo (base guitarist/lead vocalist), Joseph Coory (guitarist), Michael Poulsen (guitarist) and Daniel Zullo (drummer), formed the blues, rock and funk-infused band about 12 months ago after meeting at high school.

Joseph and Michael are still students at UQ, studying medicine and law respectively, while Andrew formerly studied business.

Yanto Browning, who has worked with Kate Miller-Heidke, produced the EP with the band at Samford’s Airlock Studios.

The band performed their first gig at UQ’s the Red Room (now named The 2nd Degree) and has since played at several shows around Brisbane.

Their most recent success included playtime of the track Red Hill on radio station Triple J.

Andrew said working on the EP was a great opportunity for the band to finally record their music.

“We put on a pretty big live show, so the challenge for us was trying to transfer our music to recordings,” he said.

“Within half an hour of talking to Yanto we knew we were on the same page.

“It’s kind of weird that we’ve done all this work – three to four months ago we wanted to hold the CD and now we have it.”

The self-written EP includes six tracks and is a mixture of blues, funk and riff-driven rock.

“Usually a person will bring (song) ideas to the table and we will all work through it,” Andrew said.

INFO ➔ www.thechutes.com.au
CRICKETERS PUT UQ TO THE TEST

International cricket has come to the St Lucia campus.

Players from India, Pakistan, New Zealand and South Africa took to the pitch at the WEP Harris Oval recently as part of training sessions and limited-over competitions.

The matches started in July, with Indian provincial side Maharashtra XI taking on the Australian Institute of Sport and the UQ Cricket Club, under the eyes of legends Greg Chappell, Bruce Reid and Craig McDermott.

Pakistan A trained against Australia for six days, while an emerging players tournament included talent from India, New Zealand, South Africa and Australia.

The sole Queenslander in the AIS side was Alister McDermott, the son of former Australian player Craig McDermott.

UQ Cricket Club president Andrew Lossberg said it was the first time the players had taken on a touring international team of the standard of Maharashtra XI, giving his players a psychological boost.

“It provides an opportunity for players to show their skills in limited-over cricket and take on overseas players,” Mr Lossberg said.

“It reflects the facilities and the UQ support for cricket on campus by providing excellent facilities to attract international teams on a first-class oval.”

Mr Lossberg said the UQ club had won the past three one-day championships and two of the past three Twenty20 competitions in Brisbane.

Historic water polo win

UQ students Robert Maitland and Anthony Martin have helped lead Australia to victory in the men’s water polo final at the 25th World University Games in Serbia.

Defeating Croatia 6-4, the gold medal is the first men’s international gold to be won by Australia in water polo and the first time a non-European country has dominated a tournament.

With Mr Maitland, 25, flag bearer for the Australian team and Mr Martin, 24, both having competed at the Beijing Olympics, the Australian team had high hopes for the competition.

“We went into the competition very confident of our abilities. We had the strongest team Australia has sent to a World University Games for quite some time, so we definitely knew we had the ability to go all the way,” Mr Martin said.

“This victory has given us great confidence in the future of men’s competition because most of the competitors at World Uni Games will be in national teams in the near future.”

With 142 countries competing in the global event, the World University Games is the second largest sporting gathering of international athletes next to the Olympics.

“A lot of people don’t realise that the World Uni Games is a huge competition, much bigger than the Commonwealth Games. It is also the only other competition that provides a similar structure to the Olympics. It is all very exciting,” Mr Martin said.

The 185-strong Australian team took eight medals, five of them gold. Australian University Sport High Performance Manager Siobahn James commended the athletes on their win.

“The event provided a tremendous experience for athletes and officials particularly those preparing for World Championships in the coming months. Australia finished 11th on the medal tally, which again is a wonderful result for the team.”

Fellow UQ students Joshua Robinson (javelin), Martin Collins (volleyball), Sarah Mills (water polo) and Hannah Robinson (water polo) also represented Australia in Serbia.
**EVENTS/NOTICES**

- **Tuesday August 18**
  Lloyd Davis Visiting Professor in Shakespeare Studies. “Making space in Shakespeare and Jonson”. Professor Julie Sanders (6pm, Duchesne College Dining Room, St Lucia campus). Information: 07 3365 2593 or admin@emsah.uq.edu.au

- **Tuesday August 18**
  ACPACS Seminar Series. “Reflections on Eriksen’s Cultural Contexts of Ethnic Differences”. Mark Schubert, School of Social Science (12-1.30pm, Don Carruthers Room, Level 5, Dorothy Hill PSE Library, Hawken Building 50, St Lucia campus).

