



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



The mission of The University of Queensland is to create a community dedicated to achieving national and international levels of excellence in teaching, research and scholarship, one that makes significant contributions to the intellectual, cultural, social and economic life of the State of Queensland and the Australian nation.

Annual **report** 2005

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Communication objectives

This Annual Report reviews The University of Queensland's performance in 2005, compares it with previous years, and flags future intentions. It answers the interests of our diverse stakeholders by documenting our progress against the aims, aspirations and commitments stated in our five-year Strategic Plan 2005-2009.

The Report outlines our operational and business framework, and describes the teaching and research highlights of our year. It reflects the strength of our community partnerships and demonstrates our efficient stewardship of public and other resources.

We have structured this mass of information to serve a variety of readership styles ranging from the casual to the more exacting; and the inclusion of an index and cross-referencing add to the Report's usefulness as a reference document.

Users of this Report include members of State Parliament, members of the public, the University community (academics, administrators, graduates and students), business and media communities, benefactors and others such as Australian and international visitors, and prospective staff and students.

They will find the Report describes a range of initiatives, achievements and future plans – a sound basis for measuring our performance in 2005 and our prospects as a continuing leader among Australia's 39 universities.

Report of the Senate of The University of Queensland

For the period January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005

In pursuance of the provisions of Section 46J(1) of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977*, Senate has the honour to transmit to the Minister for Education and the Arts a Report on the proceedings of The University of Queensland for the year ended December 31, 2005.



Sir Llewellyn Edwards AC
CHANCELLOR

Appendices (separate volume)

A Annual Financial Statements

B Staff Activity Overseas

This volume is available from the Office of Marketing and Communications (contact details back cover) or online www.uq.edu.au/about/annualreport

At a glance

In 2005, we advanced significantly towards the objectives and operational priorities outlined in *The University of Queensland Strategic Plan 2005-2009** (pages 20-25) – the basis for this Annual Report.

Our standing

The University of Queensland was founded in 1910 as the first university in Queensland and the fifth in Australia. Now it is known internationally as a leader among Australia's 39 universities.

We rank in the nation's top two or three institutions by most performance measures. Nationally, we are a founding member of the Group of Eight – a national coalition of leading research-intensive universities. Internationally, we are one of only three Australian founding members of *Universitas 21*. Our Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Hay, chairs this select alliance whose membership is limited to 25 research-intensive universities dedicated to world-best practice.

Our mission

Our mission is to create a community dedicated to achieving national and international levels of excellence in teaching, research and scholarship, one that makes significant contributions to the intellectual, cultural, social and economic life of the State of Queensland and the Australian nation.

Our aims and commitments

We seek to honour our responsibilities both to our own community and to the wider communities with which we interact, and we strive to:

- identify and develop new, appropriate strategic priorities in teaching and research;

- develop, manage and diversify our resource base;
- incorporate the new technologies in leading-edge infrastructure; and
- leverage new funding via our Strategic Initiatives Fund.

Our operational priorities

Our critical operational priorities, backed by our Strategic Initiatives Fund, are to:

- attract the most able students and achieve equity and diversity;
- enhance the learning experience;
- support research-based teaching and learning;
- achieve a graduate student proportion of 25 percent of total students, with an emphasis on research;
- boost internationalism;
- boost research, focusing on strategic priorities;
- maintain leadership in transferring and commercialising intellectual property;
- increase and diversify our income base;
- implement best-practice management and equality of opportunity; and
- enhance the physical environments of our campuses.

* In November 2005 our University Senate approved a Strategic Plan for 2006-2010 www.uq.edu.au/about/strategic-plans Senate also approved an Asset Management Plan and noted subsidiary Operational Plans which support initiatives in the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan.



◀ Students stroll through the Great Court at St Lucia. Listed by the National Trust of Queensland, it comprises 2.4ha of tree-studded lawn encircled by cloistered sandstone walls carved with historic scenes and figures, grotesques and the coats of arms of other universities.

Vice-Chancellor's review

A third of the nation's teaching awards, 20 percent of allocations from the Commonwealth Learning and Teaching Fund, research outcomes including the world's first viable cancer vaccine, and high levels of funding from non-government sources... these were highlights of 2005, as we moved from strength to strength in an era of exponential change.

The Higher Education Reforms, effective from January 1, 2005, and the introduction of voluntary student unionism from July 1, 2006 represent great change – and considerable challenges – for Australia's higher education sector.

We complied with requirements of the former to qualify for a maximum \$4 million (2.5 percent) increase on our 2004 base Commonwealth Government grant. We also began planning for the latter, whose ramifications will require astute management of limited resources to maintain a quality student experience.

