MEET AUSTRALIA’S MOST INFLUENTIAL WOMAN

Ann Sherry AO

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An aerial view of the Gatton Solar Research Facility at UQ Gatton. The project is part of a research collaboration between UQ, the University of New South Wales, First Solar and AGL PV Solar Developments Pty Ltd. Image: Adam Harper.

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Alumni Tim Byrne and Carmen Ariotti are helping the disabled community experience the thrill of catching a wave.
Exciting era awaits

He follows in the footsteps of many esteemed predecessors, and newly elected Chancellor Peter Varghese AO is eager to embrace the opportunities and meet the challenges facing the higher education sector.

The University of Queensland ushers in a new era this year as it welcomes one of Australia’s most esteemed public servants and diplomats as its 14th Chancellor. Peter Varghese AO will join UQ in July when he steps down from his role as Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, continuing his strong connection with the University.

Varghese has served as Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade since 2012, following positions as High Commissioner to India from 2009 to 2012 and Director-General of the Office of National Assessments from 2004 to 2009.

Prior to that, he was the Senior Adviser (International) to then Prime Minister John Howard and was Australia’s High Commissioner to Malaysia from 2000 to 2002.

Varghese was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 2010 for distinguished service to public administration, particularly in leading reform in the Australian intelligence community and as an adviser in the areas of foreign policy and international security.

As a UQ alumnus (Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honours ’78), University medalist in history in 1977, and 2013 recipient of an Honorary Doctorate of Letters, Varghese said he was excited to be returning to Brisbane and to the University.

“UQ has been such an important part of my family’s life story,” Varghese said.

“My father taught there and six of my siblings are UQ graduates. I met and courted my wife there, and our only son studied engineering at UQ.

“UQ shaped the intellectual foundation of my career in public service and public policy, so I am honoured to return to this great institution.

“As Chancellor, I look forward to working with the Senate and the Vice-Chancellor in setting the strategic direction of the University.

“There are large challenges facing our universities: finding a sustainable funding model, ensuring UQ continues to grow as a world-class research and teaching university, expanding its international linkages, working closely with the state and federal governments, and playing its part in building the skills and innovation which will be so crucial to our future as a nation and a community.”

UQ Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Høj said Varghese had a distinguished record for leading highly internationalised organisations and giving critical advice at the highest levels.

“The University is honoured that he has accepted the role of Chancellor, bringing back to his alma mater the wisdom and reputation won through decades of international and national experience.

“He shows that UQ’s vision of knowledge leadership for a better world is indeed achievable, and that its seeds are in students and graduates with a huge range of talents and backgrounds.

“Mr Varghese was born in Kenya of India-born parents, and came to Australia in the 1960s when this nation was very different to its modern self. He and his family have helped make the modern Australia, and we are delighted that he is returning to Queensland to continue former Chancellors’ work of shaping the modern, global UQ.”

The role of Chancellor is an honorary position with strategic, governance and ceremonial responsibilities and wide engagement with a range of internal and external stakeholders.

Varghese will take over from John Story AO, who served as Chancellor from 2009 until 2015.

Deputy Chancellor Dr Jane Wilson took over as acting Chancellor when Story completed his term in December 2015 and will continue in the position until Varghese joins UQ in July.

“UQ shaped the intellectual foundation of my career in public service and public policy, so I am honoured to return to this great institution.”

Peter Varghese AO
TEAMING UP FOR CHANGE

The reigning Australian netball champions, a blockbuster science festival, and a music program tailored for children of Cape York Peninsula. What do they have in common? Your university supports them all, along with many other activities, people and organisations that serve diverse community interests and fit neatly with UQ’s mission.

The University has scores of longstanding community associations, and generations of staff, students and alumni have contributed to society in areas that are well outside their formal bailiwicks.

However, it is only right for an institution like UQ to give back if we can make a difference, and we are pleased if it also enhances our standing when doing so. Lately, we have looked beyond the traditional style of UQ partner and embraced new friends with broad appeal, because everyone benefits when society is healthier, better informed, safer and happier. Furthermore, students, staff and alumni enjoy clear pay-offs from partnership arrangements which present new opportunities for learning, discovery, and simple pleasure.

I know that some people were surprised when, in 2015, we formalised a partnership with one of the National Rugby League’s (NRL’s) most successful teams, the Brisbane Broncos. League followers have probably noticed UQ signage at Broncos matches, for instance on perimeter fencing at home games, on head coach Wayne Bennett’s shirt, and even on the coach’s box at the thrilling 2015 grand final. But the arrangement goes much deeper, and includes opportunities for undergraduate student placements and for projects involving elite athletes, by higher degree research students. The Broncos support the UQ Emerging Leaders program and work with us to engage with prospective students from rural and regional Queensland, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Early in 2016, we cemented links with another hugely popular and successful team by signing up with Netball Queensland and the Queensland Firebirds. This also opens new doors for students to access internships and practical experiences, and to see how their knowledge of sports science and sports medicine works on elite sportswomen. Our first UQ Queensland Firebirds ambassador, Clare McMeniman, is both a star player and a UQ graduate.

If you have been watching waves break at the beach recently, you may have caught sight of a different type of crest, because the UQ logo is gracing the shirts of Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) volunteers. Mindful that one-in-four UQ students is international, we directly support an SLSQ program that raises the water safety awareness of international visitors and migrants. And a scheme that teaches practical and competition skills to children all the way from the Far North to the Tweed is now called the UQ Secondary School Surf League.

For those who like to bathe their brains in a good read (and that must be all readers of Contact!), we have stepped up UQ’s loyal support of writers. As of 2015, the University is principal and education partner of the Brisbane Writers Festival (BWF), which includes a program that connected with more than 14,000 students, from prep to year 12, in 2015. More than 50 BWF activities featured University of Queensland Press authors, alumni, or members of our academic community, and creative writing students took part in an editor-in-residence program with publishing professionals.

As well, the University continues to sponsor the Queensland Literary Awards, specifically the Fiction and Non-Fiction categories. We back many other vital cultural assets, including the Queensland Music Festival (QMF), While giving UQ students performance, learning and research opportunities, the QMF collaboration nourishes the Cape York Instrumental Program, a branchchild of former QMF artistic director James Morrison in partnership with Cape York Academy (chaired by Noel Pearson).

In March 2016, we were proud to support an ambitious new venture, World Science Festival Brisbane. It was the first such event outside New York, and its organisers (led by the Queensland Museum) report that during the five-day festival, more than 120,000 people visited its main precinct, while almost 400,000 engaged through social media.

Many UQ scientists contributed and proved – yet again – that they are committed science communicators. I have given a small snapshot of our significant sponsorships, and in many respects our most important sponsorship partners are the many hundreds of students who receive UQ-assisted scholarships and bursaries. These help give a broader cross-section of society a global top-50 university education. And, to borrow from and paraphrase Nelson Mandela, education is the most powerful tool they can use to create positive change in the world.

Professor Peter Høj
Vice-Chancellor and President
CRUISE CONTROL

She has steered the cruise industry through rough seas and helped drive cultural change in the corporate world. Contact caught up with Australia’s Most Influential Woman and alumna Ann Sherry AO as she reflected on her career so far.

The title of Australia’s Most Influential Woman carries prestige, honour, and the recognition of an esteemed career.

But Carnival Australia Executive Chairman Ann Sherry AO says it also carries a weight of responsibility.

Sherry (Bachelor of Arts ’78; Honorary Doctor of Business ’14) was named Australia’s most influential woman of 2015 at the Australian Financial Review and Westpac 100 Women of Influence Awards, celebrating her efforts in overhauling Carnival Australia and revitalising the cruise industry.

“The title was a huge surprise, largely because you don’t put yourself forward for those things, but it is now my responsibility to continue to use my influence,” she said.

“I’m involved on a wide set of fronts on a number of issues and I think using influence to try to improve things for others is a responsibility, but also an opportunity.”

Sherry joined Carnival Australia in 2007 and has led the industry’s extraordinary growth in the years that followed.

Prior to that, Sherry spent 12 years with Westpac, driving cultural change, community engagement and customer focus, and is recognised for her work in helping the company become the first private-sector bank to introduce paid maternity leave.

Before joining Westpac, Sherry was First Assistant Secretary of the Office of the Status of Women in Canberra from 1993 to 1994, advising then Prime Minister Paul Keating on policies and programs. She was also Australia’s representative to the United Nations forums on human rights and women’s rights.

In 2004, she was awarded an Order of Australia for her contribution to the community through the promotion of corporate management policies and practices that embrace gender equity, social justice, and work and family partnerships.

In addition to her executive role, Sherry holds a number of non-executive roles, including with Sydney Airport, ING Direct (Australia), The Palladium Group, Australian Rugby Union and Cape York Partnerships.

Did you have any early career ambitions?

When I was growing up there were virtually no female role models, but my mother always worked. She was a pharmacist. The idea that I would work probably came from a maternal role model and the belief that I could have a profession and a family.

Why did you choose to study a Bachelor of Arts at UQ and what influence did the University have on your future career?

UQ was where you went if you wanted to go to university in Queensland. I actually started my working life as a radiographer at Royal Brisbane Hospital but realised it wasn’t what I really wanted to do, so I came to UQ. I started my BA studying maths and computer science. As a sidebar, I also studied government and psychology and it was those subjects that I found incredibly engaging. They were much more about the argument and the discussion, as well as the thought process. My time at university was an incredible time for reflection and flexibility. I started in one area and ended up in a completely different one, and there are very few opportunities in your life to do that. That flexibility is one of the things that has stayed with me because I’ve changed countries, companies and careers a number of times since and you learn not to be afraid of that.

I was a student at a time of very conservative politics in Queensland. Joh Bjelke-Petersen was the Premier and there was a lot of activism on campus. I believe that activism gave students the opportunity to be part of public discourse, part of public debate, and have a view on public policy. The opportunity to engage in those big issues made you feel as though you were part of the world you worked in and lived in. There was so much happening on campus and the richness of those experiences became an incredible foundation for life.

Was there a professor or teacher who inspired or influenced you?

Margaret Cribb, who was a staff member in the School of Political Science and International Studies, was one of the few female lecturers I had at university. She was very engaging around the issues of government and public policy, which probably led me to join the Australian Public Service after university.

Why did you make the move into the private sector after a long career in public service?

I had been critical of the private sector from where I sat in government. So, when I was offered the chance to get into the system and try to change it, I figured I needed to put my money where my mouth was. I moved to Westpac when there was a strong push to get more senior women into the sector. There are very few opportunities you get to come into organisations at a senior level and be part of driving a change program. So that was incredibly appealing. I learnt that even old and well-established institutions can change, and the culture change that you bring to an organisation is what makes them relevant.

Tell us about your work with Indigenous communities?

