Engagement, alumni, industry and the broader community remains a priority for UQ. The University has consolidated its reputation as a leading world university, in part through forging strong connections globally with individuals and with philanthropic, government and industry partners.

Fostering partnerships and relationships

Engagement with alumni and the community in 2017 allows the University to foster important strategic relationships and partnerships that will help UQ create change locally and throughout the world. These relationships illuminate the generosity that exists within the UQ community, particularly among alumni who gave back to current students at UQ by volunteering their time through mentoring and masterclasses. Among those who returned to campus this year were Triple-Grammy-winning Faulkton Tim Muro, wildlife filmmaker and Planet Earth 2 episode producer Dr Chadd Hunter, and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Marian Wilkinson.

MasterChefFinalist and UQ graduate Ben Milbourne also continued to work with UQ, producing the television series Food Lab. Season one comprised 15 episodes on network Ten that aired from January to March 2017 with an average weekly audience of 83,000. In 2017, season two began on SBS Food Network. Segments of all 65 episodes were filmed on location at the three UQ campuses between May and November 2017, each taking a broader look at what can be taught through cooking, with UQ experts interviewed on a range of topics including physics, chemistry, population health, political science and agricultural practices.

Another partnership was with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, one of UQ’s international philanthropic telephone campaigns, which enabled UQ to expand its global impact—particularly in tropical agriculture and vaccine development for mosquito-borne illnesses as well as drought- and disease-resistant crops.

Alumni and community

In December 2017, UQ celebrated an important milestone, surpassing 250,000 graduates. This year’s cohort was welcomed to the alumni community and encouraged to stay in touch with the University as they embark on their next adventure. With more than 10,000 graduates each year engaging with alumni to develop lasting relationships, a priority for UQ in 2017, these connections were maintained through reunions, networking events and volunteering opportunities.

Outstanding alumni were once again recognised for their achievements at the annual Courting the Greats ceremony in October 2017, receiving the following awards:

- Vice-Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Awards
  - Malcolm Broomhead
  - Susan Buckley
  - Andrew Cameron, OAM
  - Professor Melissa Little
  - Marion Wilkinson

- Distinguished Young Alumni Awards
  - Dr Andrew Barnes
  - Michelle Grant
  - Carl Hartmann
  - Dr Roshitraj Rajaram

- International Alumnus of the Year
  - Shandana Aurangzeb Durrani

- Indigenous Community Impact Award
  - Associate Professor Noel Hayman

- UQ College’s Alumni Award
  - Maxwell Gaylard, Emmanuel College Awards founded and supported by Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc.

UQ Alumnus of the Year: Adj Prof Jonathan Sto, AO

UQ Graduate of the Year: Kaila Armitage

UQ Sport Awards

- UQ Sportsman of the Year: Dane Bird-Smith
- UQ Sportswoman of the Year: Jacinta Carroll

As part of UQ’s efforts to maintain contact with alumni and friends of the University, an extensive Annual Giving telephone campaign was again held. Student callers shared stories, bringing passion to up-to-date information on what’s happening across UQ’s campuses, while also confirming and maintaining the accuracy of contact details. Gifts generated by the calling campaign were used to fund many initiatives across the University.

As part of a new program introduced by the Alumni and Community Relations Centre, the Behind the Scenestours made UQ research more accessible to alumni and community members and helped cultivate a better understanding of the University’s work and research impact.

Philanthropy

Donors, industry and community partners continued to choose UQ as their trusted partner in 2017 to support the areas and causes they were passionate about. Their generosity saw $671 million raised to support students, research and teaching. In 2017, Annual Giving comprised more than 70 per cent of the total number of gifts to UQ. The UQ telephone engagement campaign also resulted in more than 1400 gifts, 40 per cent of which were from first-time donors. In 2007, the University received $4.9 million in charitable bequests. Current and former UQ staff donated $1,415,742, while Annual Giving raised $1,196,918 for student scholarships, research, teaching and learning.

