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THE WORLD’S LEADING PROVIDER OF MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSES

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YOUR UQ. YOUR ADVANTAGE.
Students and their success must remain at the heart of UQ’s enterprise. That may seem like an obvious statement from a university chief, but as global higher education is increasingly obsessed with university rankings, and as public funding for Australian universities shrinks, it may be vital to pause and reflect on what we’re all about.

UQ research has delivered indisputable benefits to people worldwide, and research excellence has helped UQ gain and maintain altitude in the top 100 of more than 10,000 universities, in the key ranking systems. However let’s remember that UQ’s 210,000-plus alumni have also made extraordinary contributions to society.

We owe it to our current and future students, and to the people who will employ and interact with them, to improve on the UQ tradition of educating people who have exemplary careers and lives after graduation.

UQ has the foundations to deliver on this obligation, but we need to remain open-minded and prepared to prudently take calculated risks.

That is why I am very pleased that we were accepted into a circle of prestigious universities offering Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). It is a learning phenomenon which could be a game-changer, and you can read more of the University’s new UQx factor in the cover story.

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Four factors for a healthy brain

Professor Peter Høj
President and Vice-Chancellor
In your recent positions as Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic and (later) Acting Vice-Chancellor at the University of South Australia, how do you feel the student experience has shaped higher education?

That’s a very good question. Sometimes I think the student experience hasn’t shaped higher education at all. We have in Australia and elsewhere over the past decade, seen a great widening of access and we have seen greater numbers of students, which is absolutely fantastic, but what we haven’t seen is an increase in funding per student in real terms.

What do you see are the main challenges ahead for the University and the higher education system as a whole?

I think that the environment is changing in a way that is making universities and other providers of higher education much more responsive to students needs. One of the big challenges is increased competition, and the competition for students now is completely global. It is also increasingly competitive domestically, and more private providers are coming into the market as well, offering specialised courses.

Other big challenges are related to funding. The one that I think is both a really big challenge but also a phenomenal opportunity is the development of online learning and the sorts of things that we should be able to do for students as a result of improving technology.

Do you think the University needs to change its approach to students, and if so, how?

I think there are two very big things that The University of Queensland should seriously think about.

One is not surprising, and that is trying to encourage more students to live on campus. I think the rounded graduate this produces is just fantastic, and we know that a lot of students are struggling to find affordable housing.

Another big thing for the University is to start leveraging the benefits of technology-enhanced learning. For example, The University of Queensland has joined an online consortium called edX who offer MOOCs (Massively Open Online Courses). I think it is critical that the advantages of this online learning flow back to our students on campus.

With UQ joining edX, what effects (positive or otherwise) do you foresee this having on the University’s current teaching and learning environment?

In many ways MOOCs are a little bit like very sophisticated textbooks. They deliver content, and if we can deliver content in mechanisms outside formal classrooms, it will free up time in formal classrooms to do the more deep and engaged learning that students tell us they really like.

What is your vision for improving UQ’s already significant success in teaching and learning?

Firstly, that the University and its staff put students at the very heart of everything that we do.

Secondly, that the University attracts the brightest and the best students from all over the world, regardless of background.

Thirdly, that UQ graduates are in very high demand by employers.

And finally, that our portfolio of programs is responsive and flexible to meet students and society’s needs.

To view the full version of this interview with Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Joanne Wright, download the UQ News app on your iPad or Android device.
The University of Queensland is throwing open its doors on Sunday, August 4, to welcome prospective students, parents, and friends to Open Day 2013 at St Lucia.

Open Day is one of the biggest events on the UQ calendar, consistently attracting more than 18,000 visitors.

There will be a range of events and activities on offer, including information sessions, demonstrations, entertainment and tours.

At the hub of the action will be the UQ Centre, with information booths where staff will be on hand to answer questions and provide advice to prospective students and their families.

The information sessions (over 250 this year) will cover every aspect of study at UQ, including admissions, scholarships, what you need to know about your first year at university, and opportunities to study or volunteer overseas.

The Ipswich and Gatton campuses will host their Open Days in August as well, providing information on their programs and campuses.

Ipswich Open Day is on Wednesday, August 7, and Gatton Open Day is on Sunday, August 18.

Follow UQ on Facebook (facebook.com/uniofqueensland) to receive updates on Open Day. This year’s event will also see the launch of UQ Instagram with more information revealed in the weeks leading up to the St Lucia Open Day.

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**UQ OPEN DAY APP**
Download the app to enhance your experience on the day. Find out what’s on in real time, and how to get to the various locations on campus. The UQ Open Day app is available free from the iTunes App Store™ and Google Play.
UQ is one of only two Australian universities to have been accepted into edX, a not-for-profit online education venture founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

To date, the edX consortium comprises 28 institutions, including the University of California, Berkeley; University of Washington; Cornell University; University of Texas System; McGill University; University of Toronto; Australian National University; Rice University; Karolinska Institutet; Tsinghua University; and Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. edX membership is by invitation only and the consortium is expected to have in the order of 30 members globally.

UQ Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Debbie Terry said the University was honoured to be part of the group.

“It is a testament to UQ’s quality teaching and research that we have been invited to join such a select group of elite global partners,” Professor Terry said.

With the only prerequisite being access to the Internet, edX has the potential to allow millions of people worldwide to undertake tertiary studies for the first time.

Director of UQ’s Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology (CEIT) Professor Phil Long is leading the development of UQ’s MOOCs offering, with the inaugural four courses – known as UQx courses – commencing in May 2014. The subjects have been selected to showcase some of the University’s top areas of expertise, such as psychology and environmental science, in which UQ is positioned in the world’s top 10 in the QS World University Rankings.

Professor Terry said the online courses would further enhance UQ’s scope.