I got involved with an organisation originally called Indigenous Enterprise Partnerships about 15 years ago after attending a meeting in Weipa. Lawyer and land rights activist Noel Pearson gave one of his early speeches about welfare reform and the rights of Indigenous communities to take more control of their future and it resonated with me. That organisation later became Jawun, and I was on the board for about 12 years. When you spend a lot of time in those communities you realise that one of the great barriers to long-term change is the lack of availability of (or access to) good education. I got involved with the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation, raising money to enable kids from remote communities to attend boarding school, and that program now has hundreds of Indigenous kids attending some of the best schools in Australia. Many become teachers, doctors and nurses and return to their communities and improve service delivery, health and other outcomes. I’m now on the board of Cape York Partnerships, and we’ve launched the first educational institution in the Cape for young women of school age who have children. This is more common
“I think using influence to try to improve things for others is a responsibility, but also an opportunity.”

Ann Sherry AO, Executive Chairman, Carnival Australia
(Bachelor of Arts '78; Honorary Doctor of Business '14)

in remote Aboriginal communities than it is in the rest of the country and, of course, it affects education opportunities for those women and therefore changes the outcomes for their kids. I’m passionate about what I call practical reconciliation, which is the need to support Indigenous communities to be self-sufficient. I’m passionate about education because I think it’s such a game-changer for individuals, their families and communities. And I’m passionate about supporting communities that have the will and desire to change the way they’re engaging with the rest of the world and the rest of Australia.

What career achievements are you particularly proud of?
The introduction of paid maternity leave in Westpac changed corporate Australia forever. I’m proud that I was able to have that sort of impact. The second was revitalising an entire segment of tourism. The cruise industry was on its knees when I took over the business. The growth of cruise tourism has impacted the Pacific Islands and regional communities in Australia, where we now take the ships, and there are tens of thousands of jobs that are supported by the industry.

What advice would you give to young people who are keen to have a successful career?
I would say that the job you end up doing probably doesn’t exist now, or you can’t imagine it now. You need a tool kit that has flexibility at its core. It’s important to take risks as sometimes the things that seem the riskiest yield the best results. If you get the opportunity to work globally or study overseas, do it. Living in other people’s environments teaches you a lot about them, their culture and also yourself. I would also say never stop learning. The world around us is changing fast and you’ve got to keep learning to keep up. Finally, if you experience success, you have the responsibility to bring other people along with you. We’ll create a better society if we’re all thinking about how we can share our good luck and good fortune with others.

Download the Contact app to listen to an extract of the interview.
“We thoroughly enjoyed our stay at King’s...the catering was fantastic, the rooms were great and the spaces were suited to what we needed.”

Kellie Jan 2016

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NEW-LOOK APP

Have you seen the new-look Contact app?

We have recently relaunched our Contact app, which features a new design and can now be read on your smartphone, as well as your iPad or other tablet device.

By downloading the Contact app, you will have access to all articles in the print edition, plus additional features such as video interviews, book extracts, image galleries, and more.

To download the app, visit the iTunes™ App Store or GooglePlay™ store and search for UQ Contact.

If you have downloaded the app and no longer wish to receive a printed copy of the magazine, please email us at contactmagazine@uq.edu.au.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF YOUR ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Is there a section of Contact that you enjoy reading most? Is there something you would like us to cover in future? Let us know by taking the Contact Reader Survey.

Whether you’re a long-time reader or have recently graduated, we would love to hear your thoughts.

The survey will only take five minutes to complete, and will help us continue to improve Contact and its relevance to you.

To participate, please visit uq.edu.au/uqcontact.

THE WOMEN’S COLLEGE

alumnae reunions

Saturday 27 August 2016:
“Return to College” Event

Saturday 1 October 2016:
The Women's College Alumnae Gala Ball

Venue:
The Women's College within UQ, College Road, St Lucia

For further details please contact The Women's College on 3377 4500 or email alumnae@womens.uq.edu.au

The Women's College ready to lead
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WHAT’S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SERIES

UQ’s Global Leadership Series (GLS) for 2016 is well underway. Join us for a lively program of lectures and discussions with world-renowned UQ speakers on topics that impact your community and inform our worldview.

JULY – Frontiers in fertility treatment
Speakers: Executive Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Professor Nicholas Fisk; Research Fellow within the Centre for Research Excellence in Women’s Health in the 21st Century in the School of Public Health, Dr Ingrid Rowlands; Specialist in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Subspecialist in Reproductive Medicine and Surgery, Professor Hayden Homer; and Director of Clinical Research and Development at the Queensland Fertility Group, Associate Professor Anusch Yazdani.

AUGUST – Sustainable futures: what will our world look like in 100 years?
Speakers include: Prominent US energy expert Professor Eric McFarland; and School of Architecture lecturer Dr Paola Leardini.

SEPTEMBER – Cultural diversity, shifting power, and the future of world order
Speaker: Professor of International Relations and Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, Professor Christian Reus-Smit.

OCTOBER – High tech food: will the world swallow it?
Speaker: UQ’s Professor of Innovation in Agriculture and Director of the Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, Professor Robert Henry.

NOVEMBER – Welfare dependency or inherited disadvantage
Speakers include: Director of the Institute for Social Science Research, Professor Mark Western; and Director of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course, Professor Janeen Baxter.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit alumni.uq.edu.au/global-leadership-series.

EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS

Learn to barter your way through the souqs of the Middle East, order fresh sushi at the Tsukiji Markets in Tokyo, or seek out the best espresso in Italy’s cafes with the help of Institute of Modern Languages (IML) language courses.

With a wide selection of courses in a variety of languages available, including Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Dutch, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, and Korean, IML offers students the opportunity to expand their horizons through language learning.

Classes are held in the evenings at UQ’s St Lucia campus, with upcoming Survival and Semester 2 courses starting in June and July.

Discounts are available for multiple enrolments and UQ staff members. Please check the website for terms and conditions.

Visit iml.uq.edu.au to learn more and enrol online.

COURTING THE GREATS

Courting the Greats, UQ’s annual alumni awards ceremony, celebrates exceptional alumni who have achieved distinction in their chosen field and recognition amongst their peers. This year’s Courting the Greats event will be held on Wednesday 19 October 2016. Join us for an inspirational evening as we recognise the outstanding accomplishments of our alumni who have brought great honour to themselves and to their alma mater.

For more information, visit alumni.uq.edu.au/courting-the-greats.

YOUNG ALUMNI BALL

The Ball is back! After the exciting success of our inaugural Young Alumni Ball in 2015, the UQ Young Alumni Advisory Board invites you to again enjoy one of the biggest events for UQ alumni.

The 2016 Ball will be a fantastic opportunity to reconnect with friends and network with your fellow alumni while supporting UQ Student Scholarships.

Join us from 7pm on Saturday 8 October 2016.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit alumni.uq.edu.au/YABall.
A long history of industry, government and university collaborations has placed UQ at the forefront of global research and innovation.
The impact of UQ’s innovations on a global scale is impressive: a cervical cancer vaccine that has seen more than 144 million doses distributed to more than 100 countries since 2006 (Gardasil®); a parenting program to help more than four million children and their families (Triple P); and technology that drives the majority of the world’s magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines.

UQ Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Høj said these examples were “the tip of the iceberg” of UQ innovations that have made a global impact. “These contributions to global society, and many more, were made possible by collaborations and partnerships with people in industry, government, philanthropy, education and research,” Professor Høj said.

“Excellence underpins the positive impact of our research and the value to society of our commercialised research. Global organisations increasingly understand the relationship between excellence and impact, and identify the benefits of partnering with a university where 100 per cent of research is well above, above or at world standard, as rated by Excellence in Research for Australia.”

The next phase is to expand the quality and scale of global research by striving for the “excellence-plus” factor, with 30 top research strengths identified that are of particular value to industry.

The scope of partnerships at UQ is broad and includes joint research and development centres, licensing deals, scholarships, internships, graduate and employment programs, and philanthropic support. An example of one of the many key existing partnerships with global impact is UQ’s partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The foundation has provided almost $20 million in research funding since 2010, with a focus on extending research to the developing world in areas such as health, sanitation, access to education, and employment. Projects include improving the productivity of sorghum, a staple food for millions; developing a portable tool to detect mosquitoes carrying dengue fever; finding ways to control global banana disease; and diagnosing respiratory conditions such as pneumonia and asthma using smartphone technology.

In 2008, the foundation funded a project to improve the delivery of malaria vaccines using Nanopatch™, a revolutionary needle-free vaccine delivery system developed by Professor Mark Kendall at UQ’s Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology. Kendall said one of the major advantages of Nanopatch was that it did not need refrigeration, making transport much cheaper and easier for developing nations around the world.

The success of the malaria trial led to a collaboration between the foundation, the World Health Organization (WHO), Vaxxas (a UQ start-up biotechnology company established to commercialise Kendall’s Nanopatch technology) and Kendall’s UQ team to improve polo vaccines using the Nanopatch technology.

Kendall said Nanopatch had the potential to transform vaccine delivery for patients around the world. Historically, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has also contributed funds to extend the reach of the cervical cancer vaccine, Gardasil, to developing countries. The vaccine was co-created by the late Dr Jian Zhou and 2006 Australian of the Year, UQ’s Professor Ian Frazer AC.

“One of UQ’s longest partnerships is with Mater. Mater and UQ started their collaboration in 1945 with medical and science students attending classes at the hospital. UQ and Mater Research formed the Mater Research Institute – University of Queensland (MRI–UQ) in 2013, with funding from UQ and Mater Foundation.

UQ’s Acting Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Advancement) Patricia Danver said it was no accident philanthropic organisations provided research funds to UQ. “Philanthropic organisations like these lend support to UQ to further larger goals to solve pressing global issues. They are confident in UQ’s ability to contribute seminal research that will have significant impact,” she said.

Partnerships are a critical link between research and impact. By commercialising research outcomes from partnerships, UniQuest – the University’s main technology transfer and commercialisation company – has played a vital role in translating discoveries into globally accessible business outcomes that have the potential to improve the lives of millions around the world.

For example, chronic pain sufferers worldwide are one step closer to an accessible treatment following last year’s acquisition of Spinifex Pharmaceuticals by global pharmaceutical company Novartis International AG – a deal thought to be one of the largest in the history of the Australian biotechnology industry. Founded by UniQuest, Spinifex is developing an oral treatment for chronic pain based on the neuropathic pain research of UQ’s Professor Maree Smith.

UQ’s Research Partnerships Director, Ian Harris, said another example of commercial research outcomes was the partnership with aerospace and commercial jetliner company Boeing.

“The University’s collaborative relationship with Boeing has extended over a decade and has resulted in both research projects and support for student learning from undergraduate level right through to research PhDs,” Harris said.

Since 2003, UQ has been involved in 13 projects with Boeing with total funding of $10.5 million. “UQ has helped Boeing to address a range of research topics from how bees and birds navigate to avoid collisions, to psychology and human factors, to using plants to make renewable jet fuel.”