Other examples include:

- A $5 million gift from the Brazil Family Foundation for the Brazil Family Program for Neurology (Stroke and Motor Neuronal Disease)
- A $12 million bequest from the Estate of Dr Douglas Horton Slater
- An $800,000 gift from Rio Tinto to support Scholarships, Women in Engineering and the Inesper Engineering Program
- A $644,962 gift from the Bloomberg Philanthropies for the 50 Reefs Project
- A $500,000 gift from The University of Queensland Endowment Fund to support the Young Achievers Program and a $20,266 gift for the Frank Flinn Scholarships
- A $300,000 pledge from The Heaphy Foundation to support the Olm Jones Centre for Ageing Dementia Research (UCADAR)
- $187,000 and $95,000 gifts from the Tunar Family Foundation for the Hidden Vale UQ Wildlife Facility project
- A $276,638 gift from the Westpac Bicentennial Foundation to support the Westpac Future Leaders Scholarships
- A $220,000 gift from SpinicaU Australia to support spinal injury research
- A $60,000 gift from Chirn Drive Women’s Cancer Foundation for gynaecological cancer research
- A $150,000 gift from Aguam Foundation for the Telegenic Project
- A $433,000 gift from Dr Richard McCullum for the McCullum Founders Lecture in Dermatology in honour of Dr Norman Nann McCullum
- A $40,000 gift from the estate of the late Murial Ellen Kangan, which will fund the Queensland Brain Institute’s research into mental health.

The University of Queensland in America Inc, a 501(c)(3) Foundation under the leadership of Andrew Livers, AO, continued to engage with the significant number of alumni and friends of the University who are based in the US. In 2017, The University of Queensland in America Inc granted more than $7.4 million in support of UQ research, students, teaching and technology. This included funding for the 50 Reefs Project, which was generously supported by the Bloomberg Philanthropies, The Paul G Allen Family Foundation, and The Tiffany Co Foundation.

The Foundation’s Board of Directors also led a variety of engagement activities in 2017 that attracted more than 350 alumni, including the UQ Rugby Benefit Dinner in New York, where more than US$40,000 was raised for the UQ Rugby scholarship program.
**Global engagement**

The University maintained links with the international community in a variety of ways during 2017. For example, in its second year of operation, the UQ Global Strategy and Partnerships Seed Funding Scheme co-sponsored 18 initiatives totaling $193,723 across the US, UK, Germany, China, Indonesia, India, Chile and Singapore—all designed to nurture partner networks and develop mutually beneficial education and research outcomes, while raising UQ’s global profile.

Other key outcomes for 2017 included:

- UQ hosting more than 120 international delegations, notably from China, UK, US, Indonesia and Japan, including 19 visits from Australian heads of mission and 17 visits from heads of diplomatic missions in Australia.
- UQ hosting the 11th Annual UQ Latin American Colloquium, which focused opportunities to collaborate on energy solutions for a sustainable future.
- Ambassadors and representatives from nine embassies attended, as well as senior representatives from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia, and industry partners.
- UQ and the Chilean Ministry of Health (MINSAL) co-hosting the International symposium on challenges in public health experiences from Australia and Chile. Delegates exchanged best practices relating to obesity, cancer, healthy ageing, and health and Indigenous peoples. UQ and MINSAL signed an agreement to collaborate on these shared health challenges.
- UQ maintaining 165 active agreements with 60 countries, including China (35), the US (68), Japan (54), Germany (37), and Indonesia (33).
- UQ launching the Global Impact web resource to profile the University’s connectivity across nine regions and 16 showcase countries (global-engagement.uq.edu.au/global-impact).

**Fundraising campaign**

In 2017, UQ made history by launching the first comprehensive philanthropic campaign by a Queensland university.

Not If, When — the Campaign to Create Change aims to change lives within the local community and around the world by empowering student success, driving discovery and impact, and transforming teaching and learning. People can give to a specific UQ cause of their choice to help achieve outcomes they are interested in.

UQ researcher and cervical cancer vaccine co-inventor Professor Ian Frazer, AC, FRS is leading the campaign with his wife, UQ alumnus Caroline Frazer. They co-chair the Campaign Board, comprising an advisory group of volunteers from the UQ community.

The campaign target is to raise $500 million by the end of 2020. As of October 2017, more than half has already been raised since its internal launch in 2016.

