GREEN POWER

UQ grows its sustainability credentials

SPECIAL FEATURE
UQ OPEN DAY
2010

St Lucia 1 August 9am–3pm
Ipswich 18 August 2.30pm–6.30pm
Gatton 22 August 9.30am–3pm

youruq.com/openday
MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

The “sustainability walk” is a long hike through steep alpine terrain. It is a net uphill climb, with the ultimate goal shrouded in thick cloud. You cannot be certain what lies beyond the next ridge, but there is only one way to get there – start trekking. That is precisely what UQ is doing.

For years we have been researching and teaching environmental sustainability, to the extent that the University is acknowledged as a development and thought leader in various aspects of ecology, biodiversity, wastewater reuse, renewable energy, cleaner coal, power distribution and water and energy economics.

In recent times, students and staff have given momentum to the institution’s recognition that we must apply this academic expertise to our own operations, and show leadership by example to other large organisations.

Our student and staff community is as big as the population of some regional cities, and any outfit of this size needs three essentials in its sustainability kit: commitment from the top; knowledge of where we are in terms of resource consumption; and a strategy that is communicated to its community.

Following the launch of the University’s sustainability website, it seems that all three parts are in play. While I am the first to admit students and staff have encouraged senior management, I am confident UQ’s executive understand that we must constrain the environmental cost of our operations.

Two years ago we began an energy and carbon audit, which is a tool for identifying priorities for action. It has signalled that the University generates about 180 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide emissions each year, and that more than 130 kilotonnes are from electricity. Most of the electricity is for air conditioning, not just for human comfort but also for research needs. Air travel ranks next among carbon culprits (being responsible for about one-fifth of our footprint) and the balance is due to factors such as fleet vehicles, natural gas, landfill from general waste, paper and incineration.

We recently commissioned energy audits of 10 buildings at St Lucia and one at Gatton, and the results will enable a targeted action plan.

Our research and teaching capabilities give UQ a special status in the sustainability landscape. We can go beyond reduction of the University’s environmental impact, and derive and disseminate knowledge and technology that will help others do the same. The installation of Australia’s largest solar photovoltaic array (made possible by $1.5 million funding from the Queensland Government) is significant in this regard.

Gains are also being realised through thoughtful design of new and proposed buildings – such as the Advanced Engineering Building and the Global Change Institute.

UQ has a long way to go before we can boast of sustainable energy consumption, but the recent experience in water conservation shows that students and staff can bring in meaningful change. Between 2005 and 2009 the University reduced water consumption by 44 percent. Our power to reduce carbon use may be equally strong, because we can do more than switch off the lights. We can also switch on knowledge that will nudge others towards the peak of sustainable resource use.

Professor Paul Greenfield AO

www.uq.edu.au/news ➔ ISSUE 592 JULY 2010
Beauty was in the eye of a few hundred psychologists during Appearance Matters – an international conference on body image – held in Bristol in June.

The School of Psychology was represented by three researchers: Dr Fiona Barlow, who presented on discrimination towards overweight and obese people; Renee Fletcher, who presented on reactions to average-size fashion models; and Phillippa Diedrichs, who presented on reactions to average-size fashion models.

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Dr Barlow’s study involved giving a lecture to undergraduate psychology students on obesity, weight stigma and the reasons people gain weight.

After being provided with this information, students were much less judgmental towards overweight and obese people.

“Overweight and obese individuals often face discrimination due to their body weight and appearance,” Dr Barlow said.

“These findings suggest that learning about weight stigma and the multiple factors that influence a person’s body weight may provide an effective intervention to reduce weight stigma.”

Ms Fletcher analysed an online discussion forum for a popular Australian magazine and found that there was consumer support for calls to increase the range of body sizes portrayed.

Concerns regarding health, the normalisation of obesity, and tokenism, however, were identified as barriers to using more average-size models and promoting positive body image more broadly,” she said.

Ms Diedrichs’s research demonstrated that average-size male models promoted positive body image and were equally effective in advertisements as their ultra-muscular counterparts.

“These findings contribute to a growing evidence base for the health and advertising benefits of using average-size models in media imagery,” she said.

A sunflower grown by year 10 students from Goondiwindi State High School has won the annual sunflower growing competition hosted by the School of Land, Crop and Food Science at The University of Queensland.

The winning flower, which weighed in at 1.837kg, saw the students better the efforts of 18 other schools to be crowned grand champions.

Teacher Alecia Sutton said she was proud of her pupils’ achievement.

“After three years competing, it’s great to finally take home the trophy and, more importantly, allow students to experience a moment in the sun,” Mr Bazley said.

“Many students now see careers in agriculture, including plants as something that is exciting, challenging and rewarding.”

Chris Bazley, Agricultural and Business Advisor with Pacific Seeds said it was a pleasure to see students from so many schools keen on learning more about agriculture.

“The dedication of the students to the task of nurturing their sunflowers showed they were committed and wanted to be involved in a fun learning project,” Mr Bazley said.

“Many students now see careers in agriculture, including plants as something that is exciting, challenging and rewarding.”

If you visit the world-renowned Canterbury Cathedral in the near future, part of your experience may be courtesy of UQ research.

Tourism experts Nigel Bond and Dr Karen Hughes conducted research to better understand their motivations and expectations of the cathedral’s staff and visitors.

They met senior clergy, including the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral, Dr Robert Willis, to discuss the future of the cathedral as a tourist destination.

“In our focus groups, consumers expressed high levels of dissatisfaction with current pre-contractual disclosure and wanted documents which were easier to understand and summarised concisely the information they needed to make informed choices about consumer credit products.”

Mr O’Shea said the project was comparable to the most advanced work on this subject being carried out in the United States.

The research was commissioned by the Standing Committee of Officials of Consumer Affairs on behalf of all state and territory governments in order to better inform policy development in national consumer credit regulation.

From this month regulation of consumer credit moves from the states to the Commonwealth.

INFO ➔ www.consumer.gov.au

It is the global seat of the Anglican Church and a World Heritage destination.

The School of Tourism will work with cathedral staff during the next 12 months to develop an interpretive plan for the site.

INFO ➔ www.tourism.uq.edu.au

CRedit COnfUsion

Research by The University of Queensland has found that more than 90 per cent of consumers do not understand the contracts for their credit cards and loans.

The study, conducted by UQ’s TC Beirne School of Law, is the most intensive and comprehensive experimental research project into consumer credit disclosure ever carried out in Australia.

School of Law lecturer and project chief investigator Paul O’Shea said that even after reading contract documents, important aspects, such as the cost of credit, remained difficult for consumers to understand.

“When consumers enter into a loan contract, they receive a bundle of documents,” Mr O’Shea said.

“The current Consumer Credit Code requires that certain information about the transaction is disclosed in a financial table at the beginning of the contract document.

“In our focus groups, consumers expressed high levels of dissatisfaction with current pre-contractual disclosure and wanted documents which were easier to understand and summarised concisely the information they needed to make informed choices about consumer credit products.”

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INFO ➔ www.consumer.gov.au
NOT-FOR-PROFIT POWER

Not-for-profit organisations are set to play a major role in business by forging closer ties with corporations and governments, according to a leading expert from UQ.

UQ Business School Not for Profit Unit head Professor Ken Wiltshire said the ties are part of a “wave of corporate social responsibility” sweeping corporate Australia and its employees, especially those from Generation Y, who were advocating for corporations to be more socially responsible.

“Young people do not want to work for a company unless it has a good social responsibility platform,” Professor Wiltshire said.

“Such a partnership gives a company a low-cost and highly effective point of entry to social and community fields where they can make a real street-level contribution and walk their talk.”

The Productivity Commission Report in 2009 put the number of not-for-profit organisations at 600,000, employing 890,000 people and contributing $43 billion to the economy.

Professor Wiltshire said not-for-profit organisations needed to ensure they provided staff members with job satisfaction, recognition, and opportunities for career progression.

“The sector has struggled with staff retention,” he said.

“It is prone to under-payment and burn-out. Most staff members believe in the causes they advocate for, but the organisation needs to support them effectively.”

Government agencies were also keen to have closer ties with not-for-profit organisations by providing services, especially in medical, social and welfare fields, Professor Wiltshire said.

FACTS + FIGURES

$40.2M
- amount pledged by the Federal Government in June to support UQ research into personalised medicine

7200°C
- The temperature of the Hayabusa spacecraft as it fell to Earth on June 13. UQ Professor Richard Morgan studied the capsule’s re-entry

590km
- distance travelled by a 3.84m crocodile from the Kennedy River to Cape York Peninsula, according to UQ research

$7000
- value of funding awarded to two UQ postgraduate students to support their research on sub-tropical rainforests

50%
- ratio of same-sex attracted women over 34 who have children in their lives and want to marry, according to the School of Psychology’s Not So Private Lives report

2400
- The age of an Egyptian mask on display in the R.D. Milns Antiquities Museum which was recently voted UQ’s “Favourite Treasure”

SCOOTER SUSTAINABILITY

One lucky high school student will drastically reduce their carbon footprint just by attending an upcoming careers day at UQ.

As part of the Careers that Shape the World event on July 15, a prizewinner will receive their choice of a zero-emissions electric bike or scooter courtesy of local business NOPE.

Both vehicles run off a reliable battery and electric motor system, with absolutely no noise or atmospheric pollution. An added bonus will be the savings on petrol, maintenance and parking, with only 25 cents of electricity needed to propel riders for up to 50 kilometres.

Marketing manager for NOPE, Sylva Guo, said the main attraction of electric bikes and scooters is the comfort knowing you are helping to reduce pollution.

“Your electric scooter or bike simply needs to be plugged into a standard electric socket to be recharged,” she said.

Advancement and Community Relations Manager for the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Gordon Lynn, said the prize was a good fit with UQ’s environmental policies.

“It reflects the University’s wider sustainability initiatives and provides one lucky winner with the means to reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to a better environment,” he said.

Careers that Shape the World will see hundreds of participants explore their career opportunities by spending a day and UQ interacting with industry representatives, academics and current UQ students.