Another example of a long-term commercial collaboration is with worldwide resources company Rio Tinto. UQ’s relationship with Rio Tinto was formalised with a five-year education partnership agreement in 2012. “Rio Tinto has supported a broad range of areas such as funding for research centres, field trips, developing academic leadership programs, and supporting female and Indigenous students with scholarships aiming to boost diversity in the resources sector,” Harris said.

Harris said the benefits of partnerships and collaborations flowed both ways. “Industry collaborations enable UQ researchers to have an impact on a global scale and test their findings in the field, while industry benefits from expertise to develop new products, processes and technologies for commercial use, and to teach the next generation of the workforce.”

For more information about UQ’s research partnerships, visit uq.edu.au/research.
Feature

Healthcare

Key domestic and international healthcare partnerships have ensured UQ remains a leader in major medical breakthroughs.

Shared Vision Spans Decades

The partnership between Mater and UQ is one of the University’s longest-standing collaborations, spanning more than 70 years. Both UQ and the Mater began operations in Brisbane in the early 1900s. Their earliest history of collaboration can be traced back to 1945, when medical and science students from UQ would travel to Mater for clinical physiology classes, often taught by Sisters of Mercy, many of whom were well-regarded scientists.

Since then, the two organisations have collaborated through teaching medicine, nursing and allied health; through shared research projects and institutes; and through joint philanthropic partnerships to fund staff, teaching spaces and buildings.

UQ’s Director of Development and Philanthropy, Andrew Pentland, said both Mater and UQ had shared a vision from the outset.

“Mater and UQ have been committed to providing exceptional healthcare through education, research and community engagement,” Pentland said.

“The institutions use their respective strengths in a competitive fundraising environment to extend the scale of research and clinical teaching projects.”

The Mater–UQ partnership receives significant philanthropic funding from Mater Foundation, whose funding comes from community donors.

Mater Foundation Chief Executive Officer Nigel Harris said in an environment where research funding was scarce, it was far better to be a collaborator than a competitor.

“If there’s one message to take away from this partnership, it is that today’s philanthropy is not necessarily institutionally driven,” Harris said.

“Philanthropy is about how institutions can work together and across organisational boundaries to get outcomes that greatly improve society. It’s why the Mater–UQ partnership has been so successful.”

Mater and UQ formalised a longstanding research relationship with the establishment of Mater Research Institute–University of Queensland (MRI–UQ) in 2013.

Mater Research CEO and MRI–UQ Director, Professor John Prins, said the collaboration had enabled greater clinical and academic synergy.

“Mater is one of several high-profile research institutes based in a city hospital, and this helps to bridge the gap between clinical patient care and research,” Prins said.

MRI–UQ’s funding rates are well above the national average and, since the partnership, UQ’s research outcomes have increased by three per cent.

In 2013, Mater and UQ also entered a partnership to strengthen their clinical teaching relationship.

The agreement aims to create an outstanding educational environment for medical, nursing, midwifery and allied health students within a hospital setting.

One of the first outcomes of the agreement has been the restoration and refurbishment of Mater’s heritage-listed Whitty Building, which opened in early 2016.

For more information about Mater Research, visit research.mater.org.au.
ACCELERATING DRUGS TO FIGHT DISEASES

UQ, the Queensland Government and Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, have partnered to help accelerate the development of new drugs to target some of the world’s leading diseases.

The Queensland Emory Drug Discovery Initiative (QEDDI) will be based at UQ and was brokered in 2015 through UQ’s main commercialisation company, UniQuest.

The aim of the centre is to translate academic drug discoveries into clinical trials to target diseases such as cancer, diabetes, inflammatory disorders and infectious diseases.

The collaboration enables UQ to draw on the extensive experience of Emory University’s drug development institute, led by Professor Dennis Liotta, the inventor of one of the world’s most widely used HIV drugs, and its commercialisation company Drug Innovation Ventures at Emory (DRIVE).

The Queensland Government has committed $4.169 million to the project over four years, with Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk announcing the Government’s support in June 2015.

“QEDDI will see the development of a pipeline of potential new drugs to meet existing and future health challenges in Queensland, throughout Australia, and internationally,” Palaszczuk said.

UniQuest’s track record includes the commercialisation of the HPV vaccine Gardasil, the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program, the image correction technology used in the majority of the world’s MRI machines, and Spinifex Pty Ltd, a biopharmaceutical company acquired recently in one of Australia’s largest ever biotech deals.

For more information about UniQuest, visit uniquest.com.au.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

UQ and the Ochsner Health System in New Orleans, Louisiana, have a unique partnership to foster international clinical opportunities for medical students in the US and Australia, and collaborative opportunities for researchers from across the two continents.

The Ochsner partnership began in 2008 when the two institutions teamed up to establish the Ochsner Clinical School.

Ochsner is Louisiana’s largest non-profit, academic, multispecialty healthcare delivery system, which owns, manages or is affiliated with 25 hospitals.

Ochsner is very active in medical research, conducting more than 750 clinical research studies every year.

About 120 American students enrol in UQ’s medical program each year.

They complete their first two years of the degree (pre-clinical) in Brisbane and then their third and fourth years (clinical years) at UQ’s Ochsner Clinical School in New Orleans.

Domestic and other international UQ medical students also have the opportunity to complete some of their medical training at Ochsner, giving them exposure to the US health system.

The relationship has since grown to include an expansive research partnership, enabling researchers from UQ and Ochsner to access vast public and private funding opportunities in Australia and the US, including those exclusively earmarked for international collaborations.

The partnership has enabled a strong track record of transdisciplinary research collaborations between the two organisations.

For more information about the Ochsner partnership, visit ochsner.uq.edu.au.
UQ has partnered with some of the world’s peak performers in mining and engineering to tap into the minds of tomorrow’s leaders.

**BOEING PUTS STUDENTS ON RIGHT FLIGHT PATH**

Boeing Research & Technology – Australia Manager Dr Jason Armstrong said the PhD scholarships ensured a talent pipeline for Boeing and the doctoral research outputs added to Boeing’s business needs.

“We’re looking for the best innovations and talent to support our growth across a range of fields,” Armstrong said.

“Boeing has funded 13 UQ research projects totalling $10.5 million and signed an agreement in 2015 to fund PhD scholarships.

Boeing now supports 10 PhD scholarships a year through the Boeing UQ Research Alliance PhD Scholarship Scheme in the fields of engineering, information technology, physics, human factors and psychology.

For a number of years we’ve partnered with UQ researchers on projects in psychology and human factors, with the Queensland Brain Institute, in engineering, physics, chemical technology, public health, as well as microbiology.

“Research partnerships enable leverage – we’re able extend the breadth of our research activity and get exposure to technology and expertise that’s cutting edge.”

In addition to its research interests, Boeing offers student mentoring and work experience opportunities, provides guest lecturers, and sponsors student camps.

[Download the Contact app to view more photos of student projects.](#)
PARTNERS SHARE THE SAME TASTE

PepsiCo, the largest food and beverage business in the US, has a long-term research collaboration with Professor Jason Stokes from UQ’s School of Chemical Engineering.

PepsiCo and Stokes’s research seeks to offer consumers healthy variations of the world’s most popular snack foods and drinks, without sacrificing taste and “mouth-feel”.

Stokes said while many food companies like PepsiCo were striving to deliver products with improved health attributes, it was not as simple as just removing fat, sugar and salt.

“For example, if you take oil out of potato chips or sugar out of soft drink, the texture and ‘mouth-feel’ is compromised,” Stokes said.

“The problem is that food companies don’t know why. Our research aims to understand why, and how to measure it so that we can inform new food product design.”

PepsiCo has directly funded six research projects with UQ, and together were awarded a three-year Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grant in 2014.

The collaboration between Stokes and PepsiCo, co-sponsored by UniQuest, was recognised at UQ’s prestigious Partners in Research Excellence Awards in 2014. PepsiCo has recently expanded its relationship to other areas of UQ, with two confirmed collaborative projects and possible licence opportunities for UQ technologies.

Senior Principal Scientist from PepsiCo’s Measurement Science Group, Dr Stefan Baier, said UQ’s research had helped to position PepsiCo at the forefront of innovation, and had provided critical insights to the redesign of the next generation of foods and beverages.

“Our partnership with UQ has been extremely fruitful and we are delighted to be working with thought-leaders like Jason, and now others at UQ,” Baier said.

BOLSTERING METALLURGICAL RESEARCH

One of the world’s largest steel companies, Baosteel, has sought out four of Australia’s leading universities to collaborate on innovative metals-related research.

The partnership resulted in a world-first joint venture – the Baosteel Australia Joint Research and Development Centre – a collaboration between Shanghai-based Baosteel, UQ, the University of New South Wales, Monash University, and the University of Wollongong. The centre was established in 2011 and, while functionally located at UQ, fosters collaboration between all participating research teams.

Centre Director Professor Victor Rudolph said the centre had supported 40 research projects since establishment, in areas such as steel making, light metals, environmental technologies and energy technologies.

“Baosteel’s interests are diverse and many are focused on long-term and new technologies that investigate manufacturing metals in economical and environmentally sustainable ways,” Rudolph said.

“The research centre’s findings contribute to expanding Baosteel’s global presence and also to providing new knowledge and technologies for metals-based materials worldwide.”

The centre’s collaborations have attracted $21.7 million of partner funding and $6.2 million in research grants, along with $14.6 million in project funding.

“The centre’s efforts prove that while individual research projects can make a difference, collaborations enable greater leverage and reach,” Rudolph said.

Another research collaboration between UQ and two international metals companies is helping to secure a sustainable future for the global metals industry.

The partnership is between leading Chinese metals company, Shandong Fangyuan Nonferrous Metals Group (Fangyuan), and the world’s largest copper producer, The National Copper Corporation of Chile (CODELCO).

Fangyuan approached UQ in 2010 to help further research into the company’s innovative copper smelting technology, which led to the establishment of a Fangyuan Fellowship in 2011.

Codelco-Fangyuan Professor in the School of Chemical Engineering, Dr Baojun Zhao, said Fangyuan had developed a method of extraction called oxygen-enriched, bottom-blowing copper smelting technology (BBS Technology).

“BBS Technology consumes less fuel, reduces carbon dioxide emissions and enables more copper to be recovered from lower-grade copper sources,” Zhao said.

“As the largest copper producer in the world, CODELCO was interested in Fangyuan’s smelting technology, and both companies have a joint interest in supporting further research to develop the technology.”

This led to the two companies establishing a joint-funded professor position at UQ in 2015, and Zhao said shared knowledge was a large part of the agreement.

The partnership has resulted in internships at CODELCO for UQ undergraduate students and the development and delivery of training sessions for CODELCO graduates each year, with a number of staff enrolling in UQ’s Masters programs.
PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE

At the largest United Nations World Summit in 2005, world leaders endorsed a principle to prevent and respond to genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity, known as the Responsibility to Protect (R2P).

To advance the R2P in the Asia-Pacific, the Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (AP R2P) was established at UQ in 2008 – the first regional centre of its kind.