**Sponsorships**

In 2017, UQ continued major partnerships with the Brisbane Broncos and Netball Queensland. Both partnerships provide a range of mutually beneficial opportunities, including internships, professional experience and job placements for UQ students, and joint research activities, particularly in the areas of sport, exercise and nutrition science.

UQ continued its sponsorship of the UQ Create Change Award in the Queensland Young Achiever Awards, which in 2017 was awarded to 21-year-old Jarred Turner, President of IMPACT Social Enterprise and was awarded to 21-year-old Jarred Turner (second from left) with UQ student winners (from left) Juelia Demzar, Prudence Melom and Tamara Long (CASS)-UQ Asia Pacific Forum, themed ‘the challenge of order in a disrupted world’. The national challenge forum was held for the first time in Brisbane, bringing together higher education leaders and educators from the Group of Eight (G8) in Australia and the C9 League of Chinese universities.

**North Asia**

- UQ formed a strategic partnership for a collaborative PhD training program in engineering and neurosciences with Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech) in China.

- In September, UQ hosted the third Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) – UQ Asia Pacific Forum, themed ‘the challenge of order in a disrupted world’.

- Chinese company Hebei Iron and Steel Group (HBIS) will invest $5.25 million over the next five years in the HBIS-UQ Innovation Centre for Sustainable Steel (ICSS).

- UQ hosted the fourth China–Australia University Summit on Teaching and Learning (CAUSTL) in November, bringing together higher education leaders and educators from the Group of Eight (G8) in Australia and the C9 League of Chinese universities.

**Latin America**

- The 11th Annual UQ-Latin American Colloquium was held in October. Attendees, attended by more than 100 people, including ambassadors and representatives from nine Latin American embassies, the event explored the theme of ‘energy for a sustainable future’.

- In October, UQ and the Chilean Ministry of Health (MINSAL) held the International symposium on challenges in public health: Experiences of Australia and Chile with the support of the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile and the Australian Embassy in Chile. Delegates exchanged best practices relating to obesity, cancer, healthy ageing, and health and Indigenous peoples. UQ and MINSAL signed an agreement to collaborate on these shared health challenges.

- With support from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s Council on Australia and Latin American Relations, the Global Change Institute held three workshops in Argentina and Uruguay to share the ‘report card’ methodology established in South East Queensland for healthy river management.

- Five projects were successful under the UQ-São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) Strategic Research Fund (SPRF), a program established to support research mobility with universities in São Paulo, Brazil.

- UQ launched the UQ–São Paulo State University (UNESP) Academic Exchange Program to support reciprocal visits in the areas of agriculture and veterinary sciences, environmental and earth sciences, chemistry, infectious diseases, and biotechnology.

**Europe**

- The Bavarian Academic Delegation to Australia, led by Bavarian Ministry of Education, Science and the Arts State Secretary Birgit Sibler, visited UQ and met with the Senior Executive, as well as researchers with collaborations in Germany.

- Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Hain attended the Universities 21 Annual General Meeting at the University of Nottingham in May and met with strategic partners, including the University of Exeter.

- University of Exeter Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Steve Smith visited UQ in June to sign a memorandum of agreement to bolster research and industry opportunities. Working under the overarching banner of ‘global sustainability and wellbeing’, the newly established virtual QUEX Institute will focus on environmental sustainability, healthy ageing, physical activity, and nutrition.

- The UQ–Technical University of Munich (TUM) Biocronomhy Symposium was held in October to expand upon existing research initiatives, identify new opportunities for joint projects, and support collaboration in the areas of healthy and safe foods, renewable resources, and bioprocesses engineering.

- TUM President Professor Wolfgang A Hermann and UQ’s Professor Peter Hain signed an undergraduate exchange agreement in August with an emphasis on chemical biotechnology.

- UQ established a research exchange program for PhD students with TUM and the University of Vienna.

- UQ secured funding for three research projects with the University of Bonn and the University of Siegen through the Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme.
North America

- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (External Engagement) Professor Ian Watson participated in a Senior Executive Mission to Canada and the US in April. Highlights included meetings with the Universities of British Columbia, Toronto, and Washington—Seattle, as well as alumni functions in Toronto and Vancouver.

- UQ, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, and Emory University held the inaugural Queensland-Emory Discovery Symposium in October. Researchers connected across themes of infectious disease, brain health and cancer.