- **Tuesday August 25**
  ACPACS Seminar Series. “Apologies between groups: are they a route to forgiveness?” Dr Catherine Philpot, School of Psychology (12-1.30pm, Don Carruthers Room, Level 5, Dorothy Hill PSE Library, Hawken Building 50, St Lucia campus).

- **Tuesday September 8**
  ACPACS Seminar Series. “Parliament – Does it have a role in the peace process?” The Hon David Jull (12-1.30pm, Don Carruthers Room, Level 5, Dorothy Hill PSE Library, Hawken Building 50, St Lucia campus).

- **September 11-13**
  Australian Workshop on Afro-Asiatic Linguistics. “From the ‘Promised Land’ to the ‘Lucky Country’, denial is not a river in Egypt.” St Lucia campus. All welcome. Information: (07) 3365 1445, 0423 901 808 or gz@uq.edu.au

**GENERAL CLASSIFIEDS**

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

- **TO RENT:** Large family home at King’s College, rental from Dec 2, 2009 until Jan 20, 2010. Ideal for visiting academic prepared to look after the family’s dog and cat. References required. Contact: Laurie Wilson (07) 3871 9601.

- **ACCOMMODATION WANTED:** New UQ staff member seeks to rent a house convenient to the Herston Medical School and suitable for family with two young children from December 2009. Contact: a.whittaker@unimelb.edu.au

- **TO RENT:** Fig Tree Pocket, ideal family location, fully furnished 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom house, air-con, swimming pool. Available from mid-October 2009 till mid-March 2010. Contact: gz@uq.edu.au

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

- **Thomas Morrow Prize 2009**
  Awarded to the undergraduate student who writes the best essay on a topic in the field of Australian exploration and history. Essays written as part of a course relating to Australian exploration and history within the School of HPRC will automatically be considered. Well-presented honours theses may also be submitted. Closing: November 20. Worth: approx $475 (at least $100 is to be used for the purchase of books). Information: (07) 3385 6320.

- **Seize the Day Study Awards**
  Open to Queenslanders aged 16-21 who have had a personal experience with cancer and intend to commence or continue post-secondary education in 2010. Can be used for expenses incurred while studying, such as fees, accommodation, textbooks or stationery. Worth: $300 to $3000. Information: www.cancerqld.org.au or 13 11 20 (toll free).

**UQ NEWS DEADLINES**

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Library hours are available at www.library.uq.edu.au
A forgotten Australian art movement is receiving the attention it deserves in an exhibition currently on show at UQ. Misty Moderns: Australian Tonalists 1915-1950 is the first exhibition of its kind and illustrates the inter-war art movement that was championed by controversial Melbourne painter Max Meldrum.

"Tonalism is probably the most misunderstood, underestimated and underappreciated movement in Australian art history and yet it was hugely important to the development of 20th century art in this country," exhibition curator Tracey Lock-Weir said.

"Max Meldrum was a pioneer but he was also terribly divisive. There was a certain stigma attached to him and his followers which still remains today…even some of the most beautiful Tonalist paintings have often been ignored or dismissed by the art world – until now."

Paintings from this period are characterised by a particular “misty” or atmospheric quality created by the method of building “tone on tone”.

Around 80 works by 18 artists have been brought together from public and private collections around Australia for the first time for Misty Moderns. Included in the exhibition are works by Meldrum and his best-known pupils Clarice Beckett, Percy Leason and Colin Colahan.

Pieces by Australian Modernists Roy de Maistre, Roland Wakelin, Lloyd Rees, Arnold Shore and William Frater are also included.

Controversially, Tonalism opposed post-Impressionism and Modernism, and is now regarded as a precursor to Minimalism and Conceptualism.

UQ Art Museum Director Nick Mitzevich said the exhibition was a change of pace from recent shows and represented the diversity of the 2009 program and the museum's growing visitor base.

"Recently, Margaret Olley: Life's journey and Selling Queensland have been extremely popular exhibitions and the Ben Quilty exhibition attracted a large schools audience," Mr Mitzevich said.

"Following on from this, we expect Misty Moderns to appeal to people and students interested in the development of Australian Art history."

Ms Lock-Weir officially opened Misty Moderns at the UQ Art Museum, which is on show until September 13.

Misty Moderns is an Art Gallery of South Australia touring exhibition made possible with the support of Visions of Australia, an Australian Government program which supports touring exhibitions.

INFO ➔ www.artmuseum.uq.edu.au