Centre Director Dr Alex Bellamy said the AP R2P was specifically dedicated to advancing the R2P through research and policy dialogue, and that partnerships were crucial.

“The centre is a collaborative partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and works closely with partners right across the region and beyond,” Bellamy said.

“We are also a member of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect, a group of more than 70 organisations worldwide.

“Further, the centre is a player on the global stage. Our partnerships include a former President (Philippines), four former foreign ministers, former ambassadors and senior diplomats, and a Prince (Cambodia).”

Bellamy said the partnership with the Chinese Institute for International Studies (the Chinese Foreign Ministry’s think tank) illustrated the collaborative work of the centre.

“The centre organises an annual Australia-China R2P dialogue to bring analysts and diplomats from the two countries together,” he said.

“We also exchange staff and are working together on two joint reports, on the crisis in Syria, and on challenges posed by non-state armed groups respectively.”

The centre is widely known for its leadership role in advancing R2P in the Asia-Pacific.

“Most countries in the region now have an active national conversation about R2P and most have civil society groups and government officials actively engaged in supporting its goals,” Bellamy said.

“Above all, we’ve seen ongoing decline in the incidence of atrocity crimes in the region, even as the global picture has moved in the wrong direction.”

TACKLING DISADVANTAGE

The “lottery of birth” still plays a large part in whether people are able to live fulfilling lives or whether they will face lives of hardship, according to UQ Professor Janeen Baxter, a world-leading expert in life course studies and Director of the Australian Research Council (ARC) Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course.

Baxter said partnerships were key to tackling this issue, one of the most persistent policy challenges facing Australia and the world.

“The Life Course Centre is collaborative, bringing together the expertise of leading researchers around the world, and partnering with government and non-government organisations involved in human service delivery and policy,” she said.

“We can see the economic costs of disadvantage in rising welfare expenditure. In 2013, the government spent $132 billion on social security payments. That’s almost 10 per cent of GDP (gross domestic product). The human costs are also staggering. When disadvantage persists, people lose hope.”

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As society looks towards renewable sources to power and feed the world, UQ is meeting the challenge through groundbreaking projects that harvest some of Australia’s best natural assets.

BOOSTING DROUGHT TOLERANCE

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF), and agricultural scientists from UQ have partnered to improve the drought resistance of sorghum, an ancient cereal grain and staple food for millions of people worldwide.

Sorghum is Queensland’s most valuable cereal crop, topping wheat, with a value of $432 million per year, and is used as a source of food for Queensland livestock.

It is also the world’s fifth most important cereal and a staple food crop for half a billion people in the semi-arid tropics, including Asia and Africa.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and ACIAR have provided $4.6 million to UQ’s Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) to collaborate with DAF and the Ethiopian Government to improve sorghum productivity under drought conditions in Queensland and internationally.

QAAFI’s Professor David Jordan said the project addressed problems common to sorghum growers in many of the globe’s low-rainfall regions.

“It’s crucially important to food security in Africa as sorghum is grown in the drier and resource-poor areas, where its capacity to better tolerate drought, high temperatures and low fertility make it a preferred crop to maize,” Jordan said.

The focus for the sorghum research is about doing more with less water.

“We’re looking at things like root architecture and designing root systems for sorghum plants that access water deeper down in the profile,” he said.

“We’re also looking at transpiration efficiency – that’s the efficiency with which a plant uses water to make grain – and there’s quite a variation with sorghum for both those traits.”

Jordan said the grain was gaining popularity in Western diets because it was gluten-free, and had a range of nutritional benefits.

For more information, visit qaafi.uq.edu.au.

SWITCH ON THE SUN

At UQ’s Global Change Institute (GCI), an industry partnership has enabled UQ Solar to be at the forefront of global renewable energy research.

The collaboration has helped to construct the Gatton Solar Research Facility at UQ Gatton. It is the largest experimental solar array in the southern hemisphere and one of the most sophisticated facilities of its kind anywhere, consisting of a 3.275 megawatt solar photovoltaic (PV) pilot plant and large 760 kilowatt hour (kWh) lithium-ion battery.

The collaboration between UQ, the University of New South Wales, First Solar and AGL PV Solar Developments Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of AGL Energy Ltd (AGL), was funded by a $40.7 million Federal Government Education Investment Fund program grant, administered by the Department of Education.

The facility is powered by more than 37,000 advanced PV Modules, supplied by First Solar, that produce enough clean energy to power more than 1000 average Queensland homes and displace about 5300 tonnes of carbon dioxide annually – equivalent to removing about 1500 cars from the road.

In its first year of operation, the facility generated more than 5800 megawatt hours (5.8 million kWh) of renewable energy, reducing electricity consumption from the UQ Gatton campus grid by almost 40 per cent.

GCI Clean Energy and UQ Solar Director Professor Paul Meredith said UQ was one of only a few universities in the world to own and operate a solar plant of this size and was helping to address the many complexities in integrating large-scale clean energy into the traditional energy market.

“Our research findings are beneficial to our industry partners, enabling them to have more efficient plants, and this knowledge-sharing ultimately benefits the community,” Meredith said.

AGL Project Manager for the Nyngan and Broken Hill Solar Plants, Adam Mackett, said one of the outcomes of the research facility was to improve the integration of solar energy into the National Electricity Market.

“Australia’s energy market landscape is changing rapidly, with environmental regulation, technologies, and customer preferences all evolving,” Mackett said.

“Academic research across a range of fields is required to support the modernisation and decarbonisation of Australia’s energy sector.”

Meredith said the research had global impact.

“We’re living in a dynamic environment where the way we use and generate power is key to addressing climate change.”

For more information, visit solar-energy.uq.edu.au/solar-research-projects.
The world population is on track to exceed nine billion by 2050, and food production will need to increase by 77 per cent to meet this demand. Australia will play a role in addressing the global food security issue, but our role is often misunderstood amongst the hype. Australia prides itself on the export of high-quality food. We rely on such export income as one of the mainstays of our foreign earnings. Australian beef exports for 2015 were valued at $9.3 billion, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), a massive 84 per cent above the 10-year average. ABS figures also show that Australia exported beef to 94 countries in 2015, six fewer than in 2014. While there may already be enough cereal produced in the world to provide everyone on the planet with 2900 calories a day, often this food simply does not reach starving populations. Even the world Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) “is cautiously optimistic about the world’s potential to feed itself by 2050”, predicting that 75 per cent of the food demand could be met by increasing crop yields rather than expanding the area of production. However, such production must occur where food is required as it cannot be sustainably met by importing food aid from countries like Australia or the United States. The issue is not as simple as calorific requirements alone. Requirements for protein, for example, will increase along with ensuring a proper balance of nutrients overall. Therefore, the issue of food self-sufficiency within a growing population, largely in the tropics, has to be solved at the local level. We can’t possibly fix malnutrition internationally by giving away food. It works in an emergency but is not a sustainable, long-term solution for world hunger. We must enable people in
areas who need food to grow the food and move beyond subsistence farming. That underpins the growing middle class and increases the Australian-targeted market. UQ, through the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), is heavily committed in this area.

Certainly, Australia must continue to produce food with a large focus on exports but, using beef as an example, our current key export markets are in the Asian middle-class. These markets are becoming increasingly sophisticated, demanding higher-quality product. It will be challenging to continue being competitive in more traditional commodiy markets long term, due to high labour costs, fierce international competition and the increasing variability of climate. Thus, Australia may not feed the world but we do have a very important contribution to make in supplying high-value, safe food – notwithstanding some ongoing challenges.

At UQ, our focus is on the Australian production systems, particularly the northern beef production systems. UQ has about 100 researchers and staff working in this area, from business, nutrition, health, and genetics and reproduction. I use the word “systems” as the varied systems we have in northern Australia are not always appreciated. We do it an injustice calling it the northern beef industry because there are multiple production systems in the north. If you lump them all together you are not addressing particular issues for those producers in any one system.

In the harsher environments, a harvest system may be in place where animals are rounded up once a year for monitoring, care and drafting for market or live export. By the very nature of the system it is difficult for producers to capture data on these animals, such as birth date or growth rate of calves, or reproductive traits such as calving interval in cows. Such measurements are required to gain maximal improvements to the system. In central Queensland, the system is different. The feed base is much better when not in drought, and the producers tend to see the animals more often. So how these producers improve production is different to how producers of cattle in harsher environments achieve improvements. Producers in Central Queensland can better control the breeding cycle, and can achieve improvements similar to southern producers.

Then you have the impacts of the wet and dry season. There are pressures from parasites, heat, and poor winter pastures, which all impact the animal and increase the need of a cross-bred or pure Brahman herd. The parameters we have around genetic improvement of cross-bred animals, such as Droughtmasters and Santa Gertrudis or even pure Brahman, are much less developed than those temperate breeds, such as Angus. In addition, solutions like genetic evaluation, nutrition or health management are not yet economically viable for producers, even in the better beef cattle producing areas.

There are some common issues. Tropically adapted cattle have lower reproductive rates than temperate animals, due to their adaptation to harsh environments. But some animals within that population are more fertile. The genetics underlying this discovery are just beginning to be understood. Higher reproductive rates and lower calf loss will lead to an increase in productivity, but will the value of the product increase as well? This has to happen to make everything work. Researchers at UQ work across all of these issues, but funding opportunities mean the effort is often piecemeal rather than integrated. The current funding situation for northern beef has been impacted by the long drought in western Queensland, which may continue through a fourth year.

So, where should we focus? Rather than dealing with one issue at a time, we need to work across disciplines to address the overall sustainability of the system. This means first looking at economic sustainability. If we cannot produce beef at a profit, then we should seriously reconsider the business model. The production system needs to be put in the context of environmental sustainability, because not considering this means the business model will again fail due to run-down of pastures or even external intervention, to protect the reef for example. Animals need to be matched to the environment for peak performance, and productivity needs to increase in order to improve the bottom line for producers – even meeting requirements of things like methane production limits. Product quality also needs to improve consistently over time to keep pace with changing market demands for high-value product. All these things are impacted by interacting components such as pastures, genetics, animal management and health. To capture the value of this will require appropriate value chains in which everyone within the system can benefit from improvements. Meat Standards Australia (MSA) and, more recently, the Pasturefed Cattle Assurance System (PCAS), provide an objective, market-driven meat quality assurance target with premiums paid for compliance, are a good start towards meeting this objective.

Can we do this? Yes, if we can have an industry-wide approach while acknowledging differences across regions. We should be optimistic despite the sometimes reticence of the system to change. Market forces will be the ultimate driver and the industry will profit if it can lead – rather than follow – market forces.