- Professor Ian Watson also led a Senior Executive Mission to the US in November, where he met with Emory University, the University of Maryland, and Princeton University. Professor Watson also attended alumni events, including the annual UQ Rugby Dinner.

- UQ and Emory University established a research exchange program for PhD students.

South–Central Asia

- Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Høj and Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Education Minister Simon Birmingham on a visit to India in April, where it was announced Professor Høj would co-chair a task force and UQ Chancellor Peter N Varghese, AO would formulate a strategy for Australia’s trade with India.

- Through the Australia–India Strategic Research Fund (AISRF), UQ secured $1 million from the Australian Government (with matched funding from India) to study semiconductor-based lighting technologies.

South–East Asia

- Professor Peter Høj visited key Singaporean partners, National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University, in January and hosted a dinner in honour of IVF pioneer and UQ alumnus Professor Christopher Chen.

- Taking advantage of the UQ Global Engagement seed funding—through the Schools of Earth and Environment Sciences and Biological Sciences—UQ formed a research partnership with the Indonesian Peatland Restoration Agency (BRG) that will provide UQ researchers with access to a research area of high significance globally, the Management of Climate Change through peatland restoration. The project aims to develop new decision support tools to accelerate restoration of degraded peat lands and revenue conditions that underpin extensive fire events.

Confucius Institute

In 2017, the Confucius Institute at UQ continued to foster programs and activities related to the teaching and research of Chinese language and culture, as well as strengthening both UQ and China engagement and key initiatives in the local Queensland community.

- Starting a high-level familiarisation tour to China by Queensland government service officials, the first of its kind conducted at a state level, increased cultural and language promotion at a grassroots rots level, including support towards Queensland school programs, study tours and cultural days.

- Engaging more than 200 Queensland students in the uptake of the HSK Chinese Proficiency Test.

- Delivering a four-week in-country China study experience for UQ students linked to their field of study.

UQ CI also continued its commitment to advancing academic excellence by supporting five credit-bearing language courses and two China-specific courses at UQ.

ICTE-UQ

In addition to providing English language pathway and support programs for UQ’s international students, ICTE-UQ forms an important outreach link between the Queensland community and the Institute’s more than 160 institutional, government and corporate partners in 20 countries.

In 2017, ICTE-UQ delivered short-term customised programs for partners around the world including:

- A 10-week English and Methodology for TEFL (trained English teachers) program for 15 high school teachers from the Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education, Japan.

- A 12-week English program for 45 public service officials from Indonesia, China, Laos, Vietnam, Thailand, Vietnam, Bangladesh and Myanmar for the Australian Government’s Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

- A six-week study tour for 19 engineering students from Kyushu University, Japan, that included a five-week integrated English program and a one-week discipline-specific, program with the School of Mechanical and Mining Engineering.

- A two-week study abroad program, Australia Past, Present, Future, for 30 students from Seoul National University, Republic of Korea.

- English Immersion programs for 20 undergraduates and 25 postgraduate English education students for the University of Hanoi.

- A four-week customised Business English Program for 22 managers from Hikari Iron and Steel, China (the second-largest steel company globally), run in collaboration with UQ Business School Executive Education.

- A new 35-week English and Economics program in collaboration with the School of Economics for 10 students from Nihon University, Japan.

- Two new programs for Kwansei Gakuen University, Japan, for 22 students participating in a 15-week integrated English program, and 17 students participating in a five-week customised Chinese program.

- A one-week faculty professional development program in Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) at Kyushu University, Japan, for 17 academics.

- A fixed-date CLIL program including two academics from Beijing Foreign Studies University, China, and one from UNESP University, Brazil.

- A two-week pre-service teachers’ program for 12 participants from National Taiwan University, Taiwan.

ICTE-UQ also administered more than 7000 International English Language Testing System (IELTS) tests, Occupational English Tests and Teaching Knowledge Tests to candidates across South-East Queensland for academic pathways, immigration and professional purposes, and placed more than 2500 students and professionals with homestay accommodation hosts within the local Brisbane community.

UQ International Development

In 2017, ICTE-UQ’s International Development division (UQID) continued to manage the delivery of development programs in Australia and across the globe for a range of clients including the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, foreign Government agencies, and the private sector.