“They enable us not only to expand our offering for enrolled students, but also to extend our reach to people all over the world,” she said.

“As the world’s population continues to grow and as more people seek higher education, we need to look at new ways of providing university education. Offering MOOCs could enhance our global reputation, which in turn will enhance the reputations of our alumni and current students, as well as assist us in forging new strategic partnerships and attracting international students.”

edX is different to other massive online course platforms in that it has a strong focus on enhancing and enriching traditional campus-based education.

Through the use of thoughtfully designed online educational tools, edX seeks to leverage and complement the face-to-face learning experience by transforming the way students interact with material.

The University’s involvement in edX will allow a deeper understanding of best practices in this area, providing access to emerging technologies, rich sources of data and collaborative insights from consortium members.

UQ’s new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Joanne Wright said UQx courses had great potential to enhance the learning outcomes of the University’s existing degree programs and to further enhance the UQ Advantage.

“MOOCs provide a phenomenal opportunity to leverage technology-enhanced learning to really benefit our students,” she said.

“For example, if we can
deliver content outside of formal classrooms, it will free up time
during class for students to engage in more deep and
engaged learning.

“MOOCs will also build
our capacity to use learning
analytics and track learning
patterns, allowing us to further
develop our approaches to
tuition and update our learning
resources in real time.”

In particular, the rich data
gained through edX will play
an important role in the work
of the new $16 million Science
of Learning Research Centre,
due to open later this year.
Funded by the Australian
Research Council and led by
UQ, the University of Melbourne
and the Australian Council
for Educational Research,
the centre will bring together
researchers from education,
neuroscience and cognitive
psychology to investigate
the human learning process
to improve teaching across
Australia and abroad.

One of the four inaugural
UQx courses on offer is
Tropical Coastal Ecosystems,
led by Professor Ove Hoegh-
Guldberg, Director of UQ’s
Global Change Institute.

Drawing on the University’s
marine research stations in
Moreton Bay and Heron Island,
the course will involve online
lectures, including some from
the seascape underwater, as
well as problem-solving using,
for example, remote sensing
material.

Professor Hoegh-Guldberg
said MOOCs represented
“a tremendous mechanism
to innovate, generate and
disseminate knowledge and
understanding”.

“Most researchers want to
change the world, and here is
a brand new mechanism to get
expert scientific knowledge out
into a broader audience than
those few who are lucky enough
to go to university,” he said.

“Given that tropical coastal
ecosystems are vital to the
livelihoods of over 500 million
people, our MOOC on the
biology and management of
mangroves, coral reefs and
sea grasses should attract
considerable attention.”

UQ will offer the following UQx courses
commencing in May 2014:

- **Biomedical imaging**
  BIOIMG201, Professor Graham Galloway

- **Hypersonics – from shock waves to scramjets**
  HYPERS301, Professor David Mee

- **The science of everyday thinking**
  THINK101, Dr Jason Tangen

- **Tropical coastal ecosystems**
  TROPIC101, Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg

To find out more, visit uqx.uq.edu.au
THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND CONTINUES TO CELEBRATE THE SUCCESSES OF ITS GLOBAL ASSOCIATES, WITH TWO SCIENCE HONOURS, THE LATEST IN A LIST OF INTERNATIONAL CONNECTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

The Academy of Science named only two international Corresponding Members for 2013, and both were scientists with UQ connections. They were Professor Chunli Bai, who has an honorary doctorate from UQ, and Professor Birger Lindberg Møller, who supervised the PhD studies of UQ President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Høj.

Professor Høj said the honours topped a “stunning performance” in which five UQ scientists were named among 20 Fellows nationwide. UQ was the only institute to make up a full quarter of the total.

“No more than two Corresponding Members can be elected in any one year, so I am pleased to see that the Academy has honoured two well-respected international associates,” said Professor Høj.

“Professor Bai and Professor Møller are both working to foster scientific and interdisciplinary research cooperation and partnership between Australia and their respective countries, and UQ appreciates an ongoing relationship with them.”

UQ, which ranks 46 on the QS World University Rankings, has long leveraged partnerships with overseas universities, researchers, industry, academics and others to ensure research projects deliver outstanding economic, social and environmental benefits. UQ has research collaborations in more than 50 countries, involving about 2000 individual research projects.

“At UQ, we continue to build on international engagement, with the aim of creating Australia’s most globally connected university – which benefits not only our research, but our students as well,” said Professor Høj.

UQ is one of only three Australian members of Universitas 21, a select international network of comprehensive, research-intensive universities committed to world-best quality and practice.

UQ also has global engagement initiatives seeking to build and nurture bilateral agreements to foster and strengthen collaborative research, research commercialisation, human capital development and student mobility. These are in Africa, Europe, India, Latin America, North America, North Asia and South East Asia, and include:

- Linkages with world-renowned industry bodies including NASA, DOW, Boeing and Vale
- Global NGO partners including UNESCO, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Atantic, The World Bank, Global Environment Fund and Welcome Trust
- The Confucius Institute, which acts as a gateway to collaboration in science, engineering and technology between Australia and China
- Eight-country collaboration on hypersonic scramjet test flight
- UQ Solomon Islands Partnership
- For students, UQ has more than 175 exchange partners in 38 countries.

You can find out about many more linkages at: http://www.uq.edu.au/international-students/docs/UQ-partners.pdf
WHY DO FUTURE LEADERS CHOOSE THE MBA RANKED NO. 1 IN AUSTRALIA?

Business credentials, cutting-edge research programs, award winning academics, industry ties and flexible learning opportunities. No wonder The Economist ranks our MBA Number 1 in Australia and Asia Pacific. Graduates like Justin and Sally also agree. Justin took the full-time option and gained valuable insights into latest thinking in diverse fields of management. He also enjoyed being constantly challenged throughout his study and the stimulating interchange of ideas with fellow students. The flexibility of part-time study, including some weekends, meant Sally could meet travel, professional and personal commitments, while gaining all the skills and inspiration she needed to advance into a new career.