For more information about the QAAFI Centre for Animal Science, please visit qaafi.uq.edu.au/cas.
The UQ Art Museum’s distinctive coloured-glass windows, created by artist Nevil Matthews, were funded in part by a $13,000 gift from grazier Barney Joyce.
Patronage has continued to enrich the University's holdings over the years. In 1975, Rupert Bunny's striking portrait Mme Sadayakko as ‘Le Shogun’ (Scène de la Folie) c.1907, a jewel in the UQ Art Museum's crown, was part of a collection permanently loaned to the University by Stuartholme School, which had been given the artworks by Dr Norman Behan. The Stuartholme-Behan Collection of Australian Art was unveiled in 1976 when the University Art Museum, as it was then known, opened on the top two floors of the Forgan Smith tower. At this time, inaugural Director Dr Nancy Underhill reaffirmed the University's commitment to contemporary Australian art, a focus that continues today.

The current collecting process centres on recent and significant works by established and emerging Australian artists, while the historical collection is augmented mainly through gifts. For example, in 2012, the Alumni Friends of The University of Queensland Inc. and donor Veronika Butta were instrumental in supporting the acquisition of a major painting, Joy Roggenkamp 1963, by influential Brisbane artist and teacher Jon Molvig.
The relocation of the UQ Art Museum to the Mayne Centre, named after early benefactors James and Mary Emelia Mayne, continued the tradition of giving. The graduation hall, designed by Robin Gibson OAM, was built with funds contributed by numerous Queensland companies and private individuals, many of them pastoralists, who were committed to the value of learning and culture.

Errol (Barney) Joyce, a grazier, cattle breeder and art patron of Eidsvold Station in the Burnett district, also donated $13,000 towards Nevil Matthews’s distinctive coloured-glass windows, which were much admired when the building opened in 1973 and remain a popular feature.

However, the funds donated by Feeney and The Atlantic Philanthropies ensured the sensitive conversion of the Robin Gibson building into a first-class art museum, an award-winning project undertaken by architect Hamilton Wilson of Wilson Architects.

In April 2015, the UQ Art Museum opened the Alumni Friends of UQ Collection Study Room. Fully funded by a generous community of donors, this purpose-built, dedicated room provides a way for students from any discipline, as well as researchers, secondary students and interested members of the public, to request supervised access to artworks from the UQ Art Collection.

A jewel in the crown for The University of Queensland Art Collection, Rupert Bunny (1864–1947), Mme Sadayakko as ‘Le Shogun’ (Scène de la Folie) (Previously known as The geisha girl) c.1907, oil on canvas, 160 x 118 cm, The Stuartholme-Behan Collection of Australian Art, The University of Queensland. Photo: Carl Warner.

The philanthropic impulse often runs in families, creating a history of giving that flows on through generations. This philosophy of patronage can have a significant impact on public collections, and is one way for donors to honour their family’s enthusiasm for art and, in the context of art museums, education.

The UQ Art Museum has been fortunate to attract the support of Brisbane gallerist and UQ alumnus Bruce Heiser (Bachelor of Arts ’88), who has donated artworks to the Collection and funded a bursary for future museum professionals.

Heiser’s parents were avid art collectors and supporters of the arts, and in 2015 Heiser and his wife Kathryn sponsored the Mark and Aileen Rose Heiser Bursary in their memory. Awarded annually, the bursary will provide UQ Art History and Museum Studies students with the opportunity to gain essential industry experience.

The bursary follows a prize Heiser established in 1989 in his grandfather’s name – the Elias A. Heiser Prize in Classics and Ancient History – which continues today.

Through the prize, bursary and the artworks Heiser has donated – including Jon Molvig’s Untitled (Head study) 1949 donated in his parents’ names – he is building a legacy that reflects his family’s longstanding commitment to the arts.

“Upon graduating, I was so appreciative of the opportunity afforded to me by studying at UQ, and I wanted to acknowledge the debt of gratitude I felt by assisting future students who found themselves in a similar space to mine when I was studying,” Heiser said.

“I’m a firm believer in the opportunities
“While the UQ Art Museum’s exhibitions and educational programs influence thousands of visitors, its collection is a continuously expanding and enduring treasure-trove of ideas, critical commentary and history,” Gray said.

“Access to and analysis of the collection by all interested people is paramount in our operational objectives.”

In July, when beyond the Tower opens, showcasing 40 years of active collecting and public benefaction, visitors will have the chance to appreciate the UQ Art Museum’s rich history for themselves.

beyond the Tower: UQ Art Museum
40 years and counting
runs from 9 July to 13 November 2016.
For more information, visit artmuseum.uq.edu.au.

Inaugural recipient of the Mark and Aileen Rose Heiser Bursary, Carmen Armstrong, pictured with archival materials from the UQ Art Museum.

IN GIVING

education provides, and in establishing the prize and now with the bursary, my family continues its involvement with UQ, allowing me in a meaningful and deliberate way to show my appreciation to those who assisted me in my studies while honouring my grandfather’s and parents’ memory.”

As a result of Heiser’s generosity, inaugural bursary recipient Carmen Armstrong (pictured), who is currently undertaking a Master of Museum Studies, spent the first few months of the year conducting research for the forthcoming exhibition beyond the Tower: UQ Art Museum – 40 years and counting.

Armstrong said the bursary had enabled her to explore her education in a hands-on experience.

“This opportunity has allowed me to grow as a professional and orientate my curatorial career with the support of the staff at The University of Queensland Art Museum.”

Inaugural recipient of the Mark and Aileen Rose Heiser Bursary, Carmen Armstrong, pictured with archival materials from the UQ Art Museum.

Artwork: Melinda Harper (1965-)
Untitled

IN GIVING

History shows philanthropists can contribute meaningfully to the development of public art collections.

D r Cathryn Mittelheuser AM and her late sister, Dr Margaret Mittelheuser AM, set a wonderful example of how long-term giving can enrich a collection.

For nearly 20 years, the UQ Art Museum, as well as the Fryer Library and UQ Anthropology Museum, have benefited from the generosity of these exceptional women, distinguished in their individual fields. Both are UQ alumni: Cathryn (Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours) ’68) was an eminent plant physiologist, while Margaret (Bachelor of Commerce ’52, Bachelor of Arts ’73) was Australia’s first female stockbroker. Both sisters received Honorary Doctorates for their contributions to the community and to the University.

The Mittelheusers donated their first artwork in 1997 and have continued to support the development of The University of Queensland Art Collection. Both together and individually, they have given artworks or contributed funds towards their acquisition, forging an enduring relationship with the museum.

Much of the sisters’ philanthropic support has been directed towards the acquisition of artworks made by Indigenous women; artists such as Mavis Ngallametta, Ngalpingka Simms and Judy Watson. During the 1920s, their mother worked as a nurse with Indigenous communities in remote parts of Australia, and passed on her regard for the women she met to her daughters. As adults, Cathryn and Margaret became advocates for Indigenous art, and patrons of the arts more broadly. They channelled these interests into their work with the UQ Art Museum – a contribution that has made a lasting impact on the Collection.

Mavis Ngallametta (1944- ), Starting to paint at Kendall River 2014, natural ochres and charcoal with synthetic polymer binder on linen, 267 x 199 cm. Collection of The University of Queensland, purchased with the assistance of Cathryn Mittelheuser AM in memory of Margaret Mittelheuser AM, 2014. Reproduced courtesy of the artist and Martin Browne Contemporary, Sydney. Photo: Carl Warner.
INVESTING IN THE BIG PICTURE

Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Rix believes the art of giving is vital to the continued development of the University and enriches its cultural identity.

The University of Queensland has one of the finest art collections in the state, and one that certainly stands out among the university art museums. It has an exceptional gallery space and a vibrant public program. The UQ Art Museum and its collection were founded on donations from generous benefactors, including staff, who saw the great potential for an art museum to enrich the cultural life of the University.

This vision has been realised, but continued philanthropic support of the UQ Art Museum – from the community, alumni and staff – is vital for its growth and development, and for the continued success of its public engagement. Investment in the arts and our cultural industries reinforces the expression of those values which underpin our social and economic wellbeing.

I have always had a strong interest in art – inherited mainly from my parents. My father was a gifted amateur potter and, through that connection, he developed a fascination with Japanese ceramics. When I studied in Japan, I frequented the Tokyo print galleries and discovered the world of modern (post-1945) Japanese woodblock prints, which at that time were still relatively inexpensive. Japanese ceramics were also a temptation, but usually outside my student’s income price range.

Back home, I became immersed in Australian art, and my wife and I began to collect contemporary works. This has continued for the last 40 years. Our philosophy is to buy good-quality works and to enjoy them on the walls at home. We find that our collection is constantly changing, however, as one’s tastes in art evolve and exciting new artists come onto the scene.

This is where philanthropy became important to us. We have no interest in the buying and selling of art for profit and accordingly have been donating artworks to many museums and galleries in Australia over the years, so that our works can be available to the public and can assist in developing public collections. We have now donated many more artworks than we currently still hold. We have been particularly grateful to have been able to donate to the UQ Art Museum – we gave our first work in 1999 and altogether 31 works to UQ have so far been accepted.

Many of these are used in the UQ Art Museum’s On-Campus Art Program, where artworks are able to be hung in public places in offices and buildings on the various campuses.

We have also been keen to donate for many years to the UQ Art Museum’s discretionary funds. This has assisted in supporting some important new facilities and upgrades, such as the Alumni Friends of UQ Collection Study Room (a new space entirely funded by donations), and to the UQ Scholarships Fund.

As a staff member also, I am proud to be able to give to the University. I first joined UQ in 1985 teaching in Japanese Studies and since then have worked in several positions, with wonderful colleagues. My life has gained immeasurably from the opportunity to work in this fine institution. Our working conditions are excellent, the work is always interesting and challenging and often tough, and the environment is superb – where else do we have such beautiful grounds in which to walk, inspiring architecture to experience, unrivalled sporting and recreational facilities to enjoy, so many cafes to choose from, museums and galleries to drop into at lunchtime, and great students and staff with whom to interact?

I therefore feel strongly that, as a staff member, it is important to give back in whatever way we are most comfortable with. As staff, we know that the budget does not cover all that our faculty, institute, centre, school or division wants to achieve. Staff giving is ultimately about helping others, and our support enables the University to do more to assist students and to improve its services and facilities – such as the UQ Art Museum.

So this is my passion as a donor – to help the UQ Art Museum and to support UQ scholarship programs – but other donors will have their own interests. Whatever they might be, I encourage you, whether you are a member of the wider community, an alumnus or a staff member, to support the University to the extent that you are able.

Future students, staff and the wider public will benefit, and you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped this great institution to achieve even more.

If you would like to find out more about giving to UQ, please visit uq.edu.au/giving.
So those in love can be both here and there.

Having graduated more than 13,000 students over its 80-year history, UQ’s Medical School has a deep-rooted history in Queensland and an enduring connection to the state’s medical community and to its medical teaching and research. The tree’s roots represent the school’s strength during times of war and rapid technological advancement, while its branches tell a story of the many generations of families who have commenced their medical careers at UQ, and of the networks that have been built locally and globally to create one of the world’s truly great medical teaching institutions.