UQID worked collaboratively with UQ faculties, schools and institutes to deliver programs in areas that included agriculture, extractives, law and justice, governance, public policy and executive leadership.

UQID engagement spans 23 countries, including Papua New Guinea (PNG), Indonesia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Mongolia, Vietnam and several African nations.

In addition to short-course programs, UQID continued to manage four long-term programs throughout 2017. This included the successful implementation of the Indonesian President Leadership Program (PLP) pilot year, a program under the Pacific Leadership and Governance Precinct designed to contribute to the cadre of ethical and highly skilled professionals in leadership roles in the PNG public sector.

Institute of Modern Languages

The Institute of Modern Languages (IML) continues to play an important role in providing staff, students, alumni and the community with language skills and cultural knowledge that contribute to a global perspective.

In 2017, IML had 2470 enrolments in 155 courses teaching 28 languages. This included 126 enrolments in customised language learning for individuals, small groups and organisations.

Language course delivery, delivery and assessment services were again provided for the Australian Defence Forces in 15 languages.

IML also conducted more than 1200 translation and interpreting jobs for UQ units, staff and students, the community, companies, government departments, schools, and universities.

Cultural and community activities

Customs House

One of UQ’s city bases, the heritage-listed Riverside building—complete with on-site mushroom farm—continued to be in high demand as a venue for university, corporate and private events in 2017, with many UQ alumni taking advantage of the restaurant’s alumni discount.

In all, Customs House welcomed more than 75,000 guests in 2017, and held more than 800 functions in 2017, including two School of Music concerts in The Long Room.

The year also saw Customs House again win the state award for Function/Convention Centre Caterer and Caterer of the Year at the Savour Australia Restaurant & Catering HOSTPLUS Awards for Excellence.

School of Music

The UQ Symphony Orchestra and the UQ Choirs, joined by selected Brisbane secondary school choir, performed two concerts at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre Concert Hall in 2017. The May concert...
saw UQ alumnus and triple Grammy Award winner Tim Minchin in Brisbane as the inaugural Paula and Tony Kanimmu Scholar in Residence—direct a performance of John Luther Adams’s songtextbirds and Gustav Mahler’s Symphony No. 2 ‘Resurrection’.

The October concert commemorated the Golden Jubilee of the Alumni Friends of UQ, with UQ Ensemble-in-Residence, the Viney–Gibbins Place Duo, performing alongside the UQ Symphony Orchestra. The Paula and Tony Kanimmu Bequest brought Tim Minchin to UQ, where he presented a public lecture and other performances, masterclasses, workshops, and lessons. As well, the bequest supported the UQ Pulse Chamber Orchestra’s travel to Cairns to work with 15 student and staff string musicians from 15 schools across the Cairns region as part of the inaugural Trinity Bay Strings Festival.

Other highlights for the School included:
- a visit by 20 staff and students from the UQ Symphony Orchestra to Xi’an, Shaanxi Province, China, to collaborate with the Xi’an Symphony Orchestra.
- a collaboration with 4MH Classic FM presenting a monthly ‘Music from UQ’ program.
- Cello Performance Fellow Patrick Helmrich, works from UQ Art Collection, curator Michele Samantha Littley, works from UQ Art Collection, with 97 works acquired through donations. The Art Museum loaned 43 works of American artist Robert Smithson. The University purchased 54 new artworks for The University of Queensland as possible arts donations. The Art Museum loaned 43 artworks to major public art institutions, including TarraWarra Museum of Art, Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Casula Powerhouse Art Centre and the Heide Museum of Modern Art.

The University of Queensland Historical Society (UQH) featured student performances.

UQ Art Museum
The UQ Art Museum enjoyed record attendance numbers during 2017, welcoming more than 65,000 visitors. Exhibitions during the year included:
- Philippopolis and collections, curator Samantha Littley, works from UQ Art Collection.
- The dust never settles, curator Michele Helmich, works from UQ Art Collection.
- New archeists, curator Dr Alisa King, a Salamanca Arts Centre exhibition toured by Contemporary Art Tasmania.
- Still in my mind: Gurindji location, experience and visuality, curator Brenda Croft, a partnership between UQ Art Museum and UNSW Galleries and Karankari Art and Culture Aboriginal Corporation.