Continuing vigour in our core businesses (teaching and research) puts us in a strong position to respond to change as an opportunity for growth and success; and I am confident that our students and staff will continue to achieve the high standards evidenced in the following pages of this Annual Report.

We scooped the pool for two measures of quality teaching this year. Our academics won a third of awards (four of 12) at the Australian Awards for University

Teaching; and we topped the nation with an allocation of \$10.424 million (20 percent) from the Federal Government's new Learning and Teaching Performance Fund. Ours was the only Queensland university recognised for teaching excellence.

A 100 percent success rate in final trials for the world's first viable cancer vaccine headed a long list of impressive research outcomes. Gardasil™ and Cervarix™ are expected to be available in the developed world in 2006 to protect women against cervical cancer.

Results like this rely on world-class resources and this year our research infrastructure expanded with completion of the Sustainable Minerals Institute (official opening pictured) and progress on other visionary projects.

Such visions may never have become reality without exceptional levels of support from The Atlantic Philanthropies and the Queensland Government's Smart State program. Contributions of \$19 million this year have already brought The Atlantic Philanthropies' total support for this University to a total of \$125 million. The Smart State Research Facilities Fund provided \$6.454 million, giving us a total (paid or pledged) of \$96 million for various projects.

Support such as this, from private, professional, industry and government sources (including competitive grants such as \$34.7 million pledged by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for two international collaborative health projects), confirms the quality of our work. People invest only in projects they believe will succeed; and our track record for excellent outcomes, plus our place among Australia's top three universities for total research income, confirms our status as a pre-eminent research-intensive university, with all the attendant benefits for teaching and for the community.

We have done extraordinarily well in 2005. Many people helped advance our aspirations – Senators, students, staff, graduates and benefactors – and on our University's behalf, I thank you all. We value your interest, and look forward to your continuing participation in our very promising future.



Professor John Hay AC
VICE-CHANCELLOR



(From left) Queensland Premier Peter Beattie, Professor Hay, former Chancellor Sir James Foots and Chancellor Sir Llew Edwards celebrate the opening of the \$24 million Sir James Foots Building – home to our Sustainable Minerals Institute (SMI), Earth Systems Science Computational Centre and Collaborative Learning Centre. The Queensland Government contributed \$10 million to establish the SMI (\$8 million for the building, \$2 million for research).

Highlights

Teaching and learning

- Page 29 Postgraduates represented 26 percent of our student body, exceeding our target of 25 percent.
- Page 31 We were allocated the highest number of Commonwealth Learning Scholarships in the country (486, an increase of 167 on the previous year).
- Page 37 Four of our six finalists won Australian Awards for University Teaching, taking a third of the 12 prizes available and maintaining an unbroken line of wins since the awards began eight years ago.
- Page 37 We topped the nation with the highest allocation (20 percent) of \$54.4 million distributed through the Federal Government's Learning and Teaching Performance Fund.
- Page 42 The Queensland Rhodes Scholar, 56 University Medallists (including four with perfect scores of seven plus another 10 with Grade Point Averages between 6.9 and 7) and other high achievers confirmed the quality of our graduates.

Research and research training

- Page 45 Our total reported research income in 2004 (latest data available) was \$156.7 million – \$2 million more than the previous year.
- Page 46 Grants from non-government sources totalled \$45 million.
- Page 49 Outcomes included the world's first viable cancer vaccine, expected to become available in the developed world in 2006.
- Page 50 We topped several categories in a national survey of commercialisation by Australian universities and publicly-funded institutions.

Community partnerships

- Pages 59, 63 Free public events included lectures, open days, concerts and exhibitions.
- Page 62 The Ipswich Women's Development Fund launched the annual Heather Bonner Memorial Scholarship.
- Page 62 Student placements and community initiatives advanced public wellbeing in locations ranging from Brisbane to Bamaga.
- Pages 63-65 Continuing education opportunities included community-based courses in more than 30 languages; English language training in Australia and overseas; and community education courses on topics ranging from workplace skills to the creative arts.

Management and resources

- Page 72 The Atlantic Philanthropies contributed a further \$19 million to our projects this year, making a total of \$125 million for state-of-the-art infrastructure and UQ-Vietnam initiatives.
- Page 77 A vigorous building program included completion of our \$24 million Sustainable Minerals Institute and continuing work on our Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (\$73 million) and Queensland Brain Institute (\$61.7 million). The latter two were supported by The Atlantic Philanthropies and Queensland Smart State grants.
- Page 78 We completed and opened the UQ Gatton Environmental Precinct; and reviewed environmental impacts for 10 sites and campuses.