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Or contact UQ Business School on 07 3346 8100, or email mba@business.uq.edu.au
FROM GATTON TO THE WORLD, UQ LEADS THE WAY FOR VETERINARY STUDENTS

The School of Veterinary Science, based at UQ’s Gatton campus, is recognised globally for a sustained record of excellence in teaching and learning.

Head of School, School of Veterinary Science Professor Glen Coleman said the school’s relocation to four new buildings at the Gatton campus in 2010 had been a resounding success, as it enhanced the ability to re-engage strongly with the veterinary profession, government, industry and stakeholders.

“UQ graduates are trained to be generalists, with knowledge and skills to suit the breadth of future veterinary careers. Our facilities, located on a 1052 hectare farm at the Gatton campus, are at world benchmarks following a $95 million redevelopment of school facilities in 2008-2009,” he said.

“Clinical resources are state-of-the-art, with new hospitals for equine and companion animals, and a Clinical Studies Centre to facilitate clinical teaching and research. Laboratories (wet and dry labs) and collaborative learning centres provide exceptional learning environments for pre-clinical teaching.”

He said the location of the school embedded its students, a cohort of approximately 600, in an animal-focused environment where teaching and research into the animal and agricultural sciences dominated campus culture.

“Through being surrounded by companion and production animal facilities, each student is able to build his or her technical skills and hands-on experience in preparation for practice. Four veterinary hospitals and a large farm ensure each student is well trained in each species,” Professor Coleman said.

Since its first intake of students in 1936, the school’s reputation has grown, and it is now formally recognised internationally with accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), Australasian Veterinary Boards Council and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in the UK.

“This opens up a truly global workplace for UQ veterinary graduates, together with enhanced access to US veterinary school internships and residencies,” Professor Coleman said.

He said an exciting new development was a $2.4 million investment in a new clinic at Dayboro, bringing the Dayboro Veterinary Surgery facilities to contemporary standard and ensuring continuing student learning experiences.

“We are also excited by the introduction of a new Bachelor of Science field in animal and veterinary biosciences to be offered from 2014, providing new pathways to careers in animal health, and complementing our existing programs in the professional veterinary science and veterinary technology programs.”

Stephanie Romyn, President of the UQ Veterinary Students Association and currently halfway through her fourth year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Science, talks about her Gatton experience.

“I must admit that as a city girl, I was wary about moving out to Gatton, however I can say that I’m now officially converted to the Gatton lifestyle.

“The Vet School really encourages involvement in all aspects of student life. Getting involved in social events, conferences, special interest groups and various student committees fosters a strong sense of collegiality between students and staff alike. The Vet School is like a big family.

“Growing up in Brisbane with my family only one hour away from Gatton seemed to make the choice to come to UQ very easy. I didn’t know it at the time, but I now think that I’ve been lucky enough to get the best veterinary education available in Australia.

“I’m very much looking toward a career in small animal medicine or surgery, with plans to hopefully complete an internship in a specialist referral hospital.

“I’ve had some wonderful opportunities during my time in Vet School, many of these including practical work overseas. Some of this has been partially funded by the Office of Undergraduate Education, including a trip to the United States to attend the AVMA Veterinary Leadership Experience and a trip to South Africa in June this year to participate in a wildlife utilisation course for vet students.”

Stephanie Romyn pictured with Rosie, a five-year-old female spoodle.
Sorghum is a key part of the diets of more than 500 million people in some of the world’s most disadvantaged countries — it’s easy to imagine the devastating consequences when crops fail due to drought.

A $4 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to help Queensland scientists and growers address the problem was announced by Queensland Premier Campbell Newman in March.

Scientists from the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) at The University of Queensland are working with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and farmers from Queensland and Ethiopia, to develop sorghum varieties that are more productive under drought conditions.

“UQ is very pleased to lend its strength as a global leader in agricultural research to a partnership targeting high-impact, practical outcomes for people internationally and at home,” said President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Høj.

The grant is the second largest that the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has made to UQ.

“UQ is very pleased to lend its strength as a global leader in agricultural research to a partnership targeting high-impact, practical outcomes for people internationally and at home,” said President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Høj.

Leading the research team are Associate Professor David Jordan, one of Australia’s most experienced sorghum plant breeders, and sorghum crop physiology/modelling authority Professor Graeme Hammer, both from QAAFI.

Dr Jordan said the research would have particular importance in sub-Saharan Africa and India, where sorghum was a staple crop.

The announcement was made at “Wyoming”, a farming property owned by Garry and Zena Ronnfeldt, who are playing a key role in scientific research.

Ingrid said growing up on a farm had taught her to be adaptable and innovative, because of the inevitable dependency on factors outside of human control, including the weather and world market conditions.

“I was thinking of going to an interstate university to study in a particular physics field straight out of school. After talking to Professor Høj and (UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Max Lu at the launch, I have decided to do a Bachelor of Science at UQ first to work out what field I would really like to specialise in and then do that in a higher degree,” she said.

Ingrid said growing up on a farm had taught her to be adaptable and innovative, because of the inevitable dependency on factors outside of human control, including the weather and world market conditions.

Thanks to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, that research will continue for many years to come.

The Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation was formed as a strategic alliance between The University of Queensland and the Queensland Government.

For more information, please visit QAAFI at www.qaafi.uq.edu.au
Graduation is a milestone for all students, but for Akash Boda, one of the first recipients of the UQ Advantage Award, it will be an opportunity to reflect on a UQ education that opened the door to formative leadership and global research experiences.