- Ecstasy: Banque and beyond, curator Dr Abraham Bapwacz, a partnership between UQ Art Museum and the UQ Node, ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions (Europe 1100–1800).
- National Self-Portrait Prize 2017, look at me now, you. Selections Glenn Barkley and Holly Williams. UQ’s $30,000 biennial prize entered by invitation.

The UQ Art Museum was grateful to be a recipient of a Queensland Cultural Grant to the value of $338,926. This grant enables the UQ Art Museum to host an exhibition in 2018 of the works of UQ artist Robert Smitsmith.

During 2017 the UQ Art Museum continued its focus on education and public programs. Team members worked with academics and students from a variety of disciplines, and engaged with the public through a number of programs including the ‘We need to talk about...’ series. The UQ Art Museum also diversified some of its space to become a quiet study area for students, while areas were also used for lectures and tutorials.

The University purchased 54 new artworks for The University of Queensland as possible arts donations. The Art Museum loaned 43 artworks to major public art institutions, including TarraWarra Museum of Art, Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Casula Powerhouse Art Centre and the Heide Museum of Modern Art.

The University of Queensland Press (UQP)
In 2017, UQP published some of the best new Australian writing across fiction, non-fiction, poetry, academic, children’s and young adult fiction books, including the work of two UQ academics Venaro Armanino (Burning Down) and Sarah Winch (The Best Death).

UQP books received recognition in the National Biography Award, the Miles Franklin Award and Children’s Book Council of Australia Awards, as well as 29 other shortlistings. Award highlights for UQP authors included:
- Tony Birch (Common People) receiving the prestigious Patrick White Literary Award.
- Mark O’Flynn (The Last Days of Ava Langdon) receiving the Voss Literary Award and being shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award and Prime Minister’s Literary Award.
- Claire Zorn (One Would Think The Deep) winning the CBCA Book of the Year for Older Readers.
- Josephine Rowe (A Loving, Faithful Animal) and Julie Koh (Portable Curriculum) winning the Sydney Morning Herald’s Best Young Novelist Awards.

UQP titles were the focus of national media attention across broadcast, print and mobile channels, and were selected for review and discussion on the influential Book Club program on ABC Television.

UQP authors were invited to attend national and international literary festivals and conferences, while rights staff attended London and Frankfurt Book Fairs to promote UQP books to an export market.

The year concluded with preparations for UQP’s 70th anniversary in 2018.

Indigenous engagement
UQ is committed to ensuring the University is a safe, culturally embracing environment for Indigenous students, staff and the community, and actively works towards forging strategic, respectful partnerships with Indigenous communities. This was brought to the fore in 2017 with work commencing on the University’s first Reconciliation Action Plan, due to be launched in mid-2018. Consultation with University executive, staff and students, and representatives from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities took place, enabling the working group to embrace as broad a range of perspectives as possible. The partnership with the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH), launched in 2016, led to the Deadly Doctors Junior Murri Carnival being held for the first time on the St Lucia campus in July. A clear demonstration of the range of partnerships, the large community event was managed by the IUIH in close collaboration with the UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health and was supported by the Brisbane Broncos and Queensland Firebirds. Four hundred and fifty-seven Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people aged between six and 12, and their families and friends, were welcomed for the four-day program, linking health and wellbeing, sport and education. Participants enjoyed rugby league and netball games, a coaching clinic with the Brisbane Broncos development squad, and a three-hour tour of the UQ campus—following demonstrations from faculties and UQ students.

Student engagement
Engaging with current students During 2017, the University continued to support the Student Strategy’s game-changing graduates, with highlights including:
- boosting the participation of UQ’s Employability MDCC to more than 34,000 enrolments across 192 countries.
- engaging more than 400 volunteer positions to UQ students on campus, giving them the opportunity to develop leadership, presentation and networking skills.
- Six InspireU camps were held in 2017, with more than 100 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary students attending. Established in 2015 as part of a global education partnership between Rio Tinto and UQ, the InspireU camps expanded beyond engineering in 2015 to include law, business, health and science, followed by education this year. The weak-long on-campus university experience gives students a practical insight into the discipline areas and the many opportunities available to them.