2005 snapshots

Where we stand



Our University is one of only three founding Australian members of *Universitas 21*

www.universitas21.com

This international network of leading research-intensive universities, established in 1997, is limited to 25 members and is currently chaired by our Vice-Chancellor.

In 2005, the group comprised 18 members from 10 countries. Collectively, it represented 500,000 students, employed 40,000 academics and researchers and had more than two million alumni. Members are:

- The University of Queensland,
- University of New South Wales,
- University of Melbourne (Australia);
- University of British Columbia,
- McGill University (Canada);
- Fudan University,
- Peking University,
- Shanghai Jiao Tong University (China);
- University of Hong Kong;
- University of Auckland (New Zealand);
- National University of Singapore;
- University of Korea;
- Lund University (Sweden);
- University of Birmingham,
- University of Edinburgh,
- University of Glasgow,
- University of Nottingham (UK); and
- University of Virginia (USA).

Good Universities Guide

For the ninth consecutive year, we rated the best in Queensland (and one of the best in Australia) in this independent consumer guide's rankings. The 2006 edition gave us maximum five-star ratings for six key performance indicators:

- student demand;
- positive graduate outcomes;
- staff qualifications;
- research grants*;
- research intensity*;
- and toughness to get in (St Lucia campus).

*only Queensland university awarded five-star rating; also among just eight universities nationally awarded top score for research grants

Teaching profile

In 2005 we:

- won a third of this year's Australian Awards for University Teaching (page 37);
- received 20 percent (\$10.424 million of \$54.4 million) of funds distributed from the Federal Government's new Learning and Teaching Performance Fund (page 37);
- maintained a high graduate employment rate, including 100 percent in some disciplines (pages 29-30); and
- produced high-achieving students and graduates.

Research profile

We rank consistently among the top few institutions in the country in major research income categories (more funding details pages 45-48).

	2002	2003	2004*
Total research income (\$m) (includes CRCs)			
Melbourne	158.78	198.74	208.28
Sydney	145.24	156.58	175.02
UQ	136.73	154.66	156.66
NSW	108.82	121.66	125.70
Industry and other research grants (\$m)			
Melbourne	55.40	75.43	74.17
Sydney	68.73	60.34	66.30
Monash	35.04	40.04	41.73
UQ	53.34	50.21	39.12
National competitive research grants income (\$m)			
Melbourne	74.80	87.16	93.26
Sydney	60.94	75.87	88.47
UQ	48.31	63.46	73.06
ANU	38.08	55.64	63.83
Other public sector research grant income (\$m)			
Melbourne	23.18	27.92	32.03
UQ	22.13	25.84	29.85
NSW	19.80	22.72	20.88
Adelaide	12.40	16.61	19.78

*latest available data (source: 2005 DEST Higher Education Research Data Collection)

How we rate



Group of Eight

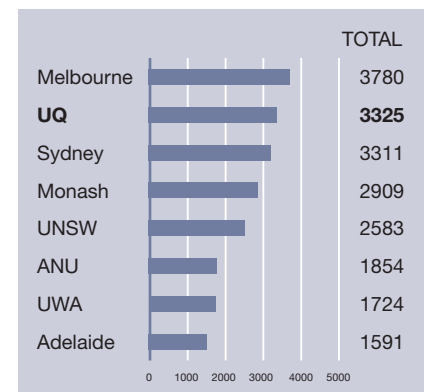
We are one of the Group of Eight www.Go8.edu.au comprising the leading research-intensive

institutions among Australia's 39 universities. The Group:

- has nurtured all Australian Nobel Prize winners educated in Australia;
- receives more than 70 percent of national competitive research grants;
- hosts more than half of Australia's major national research facilities;
- dominates university links with industry;
- holds more than 90 percent of US patents for inventions generated by Australian universities; and
- was included (all members) among the world's top 100 universities listed in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* 2004 Rankings.

Research higher degree students 2004*

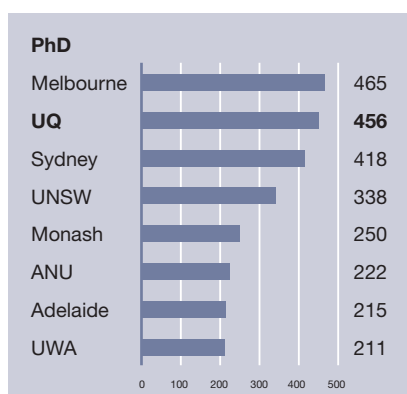
We again recorded the country's second-highest number of enrolments by research students.