The first seeds were sown in 1936 when UQ’s Faculty of Medicine was established and the inaugural cohort of students entered Queensland’s only complete medical course at that time. Classes were held in various hastily adapted old buildings across the city, until the purpose-built Mayne Medical School at Herston was officially opened in 1939.

The establishment of Queensland’s first medical school was largely thanks to Ernest Sandford Jackson, Ernest James Goddard, James Vincent (JV) Duhig and Errol Solomon Meyers – collectively known as the “Founders” – who were instrumental in convincing the Forgan Smith government to fund the construction of the Mayne Medical School despite recommendations to the contrary. Their legacy continues across the UQ campus, with buildings bearing their names as tribute to their enduring ties to the University.

Since then, the school has grown to become a global medical school delivering Australia’s largest medical program, leading and inspiring the development of people and knowledge that are transforming healthcare both at home and abroad.

The school has branched out across Queensland, with nine state-of-the-art clinical schools and close links with Brisbane’s major hospitals and health services throughout the state, ensuring students are at the forefront of clinical teaching and practice. Cutting-edge facilities such as the $25 million Herston Imaging Research Facility and labs in the Translational Research Institute are also helping attract world-class researchers.

The school’s reach has also extended internationally, with two clinical schools located in New Orleans (USA) and Brunei, offering medical students a unique opportunity to be part of a global medical school experience.

Dean of Medicine Professor Darrell Crawford said the 80-year anniversary of teaching medicine at UQ provided a great opportunity to reflect on the University’s long and distinguished history of health and medical leadership.

“We are proud to celebrate our 80-year anniversary of teaching, and continue to be the leading provider of medical education and research within our state, and globally,” Crawford said.

“I am especially proud of the more than 2500 unpaid clinicians – mostly alumni – who teach into the medical program and pass on their broad experience to a new generation of learners.”

Distinguished alumni include business leader, UQ Deputy Chancellor and current Acting Chancellor Dr Jane Wilson (MBBS ’81); former rugby player and eminent ophthalmologist Dr Mark Loane (MBBS ’77); and prominent cardiologist Dr Gary Roubin (MBBS ’75) who invented the coronary stent.

Crawford said philanthropy had also played a significant role in the school’s growth.

“Generous donations have enabled us to increase our research capacity, establish several academic positions and support student activities, as well as reward and support our brightest and most deserving students,” he said.

“These contributions are helping us make a positive and lasting impact on the health of individuals and communities worldwide.”
Following in the family footsteps may not be unusual, but descendants of James Vincent (JV) Duhig, one of the “Founders” of UQ’s Medical School and UQ’s inaugural Professor of Pathology (1938–47), have taken it one step further.

With 12 of his extended family across three generations having studied medicine, most of them at UQ, six have gone on to specialise in pathology. “For us growing up around our dad, pathology was just part of family life,” said JV’s son Dr Robert Duhig (Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) ’55), whose late brother James (MBBS ’46) was also a pathologist.

“I remember always really wanting to do pathology from an early age – it was ingrained in our lives; we were surrounded by it. “I even remember my father growing a kind of Mexican bean on a huge trellis in the garden that he ground up in the laboratory to perform kidney function tests!”

Robert’s children, Dr James Duhig (MBBS ’86) and Dr Edwina Duhig (MBBS ’89), are also pathologists, as is JV’s nephew Dr Rod Conrad (MBBS ’85) and JV’s brother-in-law, Dr George Taylor (who completed his medical degree elsewhere).

“We both did school work experience and uni holiday jobs in the labs,” James said. “For us, the laboratory was a familiar family environment.”

Edwina wonders if there are other families with as many members in a single specialty. “When I’ve talked to people overseas, they have never heard of seven people in a family in pathology,” she said.

“I would think it would have to be one of the biggest families of one medical specialty in Australia and I feel proud of the contributions that our family has made.”

And all from the inspiration of one JV Duhig (1889–1963), a graduate of the University of Sydney who studied pathology in London and, upon his return to Australia in 1920, established pathology laboratories at the Mater Misericordiae and Brisbane General hospitals, later becoming a strong advocate for vaccination.

As part of its 80-year anniversary celebrations, the UQ Medical School is running a Family Tree Project to uncover the many family connections among UQ’s medical alumni, some of which will be showcased at the Gala Dinner in August.

If you have a family story you would like to share, please visit the website at 80-years.medicine.uq.edu.au.
EDUCATING TOURISTS ABOUT FAR NORTH SAFETY

The UQ Confucius Institute and the Queensland Police Service (QPS) have joined forces to help save lives following a number of tourist deaths in Far North Queensland in the past year. Each year, more than 190,000 tourists from China, Hong Kong and Taiwan visit Cairns and surrounding areas and the need for a public safety campaign for visitors has been recognised.

To address this, UQ and QPS have developed a safety brochure, printed in both English and Chinese, to educate tourists about water safety, accommodation, security and personal safety.

The Queensland Police Service and UQ's Confucius Institute have produced a safety brochure to educate foreign tourists.

LIGHT POLLUTION THREATENS CORAL SPAWNING

Urban light pollution from excessive artificial light has been found to be a threat to coral reproduction in a discovery that will help guide reef and marine ecosystem protection plans. UQ Global Change Institute researcher Dr Paulina Kaniewska said work at UQ's Heron Island Research Station had revealed the Great Barrier Reef's annual coral spawning was dependent on an intricate mix of conditions, with moonlight playing a vital role.

"It's a spectacular synchronised reproduction event where changes in water temperature, tides, sunrise and sunset and the intensity of the moonlight trigger large-scale mass spawning of hundreds of coral species over several nights," Kaniewska said.

"The introduction of artificial light competes with moonlight and can prevent corals from spawning."

Kaniewska said the research resolved longstanding questions about how corals synchronised the mass release of sex cells with the phases of the moon or bio-rhythms, and it's important because this sexual reproduction is vital to reef survival.

NATURAL FLY INSECTICIDE

UQ's Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) researchers, along with the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, have developed a clean and safe insecticide to combat nuisance flies in cattle feedlots, using spores of a naturally occurring fungi. Centre for Animal Science Senior Research Fellow Dr Peter James said flies were a nuisance for workers and could carry disease.

"The spores of a Queensland strain of the Metarhizium anisopliae fungus have been developed as an ultra-low volume spray that attaches to the external surface of the fly or is ingested by the flies and kills them," he said.

"The spray is very safe, has no effects on humans or animals, and is part of an integrated control approach to suppress fly populations."

James said flies were beginning to develop resistance to chemicals now used in feedlots, and the fungal spray provided a clean, residue-free, safe and sustainable alternative.

The project has been jointly supported by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, UQ, and Meat and Livestock Australia.
ARMOURED DINOSAUR SPECIES REVEALED

With a parrot-like beak, bones in its skin and an inner ear similar to a turtle, Australia’s newest dinosaur is unlike anything ever seen before.

The skeleton of Kunbarrasaurus (koon-ba-rah-sore-rus) was discovered in 1989, but new research from a team of experts led by UQ’s School of Biological Sciences has revealed the dinosaur is a distinctly different species than previously thought.

PhD student Lucy Leahey said the fossil represented the most complete dinosaur so far discovered in Australia and one of the best-preserved ankylosaur fossils in the world.

“Ankylosaurs were a group of sheep-sized, four-legged, herbivorous dinosaurs, closely related to stegosaurs,” Ms Leahey said.

Since the fossil was initially studied in the 1990s, technological advances have allowed further discoveries. Preparation of the palate of the dinosaur, CT scanning and 3D reconstructions have shown that the Kunbarrasaurus, formerly known as Minmi sp., is more primitive than other ankylosaurs with distinct anatomical differences.

UQ’s Dr Steve Salisbury said the findings made it clear that the Kunbarrasaurus specimen, which is on display at the Queensland Museum, should be considered a new dinosaur.

A reconstruction of Australia’s newest pre-historic wonder, Kunbarrasaurus ieversi. Image: Australian Geographic.

GREEN LIST FOSTERS CONSERVATION

The number of well-managed protected areas in the world is set to increase, with a new partnership between the World Wildlife Fund and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

With help from a UQ researcher, the partnership aims to expand the number of protected areas that reach the IUCN Green List of Protected Areas quality standards, from two dozen to about 1000 areas across 50 countries.

UQ Geography Planning and Environmental Management lecturer Professor Marc Hockings led the development of the Green List – an anthology of the world’s best managed protected areas and cousin to the IUCN’s Red List of Threatened Species, which has been the world’s main authority on the conservation status of species since 1964.

“Protected areas can help halt biodiversity loss, mitigate and adapt to climate change, reduce the risk and impact of disasters, improve food and water security, and promote human health and dignity,” Hockings said.

“The Green List is an initiative that encourages, measures, celebrates and shares the success of protected areas in reaching good standards of management.”

One of Australia’s two Green-Listed sites, Arakwal National Park/The Cape Byron State Conservation Area in Byron Bay.

HIGHER RISK OF STILLBIRTH FOR DISADVANTAGED WOMEN

Women from disadvantaged backgrounds face twice the risk of delivering a stillborn baby than their more advantaged counterparts, an international study led by Mater Research Institute–University of Queensland (MRI–UQ) researcher, Associate Professor Vicki Flenady, has found.

The international study of stillbirth rates in high-income countries found that equity gaps are contributing to thousands of preventable deaths.

Half of all stillbirths (1.3 million) were found to occur during labour and birth, and were mainly due to inadequate care.

“Improved education, alleviation of poverty, and improved access to health care that is timely and culturally appropriate are critical for preventing stillbirth deaths in disadvantaged families,” Flenady said.

Preventable Stillbirths series, which estimates 98 per cent of the world’s 2.6 million stillbirths each year occur in low- and middle-income countries.

“IUCN’s Red List of Threatened Species, which has been the world’s main authority on the conservation status of species since 1964. "Protected areas can help halt biodiversity loss, mitigate and adapt to climate change, reduce the risk and impact of disasters, improve food and water security, and promote human health and dignity,” Hockings said.

“The Green List is an initiative that encourages, measures, celebrates and shares the success of protected areas in reaching good standards of management.”

One of Australia’s two Green-Listed sites, Arakwal National Park/The Cape Byron State Conservation Area in Byron Bay.
A major rejuvenation of the TC Beirne School of Law will ensure it remains a world-class education facility for generations to come.

For 70 years, the Forgan Smith building has been the visual centrepiece of UQ. Presiding over the Great Court, there are few 1930s-era buildings of its equal in Australia, and none at any other Australian university.

Not just a pretty face, the Forgan Smith building had an interesting beginning when World War II intervened in its completion in 1939. Requisitioned in 1942 by the Australian Army, it served as an Advanced Land Headquarters for General Sir Thomas Blamey, Commander in Chief of the Australian Military Forces and Commander of Allied Forces in the South West Pacific Area under the command of General Douglas MacArthur.

The Forgan Smith building (originally called the Main building until 1967) was finally completed and officially opened in 1949 as home to UQ’s TC Beirne School of Law, where it has nurtured some of Australia’s most influential legal professionals, politicians and international business leaders.