In 2017, the ATSIU Unit collaborated with the School of Education to hold the first InspireU Education camp, which attracted 20 participants from a pool of 44 high-quality applicants.

- Organised in partnership with the UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health, the InspireU Health Science camp this year was attended by 22 secondary students and run in conjunction with a highly successful Junior Murri Carnival and the Poche Centre’s national conference.

- UQ’s outreach and engagement activities continued to expand to include a greater focus on building partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in regional and remote areas.

Locations of particular focus in 2017 were the Torres Strait, Central Queensland and the Wide Bay Region, North Queensland, Toowoomba and the Darling Downs. In partnership with the Department of Education and Training, a tertiary aspiration building camp for secondary school students at Darling Downs’ Lake Perseverance was hosted in September.

Sponsorship
UQ once again sponsored and supported the off-campus Under15 Competition for the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Councils Arthur Beetson Foundation Senior Murr Rugby League Carnival, with a focus on health and education for the 400 players involved. UQ-hosted information sessions focused around UQ program offerings, financial and support opportunities for Indigenous students, and general application and admission processes.

The UQ Art Museum was not only an exhibition space in 2017, but also became a quiet study area for students.
engaging with more than 4000 undergraduate students in the inaugural UQ Employability Award program designed to enhance their employability through extracurricular activities; 79 received the award upon graduation holding the annual UQ Careers Fair, which attracted around 1000 students and 95 exhibitors;— supporting around 1000 UQ students to broaden their world view by participating in a global experience such as student exchange, short-term programs or an extracurricular international program at one of 200 exchange partner universities;— supporting 674 students in the UQ Undergraduate Research Program, and hosting the annual UQ Undergraduate Research Conference.

Embracing the Student Strategy’s goal of students as partners, focus group advice led to the adoption of a more comprehensive orientation for farming students than in previous years, with many more social networking events being offered.

Influencing student choice for UQ Queensland’s regional areas were a major recruitment focus in 2017, with UQ staff attending 25 regional and interstate career expos, as well as delivering in-school and university experiences that aimed to demystify university life and break down perceived barriers to tertiary study. These included visits to UQ’s archaeology digs at the Gatton Dairy and Wildlife Centre, as well as discipline-based workshops including rehabilitation therapies, pathology, pharmacy and engineering.

With 24,327 visitors, UQ’s Open Days at Gatton and St Lucia in August were well attended and provided an excellent opportunity for future students and their families to investigate post-school study options and pathways, learn about accommodation and support services, and experience campus life first-hand. In July, 1471 Year 11 and 12 students from 68 high schools attended the annual Careers that Shape the World event, exploring the variety of career possibilities arising from studying at UQ.

In November, 220 high-achieving Year 11 students participated in the ‘live-in’ UQ Young Scholars Program (YSP), developing the leadership skills. The program has proven to be a highly effective recruitment activity, with close to 80 per cent of Young Scholars applying for a place at UQ. Interest in the University’s Enhanced Studies Program (ESP) remained strong, with more than 360 Year 12 students studying a first-year university subject in 2017. Demand for HSC7BS9—a one-week summer-intensive course aiming to boost the critical thinking and writing skills of senior students attending selected schools in the Ipswich, Logan and north Brisbane regions—was particularly high. The University’s partnership with the Brisbane School of Distance Education was further strengthened, with the school delivering two UQ Enhanced Studies courses (in a blended-learning format) to students across Queensland.

Hosting future students, parents and key school contacts on campus remained a focus. This year, several new—and well-attended—events were introduced to drive student choice for UQ, including running parent information evenings, inviting guidance officers from key interstate schools to the annual Guidance Officers Conference, and co-hosting joint Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) information sessions to discuss the transition from OP to ATAR and the new external examinations.

UQ’s new degrees were promoted to schools throughout Queensland, especially the Bachelor of Computer Science and the Bachelor of Advanced Business. The Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test booster program for teachers and students was again delivered in 2017 to help prepare senior students for success in the QCS Test. More than 450 Year 11 and 12 students and 80 teaching staff from 16 schools attended the sessions and feedback was very positive. Two new schools from Brisbane’s eastern suburbs also participated this year.