*March 31, 2004

PhD completions 2003*

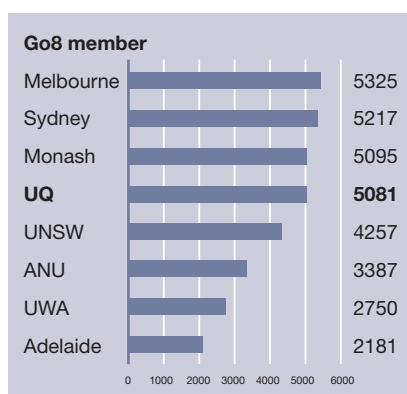
We maintained completion rates for PhDs at about 75 percent.



* latest data

Total staff numbers 2004*

In 2005 the Federal Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency named us an Employer of Choice for Women for the fourth year running (page 74).



* latest data for full-time and fractional full-time staff

Note: Due to changes by DEST in the methodology and timing of collecting nationwide university data, DEST-generated statistics for 2005 were not available at the time of printing. Go8 comparisons on these pages represent the most recent statistics available.

Our students

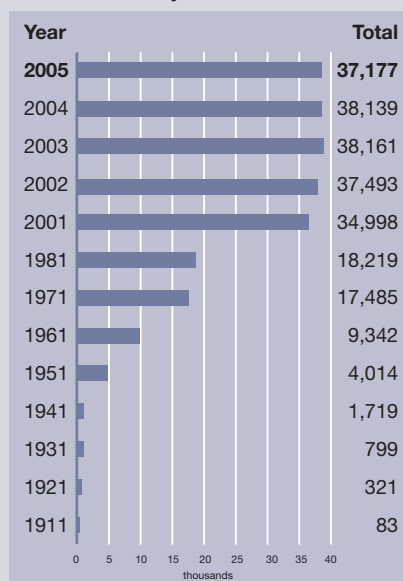
This year 8838 students graduated from our 380 programs and 4000 courses. Of these graduates, 5831 attended 22 ceremonies in Australia and four celebrations overseas. We awarded:

- 444 doctorates (including 3 higher doctorates);
- 1889 masters;
- 352 postgraduate and graduate diplomas;
- 390 graduate certificates;
- 1340 bachelors (honours) degrees;
- 4343 bachelors degrees; and
- 80 diplomas and associate diplomas.

Graduate data showed slight, evenly-spread decreases across the board except for our Faculty of Health Sciences, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences and Graduate School.

	2004	2005
Arts	1205	1123
BACS	991	1010
BEL	2495	2398
EPSA	1130	991
Health Sciences	1139	1227
NRAVS	646	556
SBS	890	989
Graduate School	514	544
Total	9010	8838

Enrolment history



Note: Any inconsistency or discrepancy in figures quoted in previous Annual Reports reflects new DEST reporting criteria which from 2004 require data calculated at August 31. Previously, data were calculated at March 31 each year.

Total enrolments* decreased slightly (page 29), echoing a national trend for fewer publicly-funded places.

	2004	2005
Full-time internal	29,120	28,707
Part-time internal	7024	6607
External	1995	1863
Total	38,139	37,177
Percentage female	54.7	55.1

*December 2005

Enrolment levels* showed postgraduate strength reaching 26 percent of the student body (page 29).

	2004	2005
Doctorate by research	3079	3036
Doctorate by coursework	81	86
Masters by research	603	547
Masters by coursework	4717	4663
Postgraduate/graduate diploma	929	721
Graduate certificate	895	770
Bachelors	26,346	26,183
Diploma/associate diploma	414	325
Non-award	1075	846
Total	38,139	37,177

*December 2005

International enrolments* representing 124 countries formed 17.1 percent of the student body (page 29).

	2004	2005
Doctorate by research	508	538
Doctorate by coursework	8	10
Masters by research	88	81
Masters by coursework	1686	1817
Postgraduate/graduate diploma	106	64
Graduate certificate	63	40
Bachelors	3056	3076
Diploma/associate diploma	5	1
Non-award	862	705
Total	6382	6332