Mr Boda, who is planning to graduate from The University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Biotechnology this year, says he was motivated to participate in the UQ Advantage Award program because he wanted to make the most of his university experience by participating in co-curricular activities.

“Academic studies are important, but it’s also necessary to make the most of the undergraduate years of university life and become involved in all the facets of professional, personal and academic development,” Mr Boda said.

“The UQ Advantage Award is the University’s official recognition of your involvement in all the different activities you can take part in alongside your academic commitments.”

Director of the Office of Undergraduate Education Dr Jessica Gallagher said the UQ Advantage Award program, launched in mid-2012, was established to ensure that students could derive as much benefit as possible from the University’s extensive global networks, research opportunities, and alumni and industry connections.

“For many students, some of the most formative university experiences occur outside of the lecture theatres,” Dr Gallagher said.

“This program provides a platform for students to follow their ambitions, and participate in activities that complement their academic studies and can significantly enhance their employability post-graduation.”

The program, which is available to undergraduate students, combines participation in a variety of co-curricular activities with a tailored symposium series designed to deepen students’ understanding of key career development topics.

A standout activity that counted towards Mr Boda’s completion of the Award was working in a cancer research laboratory as part of the 2012 Summer Undergraduate Research Programme (SURP) at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, for which he received a UQ Advantage Grant.

“I believe that travelling overseas boosts your confidence and helps develop your ability to work independently,” he said.

“Interacting with people from around the world shapes your personality by broadening your cultural, social and scientific outlook.”

“I hope these skills will help me to pursue a career as a scientist.”

Additionally, Mr Boda served the University community as a Thrive@UQ Student Leader, an e-mentoring program in which leaders assist first-year students with the transition to university life. He also volunteered as a Science Mentor for the Faculty of Science, a program that aims to engage undergraduate science students in academic and social activities.

“Being involved in mentoring programs at UQ was a really fulfilling experience as it provided an opportunity to give something back to the student community,” he said.

If you would like to get involved in the UQ Advantage Award Program, visit www.uq.edu.au/undergraduate/advantage, or to view the UQ Advantage Award video, download the UQ News app on your iPad or Android device.
University of Queensland PhD student Greg Brown has been rewarded for his tireless work in the area of magnetic resonance (MR) by being awarded a prestigious Honorary Member of the Section for Magnetic Resonance Technologists (SMRT). SMRT is a division of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM) and only presents one Honorary Membership worldwide each year.

Despite only starting his PhD at UQ’s Centre for Advanced Imaging under the supervision of Professor Graham Galloway and Dr Gary Cowin in January this year, Mr Brown’s experience in MR and imagery stretches several decades.

“I was one of the first CT scan operators in Australia, and got my start as a trainee diagnostic radiographer back in 1976 at the Royal Adelaide Hospital,” Mr Brown said.

“Magnetic resonance then became the big ticket item that combined imaging and physics. I started reading MR in 1985, about the same time that the Australian Government sponsored five machines nationally.”

In 1990, Mr Brown was promoted to senior radiographer in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, a position he held for 11 years, before being appointed to the role of senior research radiographer until mid-2011, when he took leave to study at UQ.

In addition to his work within the hospital and at various other private medical organisations, Mr Brown also helped the next generation of radiographers by lecturing and tutoring at higher education institutions in Sydney and Melbourne.

Currently researching the utility of quantitative magnetic resonance imaging methods to probe disease mechanisms and dynamics in the clinical treatment of pathological iron overload, Mr Brown said his reasons for pursuing a PhD were always very clear.

“It is a combination of wanting to push myself that little bit further and a conscious decision I made many years ago that if I was going to learn something, I wanted it evidenced,” Mr Brown said.

“I decided on my topic back in 2000, when some patients who had iron overload diseases challenged an MRI machine owner to develop techniques that could directly help people with their condition, and I was brought into the project early because I knew about iron measurement.

“I have been systematically collecting data for the last 12 years while looking for the right PhD program, and it came together last year when I was accepted into UQ.”

Mr Brown said that UQ is well positioned to be at the forefront of MR development and education.

“The University has one of the very few programs that is operated by MR physicists, and if you don’t have a physics input into an MRI course, then you are missing the most significant part. Everything stems from the science,” Mr Brown said.

“When you take into account the new Centre for Advanced Imaging building, all of the hardware, the disciplinary team that they have got, and at the same time the development of the Federal Government’s National Imaging Facility, it brings everything together at the right time.”

For more information, visit www.uq.edu.au/grad-school
Queensland researchers are turning iPhones into personal skin scanners so patients can detect suspicious spots.

UQ’s Dermatology Research Centre, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) and the State Government’s Queensland Institute for Medical Research are trialling an iPhone accessory and app that people can use when they scan their skin for suspicious moles.

UQ Professor Peter Soyer said the iPhone accessory HandyScope was an easily attachable optical device that would be more effective than the naked eye for melanoma detection.

“Routine self-examination can save lives but its effectiveness is relatively low,” Professor Soyer said.

“With the HandyScope, patients can scan their skin, take photos of suspect skin lesions, record them in an application, and then send the data onto health professionals for examination.

“This development might change the way healthcare is delivered in the future and ultimately improve skin cancer treatment outcomes.”

The HandyScope attaches to the iPhone camera, and has a 20x magnification capacity and a polarised light that goes deeper into the skin to show lesions more clearly.

Professor Soyer said high-risk melanoma and recovering skin cancer sufferers who visit a specialist every few months or live in rural and remote areas could benefit the most from this innovation.

“Patients could monitor their lesions wherever they are, reducing the required face-to-face examination time with their health professional,” Professor Soyer said.

Meg Richters, Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Midwifery

Meg Richters has just completed the first semester of a Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Midwifery, and said she was very excited to receive her scholarship, worth $12,000 over two years.