UQ’s academic community was heavily involved in the recruitment of future students to UQ, attending almost 100 school speech nights, delivering discipline-based activities on campus, providing advice at Open Days and Tertiary Studies Expos, and visiting many schools throughout the state. This included the awarding of almost 100 ‘Create Change’ prizes to the Year 12 school dux or other high achiever.

The UQ Young Scholars Program (YSP) continued to support the tertiary study and career aspirations of motivated secondary school students from low-income families, with almost 40 students being accepted into the two-year program in 2017. The 7th YSP participant graduated from UQ in December.

Scholarships

UQ’s Academic Scholarship program attracted more than 1850 applications from high-achieving Queensland and interstate students, making it a highly competitive field. More than 150 Academic Scholarships were awarded to students commencing in 2017. A significant number of other scholarships, mostly discipline-specific, were also awarded to high-achieving continuing students.

The number of equity scholarships offered at UQ continued to grow during 2017. Almost 400 UQ Link scholarships, valued at $3000 each, were awarded to school leavers and gap-year students who had experienced educational disadvantage as a result of financial hardship.

More than 70 Young Achievers scholarships, valued at $1000 each, were awarded to up to four years, were awarded to YAP participants.

The University also introduced the Aspire Scholarships scheme in 2017, which helps remove some of the barriers to accessing and succeeding at university study for students from financially disadvantaged backgrounds by providing much-needed financial support during the transition to tertiary study. More than 30 of these scholarships were offered.

UQ College

UQ College in 2017 again delivered on its core mission of preparing students for university. By Semester 1 2018, more than 600 students will have moved to UQ from UQ College programs since they were first delivered in 2011.

UQ College is mindful of the rapid pace of change in higher education and its three-year strategy, known as Strategy 2020, aims to bring new products to market in 2018. This strategy includes the development of online courses and programs to help the College better prepare students.

The College Awards of Excellence in September saw the addition of two scholarships established for the top student from the Tertiary Preparation Program and the top graduate from the Associate Degree in Business from the previous three trimesters. These scholarships were created in honour of the first UQ College Board Chair, Emeritus Professor Alan Rix, who recently retired from UQ.

UQ Sport

In 2017 password-protected

UQ Sport welcomed more than 700,000 participants to its programs and activities across St Lucia and Gatton during 2017. A new heated, wheelchair-accessible 25-metre pool opened in June, as part of a $3.4 million redevelopment of the UQ Sport Aquatic Centre. The project included landscaping upgrades, as well as the installation of new heat pumps and a low-residual watermaker chlorination system.

Team UQ finished fourth overall at the Australian University Games on the Gold Coast, with almost 450 students combining to win more than 70 medals, and 11 students represented Australia at the Summer Universiade in Taipei, with three achieving top-five placings.

The UQ Sport Academy’s Elite Athlete program supported more than 200 students, including a record 56 Sporting Scholarship recipients. Additionally, eight students received a UQ Blue—the University’s highest sporting honour—with a further 21 bestowed a Half Blue.

UQ Sport introduced ‘Fun & Games’, a free, weekly students-only sports program, and 160 students participated in a SIAF-funded, 10-week Adult Learn-to-Swim program.

And for the second consecutive year, UQ Sport was recognised as a Top-performing Company for ‘Work-Life Balance’ in the 2017 HRD Employer of Choice report.

Master Plan

Work continued on the new St Lucia Campus Master Plan during 2017, with further refinements in response to feedback received during a formal public consultation period and ongoing engagement with community and government stakeholders. The Master Plan was finalised towards the end of the year and approved by the University Senate in December.

Work commenced on a new Sport Development Plan (SDP) for the St Lucia campus. This is a requirement of the Infrastructure Designation for the campus, a requirement under the Planning Act 2016.

A draft document will be released for public consultation in the first quarter of 2018 and the SDP will be finalised by mid-2018. A 10-year Development Plan was completed for the Gatton campus. This plan sets out a strategy to realise the University’s ambition for the Gatton campus to become Australia’s premier plant, animal, veterinary science teaching and research campus and a world-class location for sub-tropical and tropical agricultural plant and animal sciences.