Academic honours

This year we awarded 72 University Medals. These are limited not by number but by standards which demand first-class honours with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 6.45 or better from the maximum 7.

Other students honoured nationally and internationally included the following.

- Final-year mechanical and space engineering student Will Mulholland won a three-year scholarship to complete a Doctor of Philosophy at Oxford University, working on a revolutionary needleless injection device.
- First-class honours arts graduate Sarah Kanowski was one of only four Australians to win a Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan for 2000, for two years work on a Master of Philosophy in English Studies in the U.K.
- The T.C. Beirne School of Law achieved its third international win at the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Vienna. Law students Kateena O’Gorman, Sarah Holland, Andrew Stumer, Sophie Devitt and Thomas John beat 79 mooting teams from 29 countries.
- PhD student in mechanical engineering Charlotte Higgins received one of only 35 Amelia Earhart Fellowships awarded worldwide by Zonta International to women pursuing graduate degrees in aerospace-related fields. The Fellowship recognised her research into the aerothermodynamics of the gas giants.
- Law students Peter Travis, Peter Black and David Starkoff won the Best International Team Award at the 19th Annual John Marshall Law School Moot Court Competition in Information Technology and Privacy Law, in Chicago.
- Final-year agribusiness student Belinda Angel, one of a graduating cohort with a 100 percent job rate, won the Queensland Cotton Award for Excellence – cash and a silver platter.
- Fourth-year music student Anna Carson and PhD student Jessica Cottis were among four finalists in the keyboard section of the Symphony Australia Young Performers Awards 2000.
- Fifth-year veterinary science students Rachel Geisel and Stephen Daley won Cornell University Leadership Program Scholarships to spend 10 weeks at Cornell University, USA.
- Second-year physiotherapy student Dora Lee was second nationally in the 31st annual Japanese Language Speech contest, run in cooperation with the Embassy of Japan, the Consulate-General of Japan in Brisbane, and the Japan Foundation Sydney Language Centre.
- Dentistry postgraduate Wilairat Worapamorn won the Dennis Lowther Award for scientific excellence at the 24th Annual Scientific Conference of the Matrix Biology Society of Australia and New Zealand.
- Ulrike Siebeck, a PhD student with the Vision, Touch and Hearing Research Centre, won a doctoral fellowship from the Australian Museum to study fish off Lizard Island in Queensland.
- PhD student Simon Costanzo was runner-up in the Young Water Researcher of the Year Awards sponsored by the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for coastal Zone, Estuary and Waterway Management. His marine pollution level tester led to a multi-million dollar revision of sewage treatment strategies for Moreton Bay.

Dr Natalie Phillips (MB BS 1999) won one of three Australia-at-Large 2001 Rhodes Scholarships, continuing our long tradition for producing Rhodes Scholars. She will spend two years at Oxford University, researching Clinical Paediatrics, with the Oxford Vaccine and Tropical Medicine Group.

Final-year Applied Science student Heather Smith beat 13 contenders to win the inaugural Queensland Country Life Young Farmer of the Year competition, organised by Queensland Rural Youth.