“It has been very difficult to balance part-time work and university. Without this money, I don’t know where I’d be,” she said.

She said she had always dreamed of studying at UQ because of the great campus atmosphere and teaching excellence. Her long-term goals were to either study medicine or work in a neo-natal intensive care unit in a hospital.

For more information, visit www.som.uq.edu.au and search for the Dermatology Research Centre.
Archaeology students at UQ are developing experience in archaeological excavation thanks to a new $340,000 purpose-built outdoor teaching area – the Archaeology Teaching and Research Centre (ATARC).

The centre is the largest facility of its kind in Australia and one of the best dedicated archaeological practical learning spaces in the world.

Archaeology lecturer Dr Pat Faulkner said the 1100 square metre outdoor training area features a simulated archaeological site, a replica crime scene, two areas for excavation by the public during open days, fire-fuelled kilns, smelter, forge and stone knapping areas, a projectile firing range and other experimental areas.

“With a unique focus on Australia, the larger ‘dig’ area comprises a bricked-in excavation box filled with different layers and artefacts broadly representing the key periods of human settlement in the continent.”

Dr Faulkner said this allows students to learn contemporary archaeological excavation methods and develop a deeper understanding of the human story of Australia from 50,000 years ago to the historical period.

“The complex is based on its predecessor, the Teaching Archaeological Research Discipline in Simulation facility, which was originally built in 1996 by Associate Professor Jay Hall (retired) in lieu of taking students in to the field to learn archaeological excavation techniques,” Dr Faulkner said.

“While the original centre included layers representing historical Mayan Classic, Bronze Age, European Neolithic and Mesolithic, and African Palaeolithic periods, the structure of the centre reflects changes in research focus within the archaeology program since the early-2000s.

“We now focus on Australia’s past. What we aimed for, coming off the back of the original centre, was to make the experience as realistic as possible.”

Archaeology lecturer Dr Tiina Manne, who uses the space for her course Forensics: The Archaeology of Death & Crime Scenes, said the centre was an important teaching tool for students studying archaeology at UQ.

“My course involves educating students on the systematic location and recovery of human remains and other crime scene materials. The centre allows them to gain hands-on experience in search techniques, excavation and recovery, and analysis and conservation of material evidence that are vital in criminal investigations.”

The complex provides a significantly refurbished archaeological teaching and research facility that ensures student training is in line with disciplinary and industry demands, and is regularly used by school groups who are learning about the humanity’s past through a focus on world archaeology.

The complex was designed by UQ archaeologists Dr Andrew Fairbairn, Associate Professor Chris Clarkson, Dr Pat Faulkner and Dr Jon Prangnell, with Kim McGrath (Construction Project Manager, UQ’s Property & Facilities Division) and arkLAB Architecture.
Did you know that BCEC has a whole team of people whose sole job is to help Brisbane Scientists bid for international conferences to be held in Brisbane? Did you know this service is free? Did you know that if an international conference bid for Brisbane is more than 400 delegates and to be held at BCEC, our International Conventions Team can facilitate financial support to cover speaker fees or travel scholarships for the conference?

If you are bidding for an international conference, together we can do more.

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre - much more than just a venue
There are plenty of reasons to visit the St Lucia campus – abundant wildlife, beautiful grounds, state-of-the-art technology, handsome buildings, museums and an art gallery – and now a self-guided tour that explores some of the many sustainability sites on campus.

UQ’s recently launched Sustainability Walk showcases campus-based projects and cutting-edge research from across the University. It includes 34 stations organised over five key themes: renewable energy, biodiversity, water, transport, and recycling and waste.

Property and Facilities Deputy Director Geoff Dennis said the walk pulled together the key achievements from UQ’s sustainability program.

“The Sustainability Walk celebrates the University’s journey along the path of sustainability – but it also raises awareness about the importance of each person’s actions in their environment and motivates the community to make small changes for the greater good,” Mr Dennis said.

Wildlife on campus is diverse, with more than 100 flora and fauna species identified in St Lucia’s lakes precinct alone. Of these, 27 natives feature in the Sustainability Walk.

One popular species featured in the walk is the Australasian darter, a large, slim waterbird with a long, snake-like neck, often seen majestically perched in a sunny spot drying its wings.

Other avian occupants include the protected bush stone-curlew, known for its unusual call and distinctive look. This ground-dwelling bird species has taken up residence at two locations on campus thanks to the efforts of grounds staff to create suitable habitat.

Near one of these habitats is Australia’s only concentrating photovoltaic array found outside of Alice Springs. The ground-mounted, seven-by-six metre 8.4 kilowatt solar panel tracks the sun’s path and uses parabolic reflectors to focus large areas of sunlight onto highly efficient solar cells, providing higher output than normal solar photovoltaic technologies.

Just around the corner is the new Bike Box, a dedicated end-of-trip cycling facility for staff and students. The state-of-the-art facility provides campus users with an affordable, realistic and sustainable alternative to motorised transport.

Each station on the Sustainability Walk is marked with signage that provides details of the theme, with text and photographs capturing visitor interest and encouraging appreciation of the significance of the sustainability features on campus.

Property and Facilities Sustainability Coordinator Suzanne Davis, who managed the project development, said the Sustainability Walk caters for everyone.

“The walk is designed so visitors can choose their own path, depending on their interests,” Ms Davis said.

“The shortest route encompassing all stations is about two kilometres long and can take anywhere from one to three hours.”

There are many sights to admire in between stations, including heritage-listed sandstone buildings and views of the Brisbane River, and plenty of places to stop along the way for a rest or refreshments.

A self-guided paperless tour has been incorporated into the University’s free UQnav app for iPhone or Android, or a map is available to download from the University’s Sustainability website.