INFO → www.uq.edu.au/sbs/shapeyourworld

UQ NEWS, JULY 2010

ART BUILDS AWARENESS

UQ scientists earned their place alongside artists in a recent exhibition that promoted sustainability through creative practice.

An animation and images created by Dr David Poger and Professor Alan Mark from the School of Chemistry & Molecular Biosciences were featured in the Bio-diverse-city exhibition at the Caloundra Regional Gallery.

The animation showed how phospholipid molecules, the main component of cell membranes, would spontaneously self-assemble to form a well-ordered functional membrane from a random mixture in water.

The animation is the result of computer simulations that are being used by Professor Mark and his laboratory to understand how cells operate at an atomic level.

“Molecular self-assembly is one of the most fundamental properties of life,” Professor Mark said.

Understanding this process is not only a major scientific challenge but is also central to unravelling the origins of conditions such as Alzheimer’s disease and the rational design of nano-materials modeled on biological systems.

“The great thing about the exhibition is that it can help convey the sense of amazement you get when studying life in atomic detail.”

The Bio-diverse-city project aims to explore new concepts around building social and environmental resilience through diversity.

The work of Dr Poger and Professor Mark was selected for the exhibition not only because it is striking but also because it represents one of the most fundamental processes involved in building and sustaining life.

The Bio-diverse-city exhibition formed part of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council’s Treeline Project – a series of environmentally focused art events staged between January and July.
UQ plugs in to iTunes U

THE UNIVERSITY THAT DEVELOPED THE VACCINATION FOR CERVICAL CANCER AND THE NEXT GENERATION JET ENGINE IS NOW ON ITUNES U.

The University of Queensland has launched a portal on iTunes U to deliver free educational content for students, staff and the wider community.

UQ joins more than 300 institutions across Australia and New Zealand which are using iTunes U to deliver educational material and change the way students are learning. Top universities such as Harvard and Oxford are also using the service.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Debbie Terry said the new service made relevant content easier than ever to access.

“iTunes U increases UQ’s flexibility in delivering learning material tremendously as we can now provide content for people at home on their computers, or for people on the run on their iPod or iPhone, anytime, anywhere,” Professor Terry said.

“By facilitating a content-rich environment, it is hoped The University of Queensland can assist our community to keep pace with an ever changing world and remain competitive in the global economy.

“UQ’s lecturers and researchers have embraced the opportunity to contribute content to iTunes U and to share their knowledge and work.

“Even marketing material will help students consider study options at The University of Queensland.”

iTunes U is a dedicated area of the iTunes Store featuring free lectures, lab demonstrations, campus tours and more.

Users can search, download and play content with the same ease-of-use with which they download music. iTunes U also allows graduates to stay connected with their alma mater.

Content from iTunes can be loaded to an iPhone, iPod or laptop with a single click, so users can experience on-the-go learning at a time convenient to them.

INFO ➔ www.uq.edu.au/itunes/

New awards add to Centenary celebrations

The University of Queensland scooped the pool when Premier Anna Bligh announced the winners of a prestigious award recently.

The University was named a “Queensland Great” at a ceremony in the Roma Street Parklands in June, while all five individual recipients of the award had connections with UQ.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield said he was honoured to accept UQ’s award on behalf of the 180,000 graduates and staff who have worked at the University since it was founded a century ago.

When UQ opened for classes in 1911, it had 83 students and a £10,000 budget. It was established as “the people’s university” of Queensland.

A century later, UQ has 40,000 students from more than 130 countries and budget of approximately $1.3 billion.

Premier Bligh said that Queensland Greats were individuals and institutions whose achievements had played a significant role in shaping Queensland’s history and development.

In its Centenary year, UQ joins a small and select list of only four other institutions that have been named as Queensland Greats: Blue Care (2009), the Royal Flying Doctor Service (2006), Surf Life Saving Queensland (2007) and Mater Misericordiae Health Services (2006).

The individual winners were:

– Sir Llew Edwards AC, who has made valuable contributions to the field of education in his role as UQ Chancellor from 1993 to 2009.

Sir Llew was also in charge of World Expo 88 in Brisbane and is a former Deputy Premier and Treasurer.

– Professor Michael Good AO, the director of the Queensland Institute of Medical Research and a conjoint Professor in Population Health in the UQ Faculty of Health Sciences.

Professor Good pioneered the development of vaccines for malaria and streptococcus A, which causes rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, and affects large numbers of Indigenous Australians.

– Dr James Edward Liu OAM, was awarded a Doctor of the University honoris causa through UQ’s Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Behavioural Sciences in 1997.

Dr Liu is internationally recognised as a prominent Chinese community leader in Australia and has been a driving force in the preservation of Chinese cultural heritage in Queensland.

– Ruth Hegarty, who was honoured for her lifelong work pursuing social justice for Indigenous people.


– Former Queensland Premier and UQ alumnus Mike Ahern AO, was also recognised for his contributions in politics, business, philanthropy and community service.
The achievements of two outstanding UQ alumni have won them the 2010 Queenslander and Young Queenslander of the Year awards.

Giving deaf children an opportunity to hear earned UQ graduate and current PhD candidate Dimity Dornan the Queenslander of the Year title, while 19-year-old Yasmin Abdel-Magied (pictured) was named Young Queenslander of the Year for her work with Youth Without Borders.

Mrs Dornan, a speech pathologist, founded the Hear and Say Centre in 1992 and Hear and Say Worldwide in 2007.

She said being named Queenslander of the Year had given her and her team a “huge buzz”, but the improved outcomes for deaf children were the real cause for celebration.

“Deaf is not deaf anymore,” Mrs Dornan said.

“When you consider that hearing loss is the most common disability in newborns worldwide, and that we know how to treat it, we really are standing at the point where the treatment of polio was 20 years ago.”

The Hear and Say Centre teaches deaf and hearing-impaired children to listen and speak.

It has services for 400 children in six centres across Queensland, as well as a program for families living in regional and remote locations.

In 2007, Mrs Dornan started Hear and Say Worldwide, and there are now people who have trained with the organisation in 11 countries.

It operates mainly as a training operation, equipping local speech pathologists and teachers with the skills to help deaf children progress, but also supports new hearing projects where possible.

Throughout her career, Mrs Dornan has strived to quash traditional beliefs that deaf children cannot learn to hear, listen and speak well enough to be clearly understood.

These myths have been investigated through her PhD research, which compared children with severe hearing impairments to children who had normal hearing.

The results showed there were no differences between the two groups in terms of their progress in listening, speech, language, reading, mathematics and self-esteem.

She is completing her PhD through the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, and will present the final research paper at the Newborn Hearing Screening conference in Como, Italy and the Alexander Graham Bell 2010 Biennial Convention in Orlando, Florida.

Another Queenslander making a big social impact is Ms Abdel-Magied, a third-year UQ Bachelor of Engineering student.

Ms Abdel-Magied received the Young Queenslander of the Year award for her work with Youth Without Borders (YWB), a group that strives to empower young people to work together and implement positive change.

She founded YWB in 2007, the same year she was named Australian Muslim of the Year.

Originally from Sudan, Miss Abdel-Magied said she was passionate about helping people with big ideas achieve their goals.

“Everyone has their key passion, but I’m interested in helping whoever I can help in whatever way possible,” she said.

“I’m passionate about getting people to work together to help others.

“I am trying to get all young people involved, not only Muslim women.”

Youth Without Borders has several projects currently underway, including a mobile library in Indonesia and sending medical products to women in Africa.

Ms Abdel-Magied said she hoped winning the Young Queenslander of the Year award would help her organisation increase its profile and expand its volunteer base.

She will complete her engineering degree in 2011, and would like to consider her options after graduating.

“Who knows?” she said.

“I didn’t expect this to come along and it’s opened so many opportunities.

“I think engineering’s got quite a versatile skill base. It gives me problem solving skills and initiative.

“I would like to work with a global company that has a social conscience, so I can combine engineering and humanitarian work on an international scale.”
Small but mighty

NEW RESEARCH SHOWS THAT DISEASE RESISTANT PLANTS ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE SMALLER AS A TRADE OFF FOR THEIR DEFENCE.

Dr Sureshkumar Balasubramanian from UQ’s School of Biological Sciences was the lead author of a recent paper in Nature which shows that disease resistant plants grow more slowly and are less competitive than more susceptible relatives.

“When you have limited energy sources, it is always a dilemma to decide whether to invest in defence or growth. Investing in defence compromises your growth in the absence of enemies,” Dr Balasubramanian said.

“Among a group of plants we saw that some were growing more slowly compared with others, and when we looked closely we found these plants were making armour required for defence.”

Dr Balasubramanian said the study found a variant of the ACD6 gene in mouse-ear cress (Arabidopsis thaliana) that explained a common phenomenon in plants where one succumbs to disease while its neighbour thrives.

“The plants with this variant make molecules required for defence even before they encounter an attack and are able to combat a wide range of enemies, from bacteria and fungi to insects such as aphids,” he said.

“But you cannot have the majority of population advocating war, even in plant communities. It is important for the benefit of the community to have a correct balance. If you invest heavily in defence, it compromises your growth.”

The study was initiated during Dr Balasubramanian’s tenure at the Max-Planck Institute for Developmental Biology in Germany with Professor Detlef Weigel, and found the ACD6 gene functioned as a universal weapon in the fight against predators.

“We could show that this gene makes plants resistant against pathogens, but at the same time it slows down the production of leaves and limits the size of leaves, so that these plants are always smaller than those that do not have this variant,” Professor Weigel said.

“But as soon as they are being attacked, the plants with the special ACD6 variant have a leg up compared to plants with the standard version.”

The research was conducted with collaborators from the Max Planck Institute, the University of Southern California, the University of Chicago, the University of North Carolina, the University of Göttingen and the Salk Institute.

Above: a scanning electron micrograph of an Arabidopsis leaf infected with powdery mildew and left: a wild Arabidopsis plant.
UQ IS REVAMPING THE DELIVERY OF AGRICULTURAL TEACHING AND RESEARCH TO FORGE STRONGER PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE FUTURE.