In recent years, its interior has struggled to meet the evolving needs of a law school ranked among the top 50 in the world. With modern teaching moving away from books, blackboards and stilted classroom environments to a more connected and interactive experience, it is time for a re-imagining to ensure UQ’s law students continue to receive a world-class education.

Work on the dramatic re-modelling of the internal space, which is supported by University capital works funding and philanthropic donations, is expected to be completed by February 2017 and will not affect the beautiful and historic sandstone façade.

Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Høj said the $33 million refurbishment would support the TC Beirne School of Law’s dedication to excellence in learning and research, while meeting the expectations of students and industry in an era that is being heavily influenced by technology revolutions.

“I am very hopeful that our many distinguished alumni, who regularly contribute to student learning, will appreciate this new environment and partner with the University to fully realise the potential of the Forgan Smith refurbishment.”

Head of School and Dean of Law Professor Sarah Derrington said there had been a major refocusing of the TC Beirne School of Law in recent years, which the new space was designed to support.

“We have sharpened our focus on ensuring we have the best and brightest graduates from the TC Beirne School of Law,” she said.

“From this year we have reduced our first-year intake to about 240 of the highest achievers with a minimum entry requirement of OP1. We are immersing this small, highly motivated cohort in an environment of academic and intellectual rigour led by world-renowned teachers conducting research-led programs.
"With a firm focus on professional excellence, students have the opportunity to serve the wider community and develop as exceptional legal thinkers with the discipline, ingenuity and connections to change and enrich the world."

Derrington said both teaching practices and the legal workplace were becoming more collaborative and interactive.

"The new space will include collaborative research spaces and break-out rooms, independent study areas, and facilities for mobile technology, innovative learning, research and academic facilities," she said.

"High-backed armchairs will form private meeting booths along the corridor and a spectacular ‘book-inspired lantern’ will direct lighting into the central library."

Derrington said philanthropic support was also being sought to establish an endowed scholarship fund.

Former UQ Chancellor and campaign committee Chair John Story AO said the TC Beirne School of Law had educated some of Australia’s finest jurists, practising lawyers and academics.

"This is an opportunity for members of its alumni community to recognise, in a tangible form, the invaluable grounding the school provided them and to be a part of the re-birth of the school as it emerges as a law school of the highest ranking," he said.

The rejuvenation, which has been more than a year in the planning, has been designed by BVN Architecture’s Brian Donovan and Damian Eckersley under the guidance of heritage architect Andrew Ladlay.

To watch a video about the project and for more information, visit createhistory.law.uq.edu.au.
Strengthening commercial capabilities and opportunities for cutting-edge research of global significance make India a priority for UQ’s aim to become Australia’s most globally connected university.

A mid widespread poverty, corruption and inadequate public health, India has emerged as the seventh largest and one of the fastest-growing economies in the world.

UQ has enjoyed strong academic links with India for more than 50 years, and this bilateral relationship is an important strategic partnership for the Australian government, attracting significant national investments and initiatives.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) Professor Monique Skidmore said the relationship had a strong focus on joint research.

“India’s booming economy aligns with UQ’s focus on collaboration through innovative business models with increasing entrepreneurship among students and researchers,” Skidmore said.

“Engaging Indian industry partners will offer unique opportunities for internships, commercialisation prospects and developing strong research initiatives.

“It will also help to meet the increasing student, industry and government demand to produce graduates with global experience.”

Indian student enrollments in UQ coursework and research programs have increased from 175 in 2011 to 330 in 2015. UQ has 1699 Indian alumni and 69 Indian academic staff members, including four professors and six associate professors.

The Institute of Modern Languages has taught Hindi since 1967, with growing popularity requiring an increase in teaching staff.

UQ maintains 13 formal agreements with Indian institutions and undertook six research projects involving Indian institutions between 2010 and 2015, worth more than $2.4 million. UQ also produced 312 co-publications with Indian institutes between 2010 and December 2015.

UQ’s Deputy Director of Global Engagement Dr Jessica Gallagher said the University aimed to be recognised in India as a leading global institution.

“Our goals are to attract and retain the best students, while increasing the number of Indian student commencements,” she said.

“This can be achieved by enhancing the shape of UQ’s Indian offerings to support broad educational opportunities, ensure flexibility in pathway programs and meet postgraduate growth targets. We are also keen to see a flow of staff and students in both directions through collaborative mobility programs.

“It’s important to nurture existing key Indian universities, institutional and corporate relationships and explore opportunities to develop new collaborative academic and research projects, as well as identify and increase engagement opportunities with Indian industry through research and development.”

Despite the speed of its economic growth, India is grappling to address the complex challenge of energy impoverishment.

India is the world’s fourth-largest primary energy consumer and, over the last 30 years, its primary energy consumption has grown by more than 400 per cent¹, with even greater growth in absolute energy consumption expected over the coming 30 years².

More than 240 million people in India lack access to electricity, and about 840 million lack access to clean fuels for cooking and heating³. The lack of reliable, affordable or accessible energy is a key challenge UQ is helping to address.

In 2013, the UQ Energy Initiative and the School of Chemical Engineering established the Energy and Poverty Research Group. The group focuses on enabling environments that can positively shape energy dynamics in impoverished communities, and incorporates many disciplines including engineering, economics and business, spatial science, communications and social change, and behavioural sciences.

Active collaborations have been formed with key universities, industry partners, and government and non-government departments within and outside India, including Washington University in St Louis, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Foundation for Ecological Security, The Energy and Resource Institute, the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, the National Institute of Advanced Studies, and SunEdison.

UQ Energy Initiative Director Professor Chris Grieg said partnerships across sectors and disciplinary boundaries were necessary when addressing complex global challenges.

“An all-encompassing approach incorporating these partnerships is absolutely vital if we are to establish critical research mass, create new linkages between Australian and Indian researchers and industry, and initiate building capacity in the field (or on the ground),” he said.

“Our role must be complementary and additive, not competitive with the very good work already underway in India.”

¹ BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2015
² India Energy Outlook, IEA Special Report 2015
³ IEA World Energy Outlook 2014
BREAKING NEWS AND BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

With its new UQ in India project, UQ’s Journalism program is playing a key role in the University’s global engagement strategy.

The project, which teaches students how to be foreign correspondents, is part of a scholarship program established under the federal government’s New Colombo Plan, an initiative focused on improving Australia’s knowledge of the Indo-Pacific and strengthening people and industry relationships through semester-based study and internships.

In UQ’s inaugural 2015 intake, 20 undergraduates travelled to New Delhi to learn on the job and expand their future international job prospects and graduate opportunities. Journalism lecturer in the School of Communication and Arts Bruce Wooley said it was almost impossible to overstate the significance of the project in terms of UQ’s engagement with Indian universities and industry.

“The students in India and Australia now have close connections with citizens and friends in other countries and that leads to deeper empathy and understanding,” he said.

TAKING UP THE FIGHT FOR WOMEN’S JUSTICE

India is a popular tourist destination, renowned for its cultural diversity, contrasting landscapes and fast-paced cities. But exchange student Zoe Brereton says most travellers passing through New Delhi vow never to come back.

“At first glance, it’s dirty, noisy and packed with con artists,” she said.

“When I first arrived I was taken aback by the masses of people on the streets – bicycle rickshaws towering with baskets, female construction workers in colourful saris, and young children playing in piles of rubble next to businessmen with private chauffeurs and Apple watches.

“The contrast of life continues to overwhelm me but I have come to love New Delhi. I know how to spot a scam, how to bargain in Hindi and where, in the centre of town, I can find peaceful, ancient ruins surrounded by greenery.”

The third-year Bachelor of Arts/Laws student has been living in New Delhi since July 2015 after being selected as Australia’s 2015 New Colombo Plan Fellow for India, a federal government initiative that provides opportunities for undergraduates to experience semester-based exchanges and internships in selected Indo-Pacific locations.

She received the scholarship to study languages, politics and human rights at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and is researching several topics related to crimes against women, particularly police practice in managing vulnerable people, as well as investigating institutional offending.

“After a few conversations with university students and professors in Delhi, I was immediately confronted by the prevailing discourse that few people seem to be questioning: the idea that women who report abuse cannot be trusted and laws enacted to protect women are widely misused,” she said.

“Internationally, viewing women who report rape as false complainants has been a myth with harmful consequences for women’s ability to access justice.”

Brereton said studying at JNU had been a completely different experience to her studies at UQ.

“It’s the best place for me to discuss my research as women’s rights and sexuality are popular topics of discussion, both in the classroom and in social settings,” she said.

“I have been so fortunate to have spent time interacting with female judges, lawyers, activists and police officers, who are all fighting hard to be successful women in professions dominated by men.”

Brereton co-presented a paper with a senior lecturer from the Police Academy in Hyderabad at the International Women in Law Enforcement Conference in October 2015 and recently submitted a research paper for peer review to be published in an international journal.

She has also received a six-month research-based internship with the OP Global Jindal University, while the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Delhi Judicial Academy have both expressed an interest in sharing her research.

Brereton said she would be returning to UQ in July 2016 and was interested in researching several topics related to crimes against women, particularly police practice in managing vulnerable people, as well as investigating institutional offending.

“For another three years and will support a further 60 journalism students.”

For more information about the UQ in India project and to view stories, visit uqindia.wordpress.com.

Download the Contact app
to watch a video about Zoe Brereton’s experience.
Sun, sand and surf. It’s a way of life for many Australians, and alumni Tim Byrne and Carmen Ariotti are making sure everyone – no matter their ability – has the chance to experience it.

The Beach Boys described the magic of surfing perfectly with the lyrics “catch a wave and you’re sittin’ on top of the world”. That glorious feeling is the driving force behind the Disabled Surfers Association of Australia Inc. (DSAA), a volunteer group that allows people with disabilities a chance to experience the thrill of riding a wave.

“It’s great to share the feeling of freedom the surfers get when they’re gliding along on a board,” DSAA Sunshine Coast Branch Secretary Carmen Ariotti said.

“With the sun on your face, salt water on your body, and surrounded by people who are exuding positive energy, it would be hard not to love it.”

The DSAA was founded by Gary Blaschke in Sydney in 1986 after he was injured in a motorcycle accident and lost his kneecap. Initially established for injured surfers, it has since broadened its target group to cater for all disabilities.

There are now 16 branches across Australia and New Zealand, allowing disabled participants the chance to surf while under the supervision of trained team leaders and beach marshals.

Currimundi residents Ariotti (Bachelor of Arts ’07, Bachelor of Laws (Honours) ’07) and husband Tim Byrne (Bachelor of Arts ’03, Bachelor of Education (Secondary) ’05, Graduate Certificate in Education ’07, Master of Educational Studies ’08) have been volunteering with the Sunshine Coast Branch of the DSAA since they moved to the region in 2007. Byrne has been the President of the branch since 2012 and has a long relationship with the DSAA, having previously volunteered at events on the Gold Coast during his university days.