Steps to Sustainability
UQ’s new walk showcases beautiful flora and fauna on campus

For more information visit www.uq.edu.au/sustainability or visit uq.edu.au/uqnav to download the UQnav app

A group of the protected bush stone-curlew species has taken up residence at two locations on the St Lucia campus.
Aging dementia affects more than 321,600 Australians, and is the nation’s third leading cause of death after heart disease and stroke.

CADR is based at UQ’s Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) and is Australia’s first and only facility focused entirely on research into the prevention and treatment of dementia.

The Centre has three main goals: to develop non-pharmaceutical strategies to prevent or delay the onset of ageing dementia, to develop more sensitive and accurate diagnostic tools, and to develop novel pharmaceutical therapies to prevent or delay the onset of ageing dementia.

At the official opening of the Centre in February, QBI Director Professor Perry Bartlett highlighted the social and economic importance of dementia research.

“Without a significant medical breakthrough, the number of Australians living with dementia is expected to soar to almost one million by 2050,” Professor Bartlett said.

CADR’s work received a boost in May, when Queensland Premier Campbell Newman announced CADR would receive $9 million in funding over the next five years.

The funds will help attract more of the world’s brightest neuroscientists and advance diagnostic tools for early intervention and clinical trials of new therapeutic approaches currently being explored at CADR.

“This is a fantastic boost to our capabilities of translating our discoveries into new diagnostics and therapeutic treatments of dementia,” Professor Bartlett said.

Research being undertaken at CADR is already making waves in the neuroscience space, led by world-renowned neuroscientist Professor Jürgen Götz, the inaugural head of the Centre.

“A world-leader in Alzheimer’s disease research, Professor Götz has made several ground-breaking discoveries, including work published in the prestigious journals Science and Cell, that brought to light the molecular mechanisms underlying the loss of brain function in Alzheimer’s,” Professor Bartlett said.

Professor Götz has earned international acclaim for the discovery of how the molecule Tau causes the loss of neurons in Alzheimer’s patients, leading to the impairment of learning and memory.

“Highly enriched in neuronal cells, this protein forms insoluble clumps in the brains of Alzheimer patients, causing their neuronal demise, brain shrinkage and, ultimately, dementia,” Professor Götz said.

CADR scientists have used this discovery to help them model and monitor the early stages of the disease, resulting in the successful use of genetic methods as well as small compounds and antibodies to block the disease process.

The team has also gained insight into neurogenesis and the ability of the brain to regenerate neurons.

“Given that until relatively recently it was thought the adult brain was incapable of generating new neurons, this is a remarkable discovery,” Professor Götz said.

“While more intensive research is needed to bring these discoveries to the patient, CADR scientists are on a launching path to make discoveries that help the growing number of dementia patients, both in Australia and overseas,” he said.

For more information, visit www.qbi.uq.edu.au/cadr
With alarming statements such as this circulated widely (and often inaccurately) in prominent journals and the mainstream media, you might be forgiven for thinking that so-called “smart pills” were part of a widespread, growing phenomenon in Australia.

However, Associate Professor Jayne Lucke from the UQ Centre for Clinical Research says that there is little evidence that the use of prescription medicines by healthy people to enhance their cognitive functioning is common. Most importantly, she warns, there is little evidence that healthy people can actually improve their cognitive functioning in this way.

“Media articles may portray the use of prescription medicines for ‘cognitive enhancement’ as a common or increasing phenomena, but the source for such claims is often academic articles that are speculative, overly enthusiastic and cite weak empirical evidence for their claims,” Associate Professor Lucke said.

“It is unlikely that a pharmaceutical product will be able to enhance cognitive function in a healthy person in the way that is depicted in Limitless, the 2011 film starring Bradley Cooper.”

While enthusiasts will no doubt continue to search for a magic pill to enhance their cognitive functioning beyond normal human range, Associate Professor Lucke proposes four healthy lifestyle factors to boost brain power the natural way.

1. **GET ENOUGH SLEEP**
   Sleep is important for preserving daytime cognitive function. Loss of sleep can have adverse effects on mental and physical health, including weight gain, hypertension, gastrointestinal disease and chronic fatigue.

2. **ENGAGE IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**
   Recent studies show a positive correlation between physical and academic performance. Physical activity boosts self-esteem, increases physical fitness, improves sleep quality, reduces fatigue and has the added bonus of helping to control weight.

3. **EAT A HEALTHY DIET AND REDUCE SUBSTANCE ABUSE**
   Diet may have a slow and progressive influence on cognition, with the brain requiring adequate nutritional supplies to provide an optimally functioning intellect throughout life.
   Many people find they need a coffee to get going in the morning. Caffeine can be beneficial in restoring wakefulness and improving task performance after sleep deprivation, but may also produce detrimental effects on subsequent sleep, resulting in daytime sleepiness.
   Other drug use has also been associated with significant changes in episodic memory, emotional processing, and the ability to plan, organise and make decisions, even among those who have achieved long-term abstinence.

4. **PROTECT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH**
   Managing stress is important for good cognitive performance. Performance can be improved with the right amount of stress, but can be adversely affected if stress levels rise too much.
   Stress can have chronic and acute effects on memory function, while people with anxiety, depression and other mental health disorders may experience negative effects on their quality of life, including their ability to function socially and hold down a job.

“The idea of a smart drug that makes you smarter and doesn’t have any side effects belongs in a science fiction film,” Associate Professor Lucke said.

“The most effective way for healthy people to enhance their cognitive functioning is to aim for a balanced lifestyle that enhances overall physical and mental health.”

To watch Associate Professor Lucke’s interview in “Life Enhancing Drugs” from ABC’s Catalyst, visit www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/3790335.htm
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UQ STRENGTHENS TIES WITH INDONESIA

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND IS ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE IN JAKARTA TO SUPPORT RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND ALUMNI ACTIVITIES, AND INCREASE ENGAGEMENT WITH INDUSTRY PARTNERS.