From 2011, UQ’s organisational map will include a new School of Agriculture and Food Science to lead research in areas including land, crop and food sciences; animals; and agricultural plant sciences based on biotechnology.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield said the new school would enhance the expertise of the Queensland, Australian and international workforce to improve sustainable agricultural and food production.

“Agriculture and food security are vital global issues with the world population projected to increase from 6.9 billion to 9.2 billion by 2050,” he said.

“Unfortunately Queensland and Australia risk losing opportunities to take significant roles in addressing the challenges because of a prolonged nation-wide decline in enrolments in traditional university agricultural degrees.”

The Australian Council of Agricultural Deans reported a decline of more than 18% in enrolments between 2001 and 2006.

“UQ’s new strategy will improve our links with industry and encourage teamwork among academics from different disciplines, with the goal of making learning and research more innovative and more relevant to industry,” Professor Greenfield said.

“The University will also create more academic pathways into careers that contribute to agriculture and food security, through a planned review of programs in agriculture, applied science and environmental management.

“Agricultural and food industries are drawing on an expanding range of disciplines and expertise and it is important that UQ’s structures and curricula meet industry needs and student expectations.”

From next year, the Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science (NRAVS) will be disestablished and schools will be consolidated in an expanded Faculty of Science comprising:

- Biological Sciences
- Biomedical Sciences
- Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences
- Earth Sciences
- Geography, Planning and Environmental Management – consolidating the discipline of environmental management

• Mathematics and Physics
• Veterinary Science

In addition, the faculty will include an amalgam of the Schools of Land, Crop and Food Sciences; Animal Studies; Integrative Systems (except for Environmental Management); and plant sciences that have an applied biotechnology and agricultural focus.

UQ’s governing council, the Senate, recently approved the organisational changes, which will be implemented in consultation with external stakeholders.

The Gatton Campus will continue to be developed as a key location for teaching and research in all aspects of agriculture.

INFO ➔ www.science.uq.edu.au

QAAFI appoints director

Professor Robert Henry has been appointed Professor of Innovation in Agriculture and Director of the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI), a new research Institute at The University of Queensland.

QAAFI is a joint initiative of UQ and the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation.

Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries, Rural and Regional Queensland Tim Mulherin said the appointment is a tribute to the Government’s long-standing and highly successful relationship with UQ in agriculture and related research.

“Through this appointment and the subsequent shaping of QAAFI, the Bligh Government will be initiating world class research into agricultural innovation,” Mr Mulherin said.

“Professor Henry comes to QAAFI from the Centre for Plant Conservation Genetics at Southern Cross University in New South Wales and has a remarkable history of achievement.

“He is a highly cited scientist with a background in the application of molecular techniques, used to identify plant variation useful in agriculture, especially in the development of higher value crops.”

UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Max Lu said the University was delighted to have an internationally renowned scientist such as Professor Henry accept the role.

“Professor Henry will strengthen Queensland’s involvement in high-end science, which will deliver great pay-offs for Queensland agribusinesses,” Professor Lu said.

“His direction of QAAFI should see it capitalise on new science platforms in areas such as genomics, materials science and advanced systems modelling to create new innovations for Queensland’s food and agribusinesses.”

Professor Henry (pictureed) is a graduate of UQ, Macquarie University and La Trobe University. He was also awarded a Doctor of Science by UQ in 2001.

“Agriculture is central to many current global environmental and social issues, food security, energy security, water security, adaptation to climate change and human nutrition and health,” Professor Henry said.

“Evolutions in biotechnology, nanotechnology and information technology are providing new opportunities to advance sustainable agriculture and food production.”

Professor Henry said the products of agriculture increasingly extended beyond food and fibre to energy and a wide range of renewable bio-materials.

“The research challenge is to increase the efficiency and sustainability of production and the value of both the traditional and new products of agriculture,” he said.

INFO ➔ www.qaafi.uq.edu.au
Strengthening Indigenous studies

By setting group work and encouraging deep thinking, UQ’s Dr Liz Mackinlay and Dr Katelyn Barney hope to implement reconciliation in a practical way.

The pair, along with colleagues from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit, have just trialed Problem-Based Learning (PBL) in a first-year Indigenous Australian studies course.

Dr Mackinlay said the pilot study had been a success, with students feeling engaged, asking more questions and choosing to read widely. PBL – which often involves working in small groups with a lecturer or a tutor who facilitates discussions – helps students “learn how to learn”.

“In many ways PBL group work enables the class to build a community of learners, joined by a shared commitment and desire to know,” Dr Mackinlay said.

“It also creates a space where openness, intellectual rigor and personal transformation can happen. “There are no right answers in PBL; rather this approach seeks to raise questions in order to allow students to deeply explore, discuss and reflect.”

Students in the course learned the history and ongoing debates around Aboriginal women’s traditional ownership of Hindmarsh Island in South Australia.

The content raised questions about relationships to country, gender and knowledge, and the impact of colonisation and the continued silencing of Aboriginal voices in Australia today.

Dr Barney said the teaching approach was well-suited to Indigenous Australian studies as it mirrored what she and Dr Mackinlay understood about Indigenous methods of knowledge transfer.

“Many students commented that they had gained a deeper understanding of the disjunction between Western judicial systems and Indigenous knowledge systems and also made them aware that not all Aboriginal women agreed,” she said.

“In the Indigenous Australian Studies classroom, there are occasions where students generate questions that the lecturer cannot answer.

“This in turn begins another cycle of reflection-action-reflection as both students and teachers enter into a dialogue together to find what it is that needs to be learnt and to better understand what is problematic about a situation.

“The approach helped them to think critically and deeply about complex issues rather than surface learning, assisted them to ask questions and more questions, and to critically reflect on their learning and engage with their peers.”

The project is funded through a $220,000 grant from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council.

A new student collaborative space called The Hive has opened in the Social Sciences and Humanities Library.

Located on Level One of the Duhig Building, which houses the SS&H Library, the new space has proven popular since it opened in the first week of semester one.

Shifting the emphasis away from book-learning and quiet spaces, The Hive is a vibrant and crowded hub of activity designed for discussion, collaboration and learning.

It provides students with computers, group tables with sound pods for listening to audio-visual material, and has large casual seating areas for meetings or reading.

The latest journals and newspapers are also available in an expanded reading room and liaison librarians are on hand to provide research assistance by drop-in consultation or appointment.

The Hive’s mix of spaces and fittings is flexible and provides for both independent and group learning.

It also provides a space where academic staff can meet with their students.

Faculty of Arts Associate Dean (Academic) Professor Fred D’Agostino said he found The Hive to be a conducive space for learning and consultation.

“We’ve learned, by asking them, that our students need a place where they can meet, where they can work in teams and also work collaboratively individually, and where they can get access to all the material supports for their learning,” Professor D’Agostino said.

“The Hive is the University’s latest response to these needs.

“All the faculties teaching into the Bachelor of Arts and other generalist social science and humanities programs welcome the development of this innovative and student-focused space.”

According to University Librarian and Director of Learning Services, Keith Webster, UQ’s libraries are the intellectual heart of student life.

“While learning takes place in a variety of settings, it is most effectively supported and enriched in an environment that stimulates and fosters intellectual engagement,” Mr Webster said.

He said today’s students regarded the library as the primary place where they could undertake learning.

“They appreciate the scholarly feel of the place and they welcome the chance to work with each other while surrounded by the tools and products of both the print and technological age,” he said.

“It is our hope that this new space will be a tangible display of how UQ libraries are making a real and lasting contribution to the learning process through the provision of excellent learning spaces.”

The library and the Faculties of Arts and Social and Behavioural Sciences joined forces to fund the refurbishment of The Hive.
Celebrating difference

MEMBERS OF THE UQ
COMMUNITY HAVE BEEN
RECOGNISED FOR THEIR
COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY.

A project which is encouraging more accurate representation of Indigenous peoples and issues in the media is the main prize winner in this year’s UQ Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity Awards.

Presented on May 27, the awards were a highlight of the University’s annual Diversity Week, which featured events and workshops including a public lecture by prominent Asian-Australian artist William Yang.

The $10,000 prize was presented to Heather Stewart of the School of Journalism and Communication and Michael Williams, Director of the University’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit.

Their project, Indigenous Voice, aims to develop cross-cultural awareness, investigate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander journalism and communication student intake, retention and graduate outcomes, and develop resources for students covering Indigenous issues.

Mr Williams said Indigenous students in particular had gained enormous inspiration from this project.

“It gives them hope they can have a role in the world of the media and make a difference,” he said.

The $5000 runner-up prize was awarded to The University of Queensland United Nations Millennium Development Goals project, represented by Ms Alicia Veasey.

The project is jointly supported by the UQ School of Medicine and the UQ Medical Society.

Ms Veasey said the project aimed to produce UQ medical graduates who are keenly aware, motivated and equipped to actively address the responsibility of global health inequalities throughout their careers.

“The project will use the prize to create an Australian Indigenous health elective bursary and developing world health elective bursary,” she said.

The Alumni Equity and Diversity Award was presented to UNICEF Pakistan communications officer Shandana Aurangzeb Durrani, for contributions in the areas of social justice and gender relations.

Denied her her right to higher education, and forced into marriage at a very young age, Ms Durrani vowed to change things for other women and children in Pakistan.

With no financial or moral support from her family, she completed an MBA at the University of Peshawar, worked in positions throughout the social justice sector, and was awarded AusAid, Fulbright and Chevening scholarships, which allowed her to study at UQ.

Ms Durrani’s work for UNICEF has continually shed light on the plight of her country’s most vulnerable residents. She also offers support to women and young girls in Pakistan who are victims of sexual abuse and assault.

This year the University presented a special Centenary award to philanthropists and UQ alumni Andrew and Jennifer Brice.

After the commercial success of the business venture Wotif.com with fellow UQ graduate Graeme Wood, the pair established the UQ Endowment Fund (UQef) to support scholarships, professional chairs and research programs in areas of emerging need.

Andrew and Jennifer have most recently committed to the UQ Young Achievers program, encouraging talented high school students who may not have considered university as an option due to personal or financial circumstances.