*December 2005

Five years – key statistics

CATEGORY	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	% Change 2004-05	▲ ▼
NUMBER OF STUDENTS							
Total	34,998	37,493	38,161	38,139	37,177	-2.5%	▼
Female	54.6%	54.4%	54.7%	54.7%	55.1%		
Commencing	13,648	14,604	13,621	13,253	12,852	-3.0%	▼
Female	56.8%	55.7%	56.4%	56.1%	56.9%		
STUDENT LOAD							
Total	27,505	28,953	29,391	29,329	28,955	-1.3%	▼
Undergraduate	22,846	23,483	23,464	23,061	22,863	-0.9%	▼
Postgraduate	4,657	5,470	5,927	6,268	6,093	-2.8%	▼
FUNDING FOR PLACES							
Commonwealth fully subsidised places	19,295	19,305	19,290	19,400	19,082	2.1%	▲
Commonwealth Research Training Scheme	2,038	2,036	2,033	2,058	1,937	-5.9%	▼
Domestic fee-paying (award and non-award)	1,117	1,846	2,227	2,319	2,138	-7.8%	▼
International fee-paying	3,612	4,252	4,596	4,950	5,047	2.0%	▲
Marginally funded, unfunded and other sources	1,443	1,514	1,245	601	31	-94.8%	▼
AWARD COMPLETIONS							
Total	7,542	8,259	8,644	9,010	8,838	-1.9%	▼
Undergraduate	5,639	5,897	5,963	5,971	5,763	-3.5%	▼
Postgraduate	1,903	2,362	2,681	3,039	3,075	1.2%	▲
STAFF							
Total	4,666	4,722	4,865	5,081	5,251	3.3%	▲
Academic	1,926	1,929	1,979	2,078	2,206	6.1%	▲
Teaching and research	1,247	1,259	1,263	1,273	1,550	21.7%	▲
Research only	679	670	716	805	656	-18.5%	▼
General	2,739	2,793	2,886	3,003	3,045	1.4%	▲
Research only	365	392	436	455	473	3.9%	▲
Other	2,375	2,401	2,450	2,548	2,572	1.0%	▲
OPERATING REVENUE (\$ million)							
Total	643.363	690.707	732.266	735.121	864.716	17.6%	▲
Commonwealth Government operating purposes excluding HECS-HELP & FEE-HELP & BOTPLS	209.574	219.737	225.544	212.282	250.741	18.1%	▲
Capital development pool	4.781	2.401	3.136	2.622	1.570	-40.1%	▼
HECS-HELP	88.781	95.538	97.045	92.241	108.210	17.3%	▲
Special research assistance	40.875	44.790	55.416	65.821	79.565	20.9%	▲
NHMRC	19.397	16.166	23.419	25.360	29.098	14.7%	▲
Other Commonwealth grants	6.000	3.000	8.820	13.900	4.804	-65.4%	▼
Consultancy and contract research	29.109	36.337	42.433	41.325	52.700	27.5%	▲
Tuition fees (including FEE-HELP & BOTPLS)	58.820	78.851	93.092	111.467	133.810	20.0%	▲
Other revenue	186.026	193.887	183.361	170.103	204.218	20.1%	▲
RESEARCH QUANTUM (RQ)/INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS SCHEME (IGS) (\$ million)							
RQ (to 2001)/IGS (from 2002) amount	23.123	26.785	28.337	28.947	29,052	0.4%	▲
as percentage of national total	10.1%	9.9%	10.2%	10.2%	10.0%		
national rank order	3	3	2	3	3		
PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (\$ million)							
Total (\$millions)	1,310.8	1,304.5	1,114.8	1,128.6	1,481.9	31.3%	▲
TOTAL NET ASSETS (\$ million)							
Total	1,479.2	1,473.8	1,297.2	1,288.6	1,650.3	28.1%	▲

NOTES:

Number of students represents an unduplicated count of students enrolling in any semester of the enrolment year, excluding cross-institutional students. This definition was adopted by DEST in 2002.

Student load represents the sum of the load for each semester, as recorded at the official census date in each semester, expressed in Equivalent Full-time Student Load units (EFTSL).

Award completions represents the number of completed degrees, diplomas and certificates. The awards data for 2005 are provisional.

Staff figures show the number of full-time equivalent positions occupied by full-time and part-time staff members as at March 31.

Operating revenue and total assets figures are taken from the University's annual financial statements and refer only to the University itself, not controlled entities. Full details are disclosed in Appendix A, available as second volume to this Report.

Institutional Grants Scheme funding, provided by the Commonwealth from 2002 to support institutional research and research training activities, is distributed annually among universities under a formula which represents a measure of performance.

Institutional Grants Scheme funding replaced **Research Quantum** funding, which previously fulfilled a similar role.

Time off between lectures... students swap stories at the coffee shop in the Great Court adjoining the Library (picture Sonia Sutcliffe). ▶