The office, expected to open in late 2013, was announced following Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Debbie Terry’s visit to Indonesia earlier this year, where she met with university representatives, leading researchers and government officials.

Professor Terry said the increased presence in Indonesia would give UQ the opportunity to build on its relationships with research partners, including the Indonesian Institute of Science, Indonesian Directorate General of Higher Education, University of Indonesia and the Eijkman Institute of Molecular Biology.

The office could also co-locate with the newly announced Trade and Investment Queensland Centre in Jakarta, which would enable the University to contribute to a whole of Queensland Government approach to Indonesia.

With the opening of the new office, the University will play a strategic role in the areas of education, research and capacity building in complementary fields of economic development, including energy and use of renewables, resources development, tropical agriculture and sustainability.

“Our collaborations with Indonesia have always been strong, and it is tremendously important that we continue to foster and build those relationships at a time when Asia is increasing its significance globally,” Professor Terry said.

Almost 200 UQ researchers from 18 schools, four institutes and nine centres have been involved in research collaborations with Indonesian experts over the past decade. As a result, UQ is the only Australian university listed in the top 20 global universities to co-publish with Indonesian academics.

INFORMATICS IN FOCUS

Competition heated up when high-school students from around the world filled The University of Queensland’s St Lucia campus to participate in the 2013 International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI), the first held in Australia.

From July 6 to 13, over 300 talented competitors, from 81 countries, were tested on the science of computer programming, focusing on information processing and information systems.

Chairman of IOI 2013 Professor Peter Taylor said he hoped the event would encourage young students to pursue studies in informatics.

“We think the IOI can be used as a catalyst for promoting what is a very important science,” Professor Taylor said.

Associate Professor Benjamin Burton from UQ’s School of Mathematics and Physics, Scientific Chair of IOI 2013, said the tasks were designed in such a way that only the most creative, resourceful and thorough competitors could solve them all.

“Competitors do not just write computer programs, but they must solve challenging scientific problems that sit beneath these programs – mathematically proving that a program is correct and fast can often be more difficult than writing the code itself,” Associate Professor Burton said.

For many of these students, the event was a significant academic and personal milestone.

“Many competitors spend years training for the Olympiad, through national competitions, online training sites and intensive live-in camps,” Associate Professor Burton said.

The Olympiad was recognised by the wider Australian community, receiving $500,000 in federal funding as part of the priority project round of the Australian Maths and Science Partnerships Program, as well as sponsorship from both the Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council. Corporate sponsors included Dell, Ricoh and Energex.

For more information about the International Olympiad in Informatics 2013, visit www.ioi2013.org
Semester two might kick off in the cooler months of the year, but international students starting at UQ will find lots of sports and activities to enjoy year round.

UQ Sport CEO Bryan Pryde said the Queensland winter would provide a pleasant surprise for the new influx of international students.

“We think many of the new international students will love the Queensland winter days. They are absolutely perfect for getting outside and kicking a ball or throwing a frisbee,” he said.

“Playing sport, joining a club or taking part in group fitness is a fantastic way for international students to meet new people and to enhance their experience here at UQ.

“UQ has outstanding facilities and we encourage all new students to take advantage of them,” he said.

Mr Pryde said there were a number of ways students can get involved with sport on campus.

“Students are able to have a hit of tennis at the UQ Sport Tennis Centre for only $2 an hour between 11am and 2pm weekdays, which is great in the warming winter sun.

“UQ Sport will once again be holding Play4Free, a week of free activities and classes, from 29 July until 3 August.

“Play4Free gives students the chance to try a number of fitness activities and sports for free, some of which international students might not have tried,” he said.

1 All information on UQ Sport activities, including Play4Free, can be found on the UQ Sport website, www.uqsport.com.au.
UniQuest’s expertise commercialisation forum, UQ Experts Exchange, focuses on ideas and experiences to help academics, researchers and postgraduate researchers collaborate more effectively with industry, through contract research or consulting.

A panel of University of Queensland (UQ) experts will share their tips on how to engage in commercial partnerships, and industry experts will share their ideas on the benefits to their organisations of collaborating with UQ experts.

Discover how you can leverage your research expertise and create quality relationships with major national and global companies.

For the past six years, UQ Experts Exchange has helped more than 500 UQ researchers and academics form new and productive connections and learn how to apply their research in the best possible manner.

Hear from industry experts
- Dr Peter Gray, Technical Manager 3M Australia, 3M Corporate R&D
- Mr Brett Smith, Vice President Sustainability, QGC
- Dr Christina Coker, Programme Manager, Food Structure Design, Fonterra Co-operative Group Ltd

Hear from university of Queensland experts
- Professor Peter Høj, President and Vice-Chancellor
- Professor Maree Smith, TetraQ, Centre for Integrated Preclinical Drug Development
- Professor Neal Menzies, Head of School of Agriculture & Food Sciences

- Understand the value of quality research to industry
- Hear what experts from UQ and industry say about the relevance of your research to the community
- Discover what factors ensure rewarding industry partnerships
- Learn how to align commercial engagement activities with your research program

UQ EXPERTS EXCHANGE — WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2013
TIME: 4:00-5:30pm (5:30-6:30pm networking and cocktails)
VENUE: Auditorium, Queensland Bioscience Precinct (#80), enter via ramp from Chancellor’s Place, UQ St Lucia
TO REGISTER: visit www.uniquest.com.au/experts-exchange
RSVP: 2 September 2013. Enquiries: b.kane@uniquest.com.au

Proudly supported by The University of Queensland
Jane Caro, you edited and curated a new collection of essays and stories called *Destroying The Joint: Why Women Have to Change the World*, exploring topics such as equal rights for women. What do you hope readers will take away from this book?