The awards ceremony also featured a lively panel discussion facilitated by ABC broadcaster, Richard Fidler. Guest panelists were Professor Fazal Rizvi of the University of Illinois and UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (International) Dr Anna Coccarelli.

INFO ➔ To watch the panel discussion, visit www.uq.edu.au/diversity-week

MIXING BUSINESS WITH CHARITY

As part of their Entrepreneurship and New Ventures course, eight UQ Business School postgraduate students are helping Vital Connection to run a vegetarian soup kitchen three nights per week.

Victor Petelo said the team was working to achieve two main goals — to increase awareness and raise funds through fundraising activities and sponsorship.

“We want to highlight what people can do to help, through organisations such as Vital Connection,” Mr Petelo said.

Team leader Clare Gallimore said the experience had so far been extremely rewarding.

STUDENT DIPLOMACY

A group of UQ international students is helping to spread the message about studying in Brisbane.

The students are among 30 who were recently inducted as ambassadors by the Lord Mayor, and are working as part of the Study Brisbane initiative.

Ambassador and UQ student Aleyda Perez, who is originally from Colombia, described the program as “wonderful”.

“I’ve been mainly sharing information based on my own experience as an international student and I think it really helps because students really like to hear experiences from others,” she said.

PARR PRIZE

Professor Matt Brown from UQ’s Diamantina Institute has been awarded the prestigious 2010 Parr Prize.

The Australian Rheumatology Association awards the prize every three years to acknowledge outstanding achievement in rheumatologic research.

This is the second award presented to a researcher at the institute; Professor Ranjeny Thomas received the prize in 1998. Professor Brown said the award was “a tremendous thrill and honour, for which I have to thank my research team whose achievements it recognises”.

INFO ➔ To watch the panel discussion, visit www.uq.edu.au/diversity-week
Industry Engagement - ADVANCE YOUR RESEARCH AND YOUR CAREER

Engaging with industry – is it for me?

This year’s Experts Exchange forum, run by UQs main commercialisation company, UniQuest, aims to help academics and their research teams understand more about industry engagement, and ways to optimise their expertise and skills, through consulting and contract research.

Some 200 UQ researchers and academics have attended Experts Exchange since it was introduced to UniQuest’s professional development program for researchers in 2007.

“Consulting would be a great addition to an academic career, not an alternative…”

including the risks, rewards, and reasons why they have added this dimension to their careers. The informal atmosphere of the forum encourages interaction and previous attendees have appreciated the opportunity to have their questions answered with candour and common sense. The networking after the forum presents further opportunities for researchers interested in consulting to talk directly with their peers.

“Experts Exchange is not solely about informing or educating academics about industry engagement. It’s also about researchers networking to generate ideas and contacts for future collaborations,” says UniQuest Managing Director, David Henderson.

This year’s program will extend opportunities for interactive discussion. If you have a question about engaging with industry email it to p.harpur@uniquest.com.au and come along on the 16th September to participate in the discussion.

Collaborative opportunities originate from forum

Experts Exchange was instrumental in connecting two leading research groups with common research and methodology interests.

A/Prof Susan Trelor, in her new role as Head of Deployment Health Surveillance Program with the Centre for Military & Veterans’ Health (CMVH), was able to renew her acquaintance with A/Prof Warren Laffan, Research Director of what was UQ Social Research Centre (UQSRC is now part of the Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR)). UniQuest had been associated with UQSRC since 2008 and had supported CMVH in their successful bid to the Department of Veteran Affairs for a three-year research contract.

This reconnection was not only mutually beneficial, but timely. Following Experts Exchange CMVH invited Warren and a team from ISSR to undertake analytical studies on the DVA project.

“Meeting Warren was very fortuitous. The quality of research and experience of ISSR researchers are a good match for us,” says A/Prof Susan Trelor.

UniQuest hosted a meeting of representatives of each Centre and facilitated an informal discussion and exchange of research interests. Mutual opportunities identified covered sectors such as Customs, AFP and emergency services.

A month later, members of both groups presented on their respective research expertise at a CMVH research meeting.

The two Centres have since collaborated together on a number of projects and proposals.

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Diary Claimer: Experts Exchange – Thursday 16th September 2010
Time: 4:00pm-5:00pm panel forum  5:00pm – 6:00pm networking
Venue: Innes Room, Level 4, Student Union Complex (#21)
Enquiries: p.harpur@uniquest.com.au
A UQ EXPERT WAS WITNESS TO A MOMENT IN SPACE EXPLORATION HISTORY OVER THE SKIES OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA LAST MONTH.

Professor Richard Morgan was one of only two Australian academics to join astronauts from NASA, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and other organisations to study the Hayabusa spacecraft’s fiery descent over the South Australian desert.

Professor Morgan joined Associate Professor David Buttsworth from the University of Southern Queensland to make measurements of the re-entry, which marked the end of the spacecraft’s seven-year journey to bring a sample of the asteroid Itokawa back to Earth.

A Douglas DC-8 airborne laboratory, with Professor Morgan and Dr Buttsworth on board, departed from a NASA facility in California, carrying nearly 30 scientists and their instruments to Melbourne to make final preparations for the Hayabusa’s return.

The spacecraft fell over the Woomera Prohibited Area close to midnight on June 13.

With the return of the capsule, JAXA and NASA have concluded a remarkable mission of exploration.

“Hayabusa will be the first space mission to have made physical contact with an asteroid and returned to Earth,” Tommy Thompson, NASA’s Hayabusa project manager, said.

“The mission and its team have faced and overcome several challenges over the past seven years. This round-trip journey is a significant space achievement and one which NASA is proud to be part of.”

Launched in May 2003, Hayabusa was designed as a flying testbed. Its mission was to

...research several new engineering technologies necessary for returning planetary samples to Earth for further study. With Hayabusa, JAXA scientists and engineers hoped to obtain detailed information on electrical propulsion and autonomous navigation, as well as an asteroid sampler and sample re-entry capsule.

...The 510kg spacecraft rendezvoused with asteroid Itokawa in September 2005. Over the next two-and-a-half months, the spacecraft made scientific observations of the asteroid’s shape, terrain, surface altitude distribution, mineral composition, gravity, and the way it reflected the sun’s rays.

...Soon after, Hayabusa briefly touched down on the surface of the asteroid. That was only the second time in history this feat had been achieved. Hayabusa marked the first attempt to sample asteroid surface material.

..."The Japanese and NASA engineers and scientists involved in Hayabusa’s return from asteroid Itokawa are proud of their collaboration and their joint accomplishments," Mr Thompson said.

...“Certainly, any samples retrieved from Itokawa will provide exciting new insights to understanding the early history of the solar system. This will be the icing on the cake, as this mission has already taught us so much.”

...When Hayabusa reached an altitude of 58km, its heat shield experienced temperatures of more than 2800 degrees Celsius, while the gas surrounding the capsule recorded 7200 degrees Celsius – hotter than the surface of the sun.

...The data acquired will help engineers evaluate how thermal protection systems behave during super-speedy spacecraft re-entries. This information will help engineers understand what a sample return capsule returning from Mars would undergo.

INFO ➔ http://science.nasa.gov/missions/hayabusa/
REDUCING OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

UQ IS SERIOUS ABOUT SAVING ENERGY ON CAMPUS, WITH A NEW CARBON MONITORING AND REDUCTION SCHEME UNDER WAY.

After reducing water consumption by 44 percent in five years, UQ is tackling another sustainability challenge – minimising its carbon footprint.

UQ generated 179 kilotonnes of CO₂-equivalent emissions in 2008/2009, with approximately 55 percent of this attributed to electricity consumption from air conditioning.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield said after “talking the talk” in research projects for many years, the University was now operationally “walking the walk”.

“We are a national and international research leader in areas including geothermal energy, biofuels, solar and clean coal technologies, intelligent grids and network systems, and energy economics,” Professor Greenfield said.

“We must now apply our expertise and harness the commitment of staff and students to further reduce the University’s carbon footprint.”

The University is a signatory to international sustainability agreements including the Talloires Declaration and the Universitas 21 Sustainability Statement.

Since 1996, the University has had an environmental policy and environmental management system in place.

In 2008, UQ conducted a study on its carbon footprint and last year the University began widening the focus of its environmental program to embed sustainability into teaching and research programs and operational activities.

Deputy Director of Property and Facilities Geoff Dennis said having high-level commitment and enthusiasm for the carbon management strategy made “all the difference” for progressive institutions.

“In 2008/2009 we triggered the 0.5 petajoule threshold under the Federal Government’s Energy Efficiency Opportunities Act, which requires Australia’s biggest energy users to undertake energy assessments, using a whole of business approach to identify energy savings opportunities,” Mr Dennis said.

The University is currently conducting pilot energy audits of 11 major buildings. Following energy efficiency trials, an energy program will be rolled out across the St Lucia campus.

Last year UQ submitted its first report under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act, covering more than 20 sites and numerous emission sources.

SUSTAINABILITY GOES ONLINE AT UQ

The University of Queensland celebrated World Environment Day on June 4 with the launch of its new sustainability website.

Providing information on topics as diverse as climate change experiments and nesting boxes for native birds, the site is a one-stop-shop for information about how UQ is embedding sustainability into its research, teaching and operational activities.

Environmental coordinator Kay Ollett said the website pulled key details about individual projects into one central resource, highlighting the range of initiatives under way at UQ.

“UQ is dedicated to embedding sustainability in all aspects of campus life,” she said.

“This website provides a clear snapshot of how UQ is rising to the green challenge.”

Initiatives include developing an environmental area at The Lakes precinct at St Lucia and planting native species in the bushland areas at UQ’s experimental mine at Indooroopilly (for further information see facing page).

Ms Ollett said UQ aimed to incorporate a range of sustainable features into buildings and grounds to continually improve its environmental performance.

The Sir Llew Edwards Building, a recent addition to the St Lucia campus, features water harvesting, solar panels and an innovative shading system.

The University is also making serious and detailed efforts to reduce energy consumption. Lighting and air conditioning in lecture theatres is being automatically controlled to coincide with room bookings, staff are being urged to be vigilant about turning off computers and other equipment overnight, and energy efficient lighting has been installed around the campuses.

“In 2009 the University began widening its already established environmental program to embed sustainability into its teaching and research programs and operational activities,” Ms Ollett said.

“To achieve this, UQ is developing its carbon strategy to identify, prioritise and guide progress.”

The website is not just home to information on UQ’s operational sustainability efforts; it also contains details on research, collaborative projects and study programs.

INFO → www.uq.edu.au/sustainability
Biodiversity Boost

Staff and students consistently rate UQ’s landscaping as one of its best features.

But its natural beauty is more than skin deep: the grounds and gardens are playing an important ecological role, underpinned by scientific sustainability principles.

Deputy Director of Property and Facilities Geoff Dennis said policies and management plans ensured constant improvement in the biodiversity of UQ’s 50 sites throughout Queensland.

The Lakes environmental precinct at St Lucia has been one area of particular focus.

“That landscape has been mapped and designed in consultation with UQ’s Ecology Centre,” Mr Dennis said.

Significant steps taken to promote biodiversity in the precinct include:

– Systematically removing exotic trees and plants and replacing them with native species;
– Aerating the main lake to improve water quality;
– Controlling the burgeoning white ibis population; and
– Appointing a specialist gardener to monitor and oversee the flora and fauna.

For St Lucia’s senior grounds supervisor Shane Biddle and gardener Cath MacLean (pictured), promoting biodiversity means working to encourage a wide variety of plants – especially natives – and creating and maintaining habitats for animals. Shrubs and trees such as banksias and grevilleas are used to help attract insects and birds.

A Royal Spoonbill bird has taken up residence at St Lucia following environmental works below Staff House Road. Other avian residents include Bush Stone-curlews, known for their distinctive look and unusual call.

Mr Biddle said habitat for this species was created simply by leaving low-hanging poinciana branches draping on the ground — rather than trimming them — allowing the birds to live in the protected area below.

Wildlife living in the lakes is diverse, with an ecological survey conducted as part of planning for the Advanced Engineering Building (more on page 20), identifying more than 100 flora and fauna species.

Mr Dennis said UQ had restored and regenerated two separate seven hectare bushland sites – one at the Indooroopilly Experimental Mine site, and the other at the Gatton campus (pictured above).

“What is now the Gatton Environmental Park, incorporating Lake Galletly and Lake Lenore, was formerly a disused nine-hole golf course,” he said.

The park was an ecological asset in its own right, but has also become a key teaching resource.

Heron Island Research Station, in a World Heritage-listed marine park, is another one of UQ’s natural assets.

A number of UQ’s sites had been officially designated “Land For Wildlife”, in recognition of ecological achievements to date.

One local animal that does not live on the St Lucia campus however is the koala; but this may change.

A long narrow stretch of land, running 2km along the riverfront to Long Pocket, has been regenerated with 12,000 plants, of which 4000 are eucalypt trees suitable for koalas.

“Protecting, enhancing and re-establishing UQ’s natural ecosystems is gradually gaining momentum,” Mr Dennis said.

“But there is a long way to go.”

Bird species which have benefited from UQ biodiversity strategies include:

Bush Stone-curlews (pictured)
Dusky Moorhens
Australian Pelicans
Purple Swamphens
Pacific Black Ducks
Understanding our oceans

BY PROFESSOR OVE HOEGH-GULDBERG – DIRECTOR, GLOBAL CHANGE INSTITUTE

The ocean enthralled me from an early age, and apparently pre destined my career as a marine scientist. Strange inhabitants of rock pools and reefs captivated me on our family holidays on the NSW south coast. Later, as a spellbound teenager, I visited the Sydney shoreline at every opportunity. Our family home brimmed with my pets – sea snakes, blue ringed octopus and wobbegong sharks in aquariums.

To some, the work of marine scientists may seem frivolous. After all, we dive in spectacular environments – places that most people think of as holiday destinations. As my late PhD supervisor from UCLA, Professor Leonard Muscatine, always said when asked what he did for a living: "It's hard to describe, but it sure beats working!"

What was originally my passionate indulgence has now become a very serious pursuit. While doing my doctoral research, coral reefs began showing the first significant signs of climate change.

Odd and unprecedented events occurred. Entire reef systems turned ghostly white. Some died. It was not clear what these events were due to rapid increases in tropical sea temperatures, which are being driven by rising greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere.

Entire reef systems turned ghostly white. Some died. It was not clear what these events were due to rapid increases in tropical sea temperatures, which are being driven by rising greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere.

Dramatic effects are being seen in other oceans; polar seas also are changing rapidly from the state in which they have been for thousands of years.

Dr John Bruno – at UQ on sabbatical from the University of North Carolina – and I have just published in Science the first global overview of climate change impacts on our oceans. What we found will be challenging to the sustainable use of oceans anywhere.

Oceans cover 71 percent of the world’s surface, provide 50 percent of our oxygen, 40 percent of the protein we eat, and a “sink” for 30 percent of CO2 produced from burning fossil fuels.

In all aspects, the ocean is our planet’s “heart and lungs”. Consequently, any sign of change spells potentially serious trouble for people and ecosystems everywhere.

And changing it is. The latest information collated in our review indicates that almost everything about the ocean is now shifting. Atmospheric CO2 absorbed by the ocean is causing it to acidify. Ocean pH will soon be more acidic than it has been for millions of years.

Sea level rise of about one metre is expected on coastlines globally in the next 100 years. This puts at risk goods and services that financially and materially support hundreds of millions of people.

There is little doubt that the world’s beautiful coral reefs, sometimes referred to as “canaries of the sea”, are in serious trouble. Population growth, the investment has to be substantial,” he said.

“I call upon the business community, government and individuals to assist UQ in solving these complex and pressing global issues,” Professor Hoegh-Guldberg said the GCI aimed to consolidate UQ as a leader in the analysis of complex problems, while providing a platform for both UQ researchers and the community.

Deputy Directors Professor Andrew Griffiths and Mr Barry Ball bring decades of experience to their roles, and the institute also benefits from the expertise of board member and Chair of the Australian Carbon Trust, Professor Robert Hill.

INFO → www.gci.uq.edu.au

There is no debate among climate change scientists on the fact that global emissions must be cut by 90 percent over the next 50 years – or the world’s future will be extremely grim.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change concludes that sacrificing just one percent of global economic growth over the next 50 years will stabilise atmospheric CO2 levels.

We also must unleash a Renaissance of thought: developing and implementing technologies that will generate energy without producing excessive greenhouse gases. We must do this for ourselves, our children and our world.
UQ TO BUILD ITS OWN SOLAR SYSTEM

AN IMPRESSIVE ADDITION TO AUSTRALIA’S SOLAR ENERGY NETWORK WILL BE BUILT ON THE ROOFTOPS OF UQ ST LUCIA.

The University is making a bold investment in green energy with its $7.75 million, 1.2 megawatt photovoltaic solar array, which is due for completion at the end of this year.

The panels will be installed on the two multi-storey car parks, the UQ Centre and the Sir Llew Edwards Building.

Deputy Director of Property and Facilities, Geoff Dennis, said the system was expected to generate about six percent of the St Lucia campus’s average peak demand and 1.6 percent of its annual electricity usage, resulting in a $6 million saving on electricity costs over the next 15 years.

“The system will recover its own cost in 15 years — or sooner, depending on future power prices — but it will have a life of about 25 years,” Mr Dennis said.

Brisbane firm Ingenero won the tender to build the system, and Trina Solar will supply the panels.

“The innovative deal signed between UQ and Ingenero was made possible by a $1.5 million contribution from the Queensland Government and substantial contribution from our technology partners,” Mr Dennis said.

“This was achievable because all parties saw the value of engaging with UQ’s research capabilities, and from gaining access to the system’s valuable performance data.”

Professor Paul Meredith, a senior researcher with UQ’s School of Mathematics and Physics, worked for 18 months designing the system and negotiating the government and corporate partnerships that made the deal possible.

“Everyone wanted to be involved,” Professor Meredith said.

“This really is a very important project. Research-wise, it is at the cutting edge globally. From a national perspective, it is a very significant piece of infrastructure.”

Professor Meredith said UQ electrical engineering experts would use the system to research ways of feeding electricity into grids from stand-alone generating plants.

This would pave the way for numerous greenhouse-friendly power generating plants — including solar, wind, wave and biomass — to start feeding into electricity grids everywhere.

The system’s performance data will also be streamed live to the internet for use by schools or anyone with an interest in solar power.

Professor Meredith said the solar power plant catapulted UQ into the big league of solar research, and the new array was “the envy of other universities”.

In April, Queensland Premier Anna Bligh announced a grant of $1.5 million towards the project.

She noted the system would save about 1750 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions annually — equivalent to taking 335 cars off the roads each year. The panels themselves would cover an area equivalent to about one-and-a-half rugby fields.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield commended the State Government for its commitment to solar research and technology.

“UQ will show leadership as a generator and user of solar energy and also as a provider of internationally recognised teaching, research and development regarding solar technologies,” Professor Greenfield said.

“It will position our University as a major provider of solar research expertise and infrastructure in upcoming major initiatives such as the Solar Flagships Program.”

Ingenero’s chief executive, Steve McRae, said UQ’s installation would be at the leading edge of industrial-scale solar energy in Australia.

Last year, Ingenero was named as one of the three suppliers that will deliver the $60 million Solar and Efficiency in Queensland State Schools Program, under which all 1317 state schools will be generating and consuming solar power by 2012.
UQ BUSINESS STUDENTS ARE PLAYING THEIR PART TO ENCOURAGE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE IN THE CORPORATE SECTOR.

Queensland’s key industries may face significant barriers in adapting to climate change but it is essential they undertake early action, UQ student research has concluded.

Twenty-one Master of Business students worked in teams using different climate change scenarios to evaluate the vulnerabilities of Queensland’s coal, transportation, tourism, clean energy and insurance sectors, as well as policy developments.

Business School lecturer and corporate sustainability expert Martina Linnenluecke said the research showed that each sector faced significant vulnerabilities to climate change, especially if emissions were not mitigated.