I hope we pass on some courage for women to call out unfairness and prejudice when they come across it. I hope it encourages them to start to own feminism and take pride in it, instead of feeling nervous about identifying themselves in such a way.

I hope they enjoy the different viewpoints, that it makes them think, laugh and feel stronger.

The “Destroy the Joint” (DtJ) movement developed online as a Twitter tag (#destroythejoint) and Facebook group after a controversial comment by talkback radio presenter, Alan Jones. What prompted adding a book to this conversation?

A book is a way for women to develop their thoughts more comprehensively. Ideally short form and long form, old media and new media should work together to do what both do best.

Do you foresee that *Destroying the Joint: Why Women Have to Change the World* will prompt further conversation around female leadership in Australia? If so, what do you think those conversations might discuss?

I hope it prompts further conversations about female everything, including leadership. I think there is already plenty of evidence that “something” (as Anna Bligh puts it) is happening with women and feminism, and DtJ is one part of that “something.”

To purchase a copy of *Destroying the Joint: Why Women Have to Change the World*, visit www.uqp.uq.edu.au.

To read an extract from *Destroying the Joint: Why Women Have to Change the World*, download the UQ News app on your iPad or Android device.
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YOUR UQ. YOUR ADVANTAGE.
ELECTION OF ELECTED MEMBERS TO THE 33RD SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND 2014 – 2017
Nominations are now open for the following elected positions on the 33rd Senate:
- 3 graduates of The University of Queensland
- 1 member of the University’s full-time or part-time academic staff
- 1 member of the University’s full-time or part-time professional staff
- 1 member of the Academic Board
- 1 postgraduate student (for 2014 – 2015)
- 1 undergraduate student (for 2014 – 2015)
Further information regarding the nomination process, including access to the official nomination forms, is available at uq.edu.au/senate/

The official nomination form must be used. For further enquiries please contact the Elections Officer on (07) 3365 3360 or uqelections@uq.edu.au.
Nominations close at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, 18 September 2013. Completed nominations forms can be scanned and emailed to uqelections@uq.edu.au, sent through Australia Post or the internal mail to the Returning Officer, Room 424, JD Story Building, The University of Queensland St Lucia QLD 4072. Please mark all correspondence ‘2013 Senate Elections’. Voting will be held between 8 to 21 October 2013. All candidates will be notified of the outcome shortly thereafter. The results of all Senate elections will be published in the Courier Mail on Saturday, 26 October 2013.

Rhodes Scholarship for study at the University of Oxford
www.uq.edu.au/rhodesscholarship

Closing date – 2 September 2013
Applications are invited from women and men aged between 18 and 25 for the Queensland Rhodes Scholarship for 2014.
Information seminars are scheduled at various Queensland Universities in late July/early August. Details of dates and venues will be available on the web site from June: www.uq.edu.au/rhodesscholarship.
Information about the Scholarship and access to the on-line application system must be obtained from Ms Linda Bird, Honorary Secretary, Queensland Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee, email QldRhodesScholarship@uq.edu.au.
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The UQ Pro Bono Centre is defined by a commitment to social justice and a belief in the passion, skills and intellect of law students. Over the past four years, the Centre has facilitated many pro bono opportunities to provide law students with interesting and dynamic legal work that is pro bono public, for the public good.

I first realised the value of law students’ contribution to pro bono legal services when I worked in the community legal sector. At the organisation where I worked, six law students produced a research report on the impact of police move-on powers on people experiencing homelessness. There was a client of the service whose life circumstances had led to them living on the streets, and who had experienced a violent police arrest for their failure to comply with a police move-on direction.

The client’s defence of their charges attracted considerable pro bono support throughout the legal profession in Brisbane. Barristers, solicitors, community legal centre lawyers and law students all worked on the case, which took many years and ultimately resulted in the charges against the client (for which they had been convicted), being quashed. Both the client’s case and the research report taught me how effective law students can be in responding to injustice.

Law students bring to the delivery of pro bono services boundless energy, a desire to make a difference and excellent legal research skills. The access to justice sector needs resources both to deliver services in a timely and professional manner, and to respond effectively to law reform and policy issues. With careful planning and appropriate supervision, the Centre creates pro bono placements for students that suit both the needs of the sector and law students’ abilities. In this way, law students learn valuable legal skills while contributing to improving access to justice for ordinary Australians.

When I studied law at UQ in the late ’90s there was no formalised support for students to participate in pro bono work. I simply had to cold-call and knock on the doors of community legal centres in the hope that someone might say yes to my persistent attempts to volunteer. With the establishment of the Centre in 2009, students no longer have to resort to cold-calling. Instead, they are actively encouraged to become involved in pro bono work, not only during their studies, but as part of a lifelong commitment to their profession.

Our students are the future leaders of the profession: partners of law firms, directors of community legal centres, future Attorneys-General. It is my hope that through their interaction with the UQ Pro Bono Centre, they will gain a deeper awareness of the power of the law and the social context in which it operates, and that this learning will inform their professional outlook, wherever their paths in the law take them.

FOR THE GREATER GOOD

MONICA TAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF THE UQ PRO BONO CENTRE, HOPES TO INSPIRE AN AWARENESS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF LAW STUDENTS.

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THROUGH THEIR INTERACTION WITH THE UQ PRO BONO CENTRE, [STUDENTS] WILL GAIN A DEEPER AWARENESS OF THE POWER OF THE LAW AND THE SOCIAL CONTEXT IN WHICH IT OPERATES, AND THAT THIS LEARNING WILL INFORM THEIR PROFESSIONAL OUTLOOK, WHEREVER THEIR PATHS IN THE LAW TAKE THEM.

— Monica Taylor

For more information, visit www.law.uq.edu.au/uq-pro-bono-centre