“The students found that adverse impacts of climate change are expected for infrastructures such as energy and transportation or natural attractions such as coral reefs,” Ms Linnenluecke said.

The students investigated the potential effects on the state’s productivity for their Business Strategies for Sustainability and Innovation subject.

They also identified appropriate adaptation, mitigation and resilience measures, as well as possible critical events and legislative frameworks and changes that might need to be considered, and how to respond to these.

Ms Linnenluecke said one barrier was that adaptation required significant investment, particularly where infrastructure was involved.

UQ offers a range of sustainability-focused courses and programs at undergraduate and postgraduate level. They include:

- Bachelor of Environmental Science
- Bachelor of Environmental Engineering
- Graduate Diploma in Environmental Tourism
- Master of Sustainable Systems
- Master of Environmental Management

Master of Natural Resource Studies

INFO → www.uq.edu.au/study

UQ AWARDS ITS BEST GREENIES

UQ staff are embracing the green office culture, with almost 100 volunteers promoting environmental practices and awareness across all four campuses.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield presented awards to representatives from UQ’s “greenest” areas at an event to mark World Environment Day on June 4.

The School of Social Science took out the award for most improved area, while the Examinations section was recognised as best newcomer to the Green Office Program.

“You’ve got to look out for the environment because it looks out for you,” Bridget Waugh, green office representative at the School of Social Science, said.

The Green Office Program, established in 2006, is an initiative where UQ staff promote good environmental practices in their work areas.

The program operates through a network of representatives in UQ schools, centres and administrative units and is run by the Sustainability Office in the Property and Facilities Division.

Environmental coordinator Kay Ollett said staff were clearly passionate about the program, with 87 representatives from 77 areas now registered.

Each campus completes an annual assessment covering recycling, energy usage and purchasing practices, as well as general environmental awareness.

Ms Waugh used posters and a weekly e-newsletter to spread the green message in the School of Social Science, which improved its score by 21 percent.

Recycled paper, envelopes and manila folders, and biodegradable pens and pencils are now the norm in her area.

She said her colleagues were enthusiastic about being more environmentally friendly, with most happy to switch off their computers at night, turn off lights and use scrap paper where possible.

Roughly 25% of UQ’s waste to landfill is recyclable

Play your part and recycle the following:

- Paper and cardboard
- Co-mingled (glass, cans, plastic)
- E-waste (such as computers)
- Toner and ink jet printer cartridges

To request recycling boxes and bins, or arrange collection of e-waste and other items, email recycle@pf.uq.edu.au

INFO → www.research.uq.edu.au

FUTURE FOCUS FOR RESEARCH

Sustainability is a key focus and driver for University of Queensland discovery projects, according to Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Max Lu.

Many discipline areas, including energy, business, mining, food production, environment, urban planning and development, clean water, architecture and construction share this sustainable focus, Professor Lu (pictured) said.

UQ is actively pursuing a vast range of research and development projects, many of them multi-disciplinary, such as those undertaken by the new Global Change Institute.

The University also leads the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN), a new national partnership between government agencies and universities to develop collaborative infrastructure that will facilitate enhanced ecosystem research.

The Sustainable Minerals Institute is a world leader in providing knowledge-based solutions to the sustainability challenges of the global minerals industry, while the Ecology Centre is exploring ways to conserve terrestrial, aquatic and marine species and their habitats and ecosystems within Australia and abroad.

The Institute for Social Science Research has developed a Sustainability and Environment Research Program which examines the social, political and institutional aspects of sustainable development, particularly in urban and regional Australia.

UQ is also a world leader in clean energy research spanning geothermal, biofuels, intelligent grids and network systems and energy economics, Professor Lu said. For example, the Centre for Organic Photonics and Electronics (COPE) is exploring new solar cell technology (see page 17 for further information).

In May, the State Government granted $2 million to a UQ-led consortium aiming to produce environmentally friendly aviation fuel from algae. This support means the St Lucia campus will become the hub for world-first aviation biofuel research, which has Boeing, Virgin Blue and Amyris as partners.

INFO → www.research.uq.edu.au
Eager to save shrinking fish stocks and shape the future of their field, two UQ marine biology graduates will soon dive headfirst into a tour of Papua New Guinea.

Peter Waldie (pictured) and Tane Sinclair-Taylor will join Oceanswatch International later this month to analyse the role of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in reducing the impacts of overfishing.

Mr Waldie said he wanted to explore and define new opportunities beyond those traditionally occupied by marine biologists in academic, private and government sectors. “We saw a real opportunity by working with non-government organisations and research groups with an interest in fieldwork in developing countries,” he said.

“We aim to reduce the cost of much-needed field research in these countries by utilising existing networks, and by carrying out multiple projects for leading Australian research groups within each individual trip. “We can achieve these goals and dramatically reduce the costs of doing so. Not only that, but by bringing the skills and knowledge of these groups together we could also improve the services that each provide.”

MPAs include areas known as “green zones” – places where fish and other species can flourish without human interference.

“Inside the zones fish are understandably larger and more abundant and these larger fish spill over into fishing areas,” Mr Waldie said.

This kind of protection is particularly important in areas like remote PNG, where monitoring is minimal. Mr Waldie said the trip to Papua New Guinea had been inspired by fellow students who shared a passion for finding new solutions to save our oceans.

During his studies, which included an honours year in 2009, Mr Waldie completed more than 300 dive hours to observe and capture fish, shark, ray and coral specimens for research.

Fellow honours graduate Mr Sinclair-Taylor has worked extensively in more than 50 field programs with numerous UQ-based research groups in research assistant and field technician roles.

Both Mr Waldie and Mr Sinclair-Taylor will remain in Papua New Guinea until October before sailing along the east coast of Australia to meet with local research groups to discuss their work.

“Larger fish also have more offspring and offspring of higher quality. As most marine fish are broadcast spawners, MPAs are often net exporters of larvae. MPAs may also protect stock genetics from the effects of selective fishing and act as insurance against external stock collapses.”

This kind of protection is particularly important in areas like remote PNG, where monitoring is minimal.

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INFO ➔ www.tourism.uq.edu.au

AUSTRALIA’S TRACK RECORD IN LOOKING AFTER ITS NATURAL WONDERS HAS INSPIRED A CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION.

Lessons learned at Australia’s national parks are expected to help a leading Japanese academic lobby for greener practices back home.

Chuo University Professor Masahiro Yabuta is learning about sustainable management and education while working alongside colleagues at The University of Queensland’s School of Tourism.

Professor Yabuta will be based at the school until March, with plans to visit important natural sites such as the Great Barrier Reef, Uluru and Kakadu National Park.

He has been researching the management and education systems of natural and cultural heritage sites with Head of School Professor Roy Valliantyne, senior lecturer Dr Noel Scott and senior research fellow Dr Sally Driml.

“I have come to learn about management systems in Australia because they are first-class here,” Professor Yabuta said.

“It is important to keep tourism sustainable. A balance and commitment from government, industry and the community is important.”

Communities and businesses wanted to make money from tourist sites, but this activity should not come at the destruction of sites themselves, Professor Yabuta said.

Part of Professor Yabuta’s study is to profile the average eco-tourist, so promotion and education programs could be specifically tailored.

“Everybody wants to be an eco-tourist now,” he said.

“Eco-tourism is a very fancy and popular word. It has a feel-good factor for everybody. People think going green is good for them. But when an economy driven by eco-tourism and going green come together, it can be difficult to get a balance.”

Professor Yabuta said recent research showed only about 10 percent of people tended to consistently behave in an eco-friendly way – even when going on holidays.

INFO ➔ www.tourism.uq.edu.au
UQ’s St Lucia campus already boasts several futuristic buildings, and is about to gain one more in the name of sustainability.

Subterranean corridors to be built under the new $130 million Advanced Engineering Building (AEB) – on the western side of the UQ Lakes – will act as air ducts and form part of the building’s energy-efficient design.

A central atrium will gather cool air and funnel it through all six levels of the 20,000 sq m building.

The AEB will use just 70 percent of the energy used by other similarly sized buildings, mostly through the use of such “passive” features.

“A key aim was to produce a building that used nature to help the building perform – as opposed to using complex technologies,” said architect and UQ alumnus Richard Kirk (pictured), who has designed the AEB in a joint venture with Hassell.

The AEB will have conventional air-conditioning, but the system would be used only two or three months a year.

Remotely operated shutters and doors will allow air to flow in and out of the underground tunnels at optimum times of day.

Similarly, remote-control exterior sun shades will shield the building in summer, while allowing in natural light year-round.

“People are very attuned to opening windows, doors and blinds at various times of day at home – especially with Queenslander houses – but somehow there’s this belief that it can’t be done with commercial buildings,” Mr Kirk said.

“Natural ventilation is the key to ensure a healthy building.”

The AEB will be fitted with a range of monitoring equipment so staff can measure solar controls, daylight, air quality, electricity produced by rooftop photovoltaic panels, and solar hot water.

“A key agenda for UQ was that this building created a new benchmark for sustainability,” Mr Kirk said.

“It will be a learning laboratory in its own right. “This building will house young engineers and architects. The best way for them to learn is to be immersed in a built environment that demonstrates a high level of thought and innovation.”

Another important role for the AEB was that it would become “a new front door” for the university for those coming across the Eleanor Schonell Bridge.

A glass-walled auditorium where all 500 seats will look directly out over the UQ Lakes — with the perception from inside of the auditorium being suspended over water — is one of the AEB’s most stunning design features.

Plantation timber trusses and window frames throughout will be another striking and sustainable feature of the new building.

Mr Kirk said it would be the first large Australian commercial building project to fully utilise timber window frames, instead of aluminium.

The AEB will be the home of UQ’s School of Civil Engineering and five national materials research centres, including the Queensland Centre for Advanced Materials Processing and Manufacturing.

Deputy Director of Property and Facilities Geoff Dennis said UQ had policies to ensure that sustainable design was practised in new buildings consistently across all sites and campuses.
UQ is taking a multi-mode approach to transport in partnership with its 40,000 students, 6000 staff, visitors, community groups and government agencies.

Site planner Ross Meakin said the St Lucia campus’s daytime population was larger than many regional towns and one of the largest specialised centres in South-east Queensland. “No single initiative will solve the huge logistical challenges of moving so many people each day,” Mr Meakin said.

“For example, our St Lucia campus is thought to be the second largest traffic generator in the Brisbane region, with more than 35,000 trips in and out each day.”

Mr Meakin said to help reduce parking and traffic problems, contribute to the reduction of pollution and to foster a healthy lifestyle, the University encouraged public transport, walking, and cycling as alternatives to driving to UQ.

Director of UQ’s Diamantina Institute Professor Ian Frazer said cycling to work was a great way to keep fit, while helping the environment. “Many of the staff in the institute now cycle to work: it’s often quicker than alternate methods of transport,” he said.

Current UQ transport initiatives include:

- The Ipswich campus will be serviced in the future by a Rapid Bus Transit, a rail line with a University station and a new bicycle path network.
- The Gatton campus will benefit from long range plans for electrification of the rail line from Ipswich to Toowoomba.
- A number of new ferries have been put in the network and the St Lucia campus will benefit from four proposed new stops along the river, including at Milton.
- Bus patronage has soared since the opening of the Eleanor Schonell bus, pedestrian and cycle bridge at St Lucia, and the UQ Lakes bus station in 2007. The University Senate has approved an upgrade to the station to double its capacity, and is awaiting news on construction.
- In August 2009, buses began operating along the Eastern Busway from UQ and the Eleanor Schonell Bridge at Dutton Park to the South East Busway at Buranda. A new service (route 77) from Chermside to Eight Mile Plains has been introduced running via the Clem7 tunnel.
- UQ introduced a new parking management system allowing part-time permits for staff wanting more flexible travel options.
- The University has provided input to stage two of the St Lucia Bikeway (connecting the St Lucia golf course bikeway to the campus, and due to commence in Semester Two 2010), and to the proposed pedestrian-cycle bridge from West End to St Lucia.
- UQ has built bicycle amenities in major buildings such as the QBI, AIBN and QBP, has built new bicycle storage areas near the Hartley-Teakle, Otto Hirschfeld and the Sir Llew Edwards buildings, and storage racks near the St Lucia Lakes station.


MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

PUBLIC TRANSPORT PASSENGER FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Passenger Figures</th>
<th>Increase (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UQ Ipswich</td>
<td>3774</td>
<td>2% increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UQ St Lucia</td>
<td>579,164</td>
<td>13.7% increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UQ Gatton</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>88% increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UQ Herston (and surrounds)</td>
<td>48,676</td>
<td>229% increase</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During semester:

- A bus arrives at the UQ Lakes bus stop every two minutes in the morning peak period (7-9am), and departs every 3 minutes in the pm peak period (4-6pm).
- A bus arrives at UQ Chancellors Place every three minutes in the morning peak period (7-9am), and departs UQ Chancellors Place every three minutes in the pm peak period (4-6pm).

* *Source: TransLink (Bus and CityCat figures for Jan–March 2010 compared to same period in 2009)*

The UQ Lakes bus station and Eleanor Schonell Bridge are used by thousands of people each day.
Create A Better You

WEIGHTLOSS CHALLENGE

Personalised program to help you shed those extra kilos before summer!

DURATION 8 WEEKS
STARTS 9 AUGUST

JOIN THE CHALLENGE & RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING TRAINING PACK:
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- 16 one-on-one Personal Training sessions (2 per week)
- 8 group Personal Training session (1 per week)
- 8 week UQ Sport Gym Cardio Pool Membership
- Goodies Bag
- Food and Exercise Training Diary
- Nutritional information Pack
- Healthy Living Seminars

For only $549, take advantage of this great opportunity, valued at OVER $1,000!

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WINNER
3 Nights on the Sunshine Coast
10x Personal Training Sessions
Gym Cardio Pool Membership
POLAR Heart Rate Monitor

RUNNERS-UP (Male & Female)
Gym Cardio Pool Membership
POLAR Heart Rate Monitor

Terms and Conditions apply.

Let’s work together to create a better you!
Find out more at the UQ Sport & Fitness Centre
Call 3365 6612 or visit building 25, Union Rd, St Lucia

SURF’S UP FOR CROCS

UQ ecologists have discovered that saltwater crocodiles like to ride ocean currents to travel long distances.

Dr Hamish Campbell, from UQ’s School of Biological Sciences, together with colleagues from Australia Zoo and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, found that despite being poor swimmers, crocodiles like to surf ocean currents to cross large areas of open sea and populate many South Pacific islands.

“Although it spends most of its life in saltwater, it cannot be considered a marine reptile in the same class as a turtle, as it relies upon the terrestrial environment for food and water,” Dr Campbell said.

“Many anecdotal accounts exist of large crocodiles being sighted far out to sea, but this is the first study to show – using underwater acoustic tags and satellite tracking – that estuarine crocodiles ride surface currents during long distance travel, which would enable them to travel between one oceanic island and another.”

The study, published in the Journal of Animal Ecology, involved tagging 27 adult crocodiles in the remote Kennedy River in North Queensland with sonar transmitters and used underwater receivers to track their every move over 12 months.

Dr Campbell said they found both male and female adult crocodiles undertook long distance journeys, regularly travelling more than 50km from their home area to the river mouth and then beyond into the open sea.

“The data showed that crocodiles always began long distance travel within an hour of the tide changing, allowing them to go with the flow, and that they halted their journeys by hauling out on to the river bank when the tide was against them,” he said.

He said one satellite-tagged crocodile – a 3.84 metre-long male – left the Kennedy River and travelled 590km over 25 days down the west coast of Cape York Peninsula timing its journey to coincide with a seasonal current system that develops in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

A second crocodile – a 4.84 metre-long male – travelled more than 41km in only 20 days from the east coast of Cape York Peninsula through the Torres Straits to the Wenlock River on the west coast of Cape York. The Torres Strait Islands are notorious for strong water currents, and when the crocodile arrived the currents were moving opposite to its direction of travel. It waited in a sheltered bay for four days and only passed through the Straits when the currents switched to favour the crocodile’s journey.

SAVING THE MARY RIVER TURTLE

Queensland’s biodiversity inspires passion among locals and visitors alike, with a UQ researcher travelling all the way from Brazil to play her part.

Mariana de Micheli Campbell is working to secure the future of the Mary River Turtle in a project led by Professor Craig Franklin at UQ’s School of Biological Sciences.

The turtle has received some help thanks to the scrapping of the Traveston Crossing Dam, but is still an endangered species.

“It has become vital to research the Mary River Turtle which is found only in South-east Queensland’s Mary River which flows through the city of Maryborough,” Ms Campbell said.

Professor Franklin’s lab has a distinguished record of managing vulnerable Queensland wildlife including turtles, frogs and crocodiles.

“The impact of environmental degradation from agriculture and irrigation is relatively unknown, so I will look to assess the habitat requirements of the Mary River Turtle across its various life stages as an embryo, hatching, juvenile and adult,” Ms Campbell said.

“I aim to combine both experimental and field based approaches to answer some critical questions about the ecology and physiology of the Mary River Turtle, with a particular focus on their habitat selection and nesting biology, the details of which are not fully understood.”

During the 2009 nesting season, eggs were collected to be incubated under controlled temperatures in a lab.

The 44 turtles which were successfully hatched are being assessed for their ability to swim and participate in other behaviours important for their survival.

Over the next year Ms Campbell will attach electronic transmitters to the turtles and underwater listening receivers will be deployed along a stretch of the Mary River to follow their every move.

The research has been supported by an Australian Research Council Linkage Grant and the Tiaro and District Landcare Group.

ENERGY CHAIR ANNOUNCED

Former UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Development) Professor Trevor Grigg has been named as chairman for the Queensland Geothermal Energy Centre of Excellence.

Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, Stephen Robertson, said Professor Grigg brought a wealth of experience to the position and would help build Queensland’s smart and green credentials.

“Professor Grigg is very well respected and I have full confidence in his ability to push for a sustainable energy future,” he said.

TONES OF VOICE STUDY

Australian-born participants from 18 to 45 are being sought for a study investigating cultural similarities in how people express emotion with their voices.

Instead of focusing on the words people use, researchers will examine the vocal tone and tone of voice people use to express emotions.

Lead researcher Professor Neal Ashkanasy from the UQ Business School said the study would take no more than an hour and a half to complete, with all participants receiving movie vouchers for their effort.

INFO ➔ a.wickham@uq.edu.au

NEW HQ FOR TERN

Australia’s leading ecosystem science hub — the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN) — has moved into a refurbished building on UQ’s St Lucia Campus.

UQ is the headquarters for the national collaboration and UQ Professor of Geography, Stuart Phinn, is the leading scientist on a project that will allow for the integration, standardisation and broader use of ecosystem data.

TERN is an alliance between 12 universities, the CSIRO, the Bureau of Meteorology and Geoscience Australia.
where people can’t be ordered to “stay put” and in a nation that continues to run one of the world’s highest immigration rates? There is rising pressure from longer-term residents for a growth cap. But how do you put up the “full” sign in Australia? These questions point to the third vexing dimension, which is an institutional question. How do we further develop and deepen the governance capacity to push through the growth malaise and build on progressive and transformative practices? How can we plan in this climate of change?

This volume offers a critical lens through which the issues around urban growth and planning might be better understood within the SEQ context. In doing so the book highlights both the visible and invisible issues of infrastructure provision as key areas of policy and planning within increasingly complex governance landscapes comprised of public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

Underpinning the region’s continued growth is the need to plan for key infrastructure networks around transport, electricity, gas, water, hospitals and schools. Identified infrastructure pressures include: the continued growth of the SEQ economy and population; competition between projects and jurisdictions for scarce resources; changes in the living arrangements of the population causing stress on infrastructure, resulting in unreliability of supply; deterioration in environmental factors such as the level of rainfall; and traditional long lead times required to identify and commission new infrastructure.

While these issues are not unique to SEQ, as the fastest growing region in Australia these shifts are taking place on what can only be described as an “epic” scale – one that warrants, if not demands, closer scrutiny and attention.

Planning debate hots up

UQ APPLAUDS ITS MIRACLE WORKERS

The spotlight was on UQ’s quiet achievers in May, with the annual Miracle Workers Awards recognising a record number of staff members.

Chancellor Mr John Story presented 53 awards during a cocktail function at the UQ Club. The awards have gained momentum over their 15-year history, with 22 more nominations received this year than in 2009.

President of the UQ Secretaries and Office Professionals Association (UQSOPA) Tara Kitch said the event provided an opportunity for the University to publicly recognise staff members who continually went above and beyond expectations.

“The Miracle Worker Awards are a great way of recognising the valuable contribution staff make to the University so it is pleasing to see so many people nominated,” Ms Kitch said.

“It is also a chance for the Miracle Workers to be publicly thanked and acknowledged for the wonderful job they do.”

Established in 1995 and now run by the UQSOPA, the Miracle Workers Awards consistently identify UQ’s most dedicated general staff.

A Miracle Worker is defined as someone who constantly goes above and beyond their normal duties; is greatly appreciated by their colleagues for providing assistance; displays a positive influence in their work environment; shows outstanding professionalism; and possesses great organisational skills.

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IN THIS EXCERPT FROM UQP’S NEW BOOK A CLIMATE FOR GROWTH, THE AUTHORS DISCUSS THE NEED FOR SMARTER URBAN PLANNING.

As Australia’s fastest growing urban area with population levels expected to double over the next 20 years, SEQ offers a powerful illustration of the growth paradox. The paradox takes three quite vexing dimensions. First, the big spend underway on infrastructure is trying to address perilous deficits, especially in water and transport. Much of it, especially the massive new tunnels, tollways and bridges, will worsen greenhouse emissions. But should we let the region grind to a halt or dry up? How can we turn around the supertankers of car dependency and resource profligacy?

The second dimension of the paradox is political: how do we address rising community unease about growth in general in a democracy?
THE CGI WIZARDRY OF A TOP RUSSIAN COLLECTIVE FEATURES IN THE NEWEST EXHIBITION AT THE UQ ART MUSEUM.

AES+F: THE REVOLUTION STARTS NOW!, includes two major video installations, The Feast of Trimalchio and Last Riot 2, alongside a new series of large-scale digital “paintings”.

Spectacular effects are created using the visual language of high fashion, advertising and luxury design, intermixed with references to the history of art.

“The work of AES+F has been critically acclaimed not only at the two most recent Venice Biennales, but also at this year’s Sydney Biennale,” UQ Art Museum Director Nick Mitzevich said.

The Feast of Trimalchio takes place at a luxury hotel on a fantasy island location where the human characters are depicted as automatons.

“AES+F brings the slickness of an advertising campaign to the depiction of this pleasure palace, but they also undercut it with the constant threat of catastrophe,” Mr Mitzevich said.

“This work is a commentary on global greed and inequalities, on Russia’s new capitalism, and on our capacity to ignore wider threats, such as environmental disasters.”

AES+F is made up of the surname initials of the collaborating artists: Tatiana Arzamasova, Lev Evzovich and Evgeny Syvatsky (who started working together in 1987 as AES) and Vladimir Fridkes (who joined the group in 1995).

The exhibition’s opening on July 9 marks Mr Mitzevich’s last official event at UQ before taking up his new position as the Director of the Art Gallery of South Australia.

As curator, Mr Mitzevich travelled to Moscow earlier this year to meet the artists, assisted by a grant from the Gordon Darling Foundation.

AES+F: THE REVOLUTION STARTS NOW! continues until August 29. The UQ Art Museum is open free to the public daily from 10.00am to 4.00pm.
UQ Sport's new-look kids' program, Active Tribes, was officially launched on June 16 by Queensland Parliamentary Secretary for Healthy Living, Murray Watt.

Fifty kids from St Ita's Primary School and Brisbane Central State School were led by their sporting heroes in a demonstration of a team athletics activity – one of the many programs offered through Active Tribes.

Sheffield Shield Player of the Season Chris Hartley joined James Hanson of the Queensland Reds and Sophie Croft of the Queensland Firebirds to host the morning's activities.

The Active Tribes program aims to get children “active for life”, and incorporates a wide range of sports and activities.

Program coordinator Sarah Cox said the program was already off to a fantastic start, with around 2000 kids having already participated this year.

Mr Watt said physical activity was a vital part of all children's development.

"Whether you want to grow up to play sport professionally or simply just play sport for fun, it's really important to get started from a young age and in a friendly group environment," he said.

"We're very lucky to have Active Tribes to provide that environment and it's great to see so many kids making the most of it."

Applications are now officially open for 2011 UQ sporting scholarships.

UQ and UQ Sport with the support of the Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc and The Clem Jones Group have offered sporting scholarships to outstanding student-athletes since 1990.

The two main scholarships available are the UQ Sports Achievement Scholarship and the Clem Jones Sporting Scholarship, both worth $6,000 per year in addition to $1,500 worth of support services.

2010 Sports Achievement Scholarship recipient Caitlin Sargent (pictured), will leave for Canada later this month to compete in the World Junior Athletics Championships.

"The financial support has greatly assisted in covering the costs associated with travelling to Canada to compete," she said.

"The backing of the University to achieve my goals on and off the track has also helped me maintain my academic career while fulfilling my dream of representing my country."

2010 Clem Jones Sporting Scholar Campbell Schmidt (pictured) recently competed in the World University Triathlon Championships in Spain.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity I had to represent Australia at the World University Triathlon Championships and would like to extend a huge thank you to UQ Sport and the University of Queensland for making this trip possible," Mr Schmidt said.

Other scholarships on offer include the Postgraduate Coach Scholarship, the Scholarship Ambassador Program, and several King's College scholarships.

Students can also apply year-round for financial assistance to attend university or open level world championship events.

INFO → sportscholarship@uqs.com.au
**EVENTS / NOTICES**

- **July 22–23**
  Clint Eastwood: Monument of American Cinema. This two-day conference explores the legacy and achievements of Clint Eastwood as both an actor and director. Contact: j.jacobs@uq.edu.au, (07) 3365 2960

- **Friday, July 30**
  The second annual School of Medicine Golf Day will be held at Indooroopilly Golf Club. All staff, alumni and community partners are invited to participate. Contact: h.smith7@uq.edu.au, (07) 3365 5515

- **Thursday, August 26**
  Dr Michael Walsh will present a public lecture on the relationship between Aboriginal culture, new media and technology. Dr Walsh will explore some of the specific implications human-machine interactions might have for Australian Aboriginal communities. 5.00pm–7.00pm, James and Mary Emelia Mayne Centre, St Lucia campus. Contact: e.shedden@uq.edu.au, (07) 3365 6247

- **Tuesday, September 7**
  CCCS Seminar with Dr Ben Goldsmith on the ways in which sport has transformed television at the levels of production, content and viewing. 2.00pm–3.00pm, SS&H Conference Room, Dumb Building, St Lucia Campus. Contact: r.ralph@uq.edu.au, (07) 3346 7407

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

UQ Academic Excellence Scholarship

UQ’s Academic Scholarship program aims to recognise and reward the achievements of outstanding school leavers. Over 300 scholarships will be awarded for study in 2011. Value: $12,000. Closing: November 1. Information: www.uq.edu.au/study/scholarships

UQ-Link Access Scholarship 2011

The UQ-Link Access program provides assistance to Year 12 students who have experienced educational disadvantage due to financial hardship. Approved UQ-Link Access students will receive 5 bonus ranks (on a scale of 1–99) to assist them with entry to their chosen program and will also be considered for UQ-Link Access Scholarships. Value: $3000. Closing: October. Information: www.uq.edu.au/study/scholarships

**UQ NEWS DEADLINES**

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<th>COPY DEADLINE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>593</td>
<td>August 18</td>
<td>September 7</td>
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Semester 2 starts July 26

Library hours available at www.library.uq.edu.au

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**ELECTION TO THE ACADEMIC BOARD**

Professors and non-professors

Elections will be held to appoint members to the Academic Board as follows:

**By and from the Professors of the University** – 6 members to serve a term commencing 1 Jan 2011 and expiring 31 Dec 2013

**Nomination Date:** 4pm Thursday, 15 July 2010

**Election Date:** 9am Wednesday, 15 Sept 2010

**By and from the non-professorial teaching and research staff of the University** – 6 members to serve a term commencing 1 Jan 2011 and expiring 31 Dec 2013

**Nomination Date:** 4pm Thursday, 15 July 2010

**Election Date:** 9am Monday, 13 Sept 2010

Any person entitled to vote for any of the classes of elected members to be appointed to the Academic Board is entitled to nominate a professorial or a non-professorial candidate. Nomination forms are available from Mrs Tina Ferguson, Academic Administration (53360) or can be downloaded from the Academic Board website www.uq.edu.au/academic-board/

Nominations must be received in Academic Administration, Room 503, JD Story Building, by 4pm on the nomination date above. Votes must be cast electronically by 9am on the election dates shown above. Persons eligible to vote will receive an email directing them to the University e-Elections system prior to the opening of the ballot.

Student members

Elections will be held to appoint student members of the Academic Board for 2011 as follows:

- 3 Undergraduate Students
- 1 Postgraduate Research Student
- 1 Postgraduate Non-Research Student

**Nomination Week:**

Monday 16 Aug – 4pm, Friday 20 Aug 2010

**Voting Week:**

Monday 4 Oct – 4pm Friday, 8 Oct 2010

Any person entitled to vote in an election for any of the categories of elected student members to be appointed to the Academic Board is entitled to nominate a student candidate. Nominations forms will be available from Monday, August 18 and can be downloaded from the Academic Board website at www.uq.edu.au/academic-board/

Nomination forms will also be available from the Student Centres at St Lucia, Gatton or Ipswich, or can be obtained from the University Elections Officer by telephoning (07) 3365 3365.

Further information regarding arrangements for voting week will be emailed to eligible students prior to the opening of the ballot.

Ms Dorothy Collins, University Secretary and General Counsel

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www.uq.edu.au/academic-board/

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