“We are a 100 per cent volunteer network with the prime focus of extending the experience of surfing to anyone who has a disability in their life,” Byrne said.

“We will take between 30 and 60 people surfing at each event – from young kids to 80-year-old grandmothers – and we might have more than 100 people come along and help. While most of our volunteers are surfers themselves, we also have jobs for non-surfers.”

As a special needs teacher at Caloundra’s Golden Beach State School, Byrne has much experience with students with disabilities and learning difficulties.

He grew up in Bundaberg and was introduced to surfing through his father and brother, but it wasn’t until he started...
university that he began surfing more regularly. Byrne arrived at UQ in 1999 to study a Bachelor of Arts majoring in English and psychology, before switching to education.

“Being exposed to the diversity of a campus like St Lucia was one of the greatest things that happened to me at that time in my life,” Byrne said. “I was exposed to new ways of thinking and different cultures, which was really healthy.

“The path I took towards special education came through a subject called Psychology of Disability. During that subject I completed a placement at Mount Ommaney Special School, and it was through that experience that I developed an appreciation for disability work.”

Ariotti works as a legal officer at the Department of Justice in Brisbane. She arrived at UQ from Toowoomba in 2002 and said she made some lifelong friends at university – including her husband, whom she began dating in 2004.

“Tim’s family and my family had known one another for years, so when I saw him from a distance one day near the Great Court, I went over and said ‘hi’,” Ariotti said.

The couple married in 2007 and welcomed their first child, Heidi, in February this year.

“I was introduced to surfing, and the DSAA, through Tim. Living in Toowoomba made learning to surf a bit tricky, but now I’ve become a surfer and we both enjoy it,” Ariotti said.

“Volunteering for the DSAA is equally as enjoyable. You can see that the volunteers are having just as much fun as the surfers, and the fact that they’re helping someone have an experience they clearly love adds to it tenfold.”

For Byrne, the greatest reward is seeing the reaction on the faces of the surfers when they catch their first wave.

“Most don’t get to surf without the help of the DSAA, so seeing the reaction on their faces is really special,” Byrne said.

“A lot of the time you hear parents say that they never dreamed their child would be able to ride a surf board, and that’s quite emotional.”

For more information about the DSAA, visit disabledsurfers.org/qld/sunshine-coast-branch or contact Tim Byrne at sunny.prez@disabledsurfers.org.
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SMALL GIFTS, BIG IMPACT

ANNUAL GIVING AT UQ IN 2015

In 2015, gifts from the Annual Appeal comprised more than 75 per cent of the total number of gifts to The University of Queensland. Collectively, regardless of size, these Annual Appeal gifts provided vital support for students, teaching initiatives and research.

GIFTS TO UQ

- **Annual Appeal**: 78%
- **Other fundraised income**: 22%

**IMPACT**

In 2015, gifts to the Annual Appeal directly supported over 200 initiatives across the University.

**GIFT DESTINATIONS**

- **Scholarship Endowment Fund**: 3%
- **Faculties, Schools and Institutes**: 59%
- **Greatest Need fund**: 38%

**OUR SUPPORTERS**

- **Alumni donors**: 67%
- **Non-alumni donors**: 24%
- **Staff and Student donors**: 9%

**AVERAGE GIFT**

$355

**DONOR LOCATION**

- **Based in Australia**: 94%
- **Overseas**: 5%

**UQ TELEPHONE ENGAGEMENT CAMPAIGN**

- **14,153 calls made**
- **Over 800 gifts**
- **26% of gifts were from young alumni**
- **42 students employed as the UQ Calling Crew**

The 2016 Telephone Engagement Campaign has been underway since April and will run until August. Current UQ students are reaching out to alumni and friends of the University to share stories, update details and ask for support.

**Have you answered our call yet?**

**MAKE AN IMPACT AT UQ TODAY AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS**

Online uq.edu.au/giving/donations
Phone +61 7 3346 3900
Return the gift card supplied with Contact:
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Level 7, JD Story Building
The University of Queensland
Brisbane 4072

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TODAY. VISIT uq.edu.au/giving/donations
The pair’s PayPal journey began in the 1990s when Australian investor and entrepreneur Peter Davison (Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours) ’88) started a small venture capital firm in Silicon Valley with Graeme Linnett (Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours) ’87), a friend whom he had studied with in the Maths Department at UQ.

“Throughout university, Graeme and I had always said that we would get together to do something big, but not long after graduation our respective careers took us in different directions,” Davison said.

It wasn’t until Linnett returned to Australia on a business trip while working for AIG International in the US that he and Davison reconnected, and “something big” began to formulate.

Linnett said it was clear early on that the internet, or “World Wide Web”, would form the basis of the pair’s endeavours together, particularly given Davison’s studies in Computer Science as part of his Bachelor of Science.

The year 1998 saw many technological milestones: Apple unveiled the iMac, Google was launched, and e-commerce took off as companies began creating their own websites. It was also the year that two UQ alumni helped bring PayPal to the world.
"It was immediately apparent that the revolutionary nature of the internet would have a transformative impact on virtually everything," Linnett recalled.

We began a long-distance conversation about investing in opportunities arising from the internet. We felt we could leverage a mix of creative and critical thinking and the analysis Peter had done about emerging internet businesses.

"Ultimately, we decided I would form a company and put up some capital to establish a small fund, and Peter would move to Silicon Valley to search for early-stage investments."

And so, being "highly bored" in his IT job, Davison left Melbourne and headed to California to immerse himself in the emerging start-up scene. It was only his third time overseas.

"I didn’t know anything about start-ups, hadn’t ever done a thing in investment and we were just going to be venture capitalists. We were 30 and 31 and we were just going to do this crazy thing," Davison said.

"We knew we could not compete for the deals that traditional venture capitalists were focusing on. So we decided to offer something different, and started looking for early-stage internet start-ups, outside the focus of mainstream investors, where we could provide both seed funding and strategic insights."

For Davison and Linnett, the allure of venture capital boiled down to connecting with passionate, motivated entrepreneurs, and helping them turn their great ideas that could change the world into reality.

"I also had a belief that if you were smarter than the crowd, you could in theory achieve anything," Davison said.

"You could learn fast, meet the people you needed to, and people would soon recognise your smarts."

This approach proved to be fortuitous for Davison. By searching the classifieds of local trade publication Red Henning, he connected with several people who would eventually lead him to Peter Thiel, the founder of PayPal, a global payments platform now available to people in more than 200 markets around the world.

"He (Thiel) was looking for investors in his company, which at the time was a virtual private secure network (VPN) operating on the Palm Pilot devices that were the craze then," Davison said.

The idea of a currency system where Palm Pilot users could transfer money between devices evolved but was limited to that particular technology at the time. Seeing the potential of the idea, Davison and Linnett made a small investment in the initial financing round, but were keen to contribute their own ideas on how the technology could be expanded.

"Consistent with the premise upon which we invested, we began a regular dialogue with Peter about the company, the opportunity and its strategy," Linnett said.

"We suggested he adopt the person-to-person payment technology to email. My reason for this suggestion was that I used eBay and, back then, eBay had no payment system. You just emailed your credit card number to a stranger, which I found kind of horrifying."

And so, with second-round funding from Davison and Linnett, alongside new investors Nokia Venture and Deutsche Bank, a website using VPN technology was developed and PayPal was born.

"Despite Graeme’s impressive investment-banking experience and my deep knowledge of technology, we lacked venture capital experience and did not have a network of contacts. On the face of it we were competing against venture capitalists who had billions of dollars to invest and networks in Silicon Valley which they had built over decades," Davison said.

"But the new paradigms relating to the internet levelled the playing field for people willing to analyse and learn the new rules."

Following the success of the investment in the seed stage of PayPal and in the early stage of Anonymizer.com, which both led to substantial financial exits, Davison returned to Australia and went on to found Fishburners, Australia’s largest co-working space and business incubator, based in Sydney. He is currently based in China and is a judge on the reality TV show The Next Unicorn, where young entrepreneurs compete for an AU$2.5 million investment prize.

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In her final year, Chee (Bachelor of Science '11) realised she had a strong desire to work outside the chemistry lab where she could work more with people. "I was open-minded about different roles where I could leverage my degree and came across the cadetship with Trade & Investment Queensland," Chee said. She spent three months in Bangalore, India (known as the Silicon Valley of the East), managing her own project for medical device project sponsor Cook Medical. "I was a graduate without much professional experience at the time and I definitely felt like I had jumped into the deep end," she said.

While most of the applicants for the program were international business graduates, Chee said the medical company saw value in her science background. Her impressive performance in India led to a full-time role at Cook Medical, where she became part of the Research and Development department’s Asia-Pacific New Technologies team.

During this time Chee delivered the keynote address on new technologies at the Cook Medical company day to more than 350 people. "It was an exciting moment to be able to share the future of the company’s potentially game-changing technologies with staff," Chee said another stand-out moment of her career was working for the United Nations. "It was a dream of mine to work for the United Nations, so I accessed my UQ networks and was offered an introduction to someone who worked there," she said. That led to a job as an intern in Bangkok, where she researched and edited several publications that resulted in her supervisor inviting her to co-author a book chapter on sustainability.

Throughout her career Chee has made time to volunteer as one of the inaugural members of the UQ Young Alumni Board. "I was part of the Graduate Transition Committee which aims to engage with UQ’s young alumni from the moment they graduate and help equip them for the workforce," she said. "There will be many great events for young alumni in the future and I look forward to seeing the community grow stronger." Chee is currently finishing her Master of Commerce at UQ and will be hosting a panel discussion at the Academy of Management in California later this year as a result of her published book chapter.
At the United Nations General Assembly in New York last September, UQ Arts graduate Shea Spierings presented a clear message on how to support Australian youth: education. Spierings (Bachelor of Arts ’14) was selected as the only Australian Youth Delegate to the United Nations in 2015. Over the year he spoke with thousands of young Australians, with a particular focus on Indigenous youth, youth in the juvenile justice system, youth with disabilities, youth from rural and remote areas, and Muslim youth.

Two vivid memories stood out from his journey. “One of my early visits was with a group of teenage women in South-East Queensland who had experienced homelessness,” he said. “Hearing about the serious issues they shared affected the way I conducted myself from that moment on.”

“The other memorable moment was spending my 25th birthday visiting a juvenile detention centre in Adelaide.” Spierings said the key issues youth raised included drug and substance abuse, racism and discrimination, employment, mental health, and gender equality.

“I observed that many young people hadn’t reached their potential, largely because of their limited education,” he said. “As a country, we could further explore education alternatives for youth who don’t fit the mainstream mould.”

Originally from Rockhampton, it took several years for Spierings to find his own pathway to university. “I thought university was for other people, not people like me, as neither of my parents had finished high school and none of my friends aspired to study at university,” he said.

“After school I found myself working in the pre-cast yard on the construction of Brisbane’s Gateway Bridge doing physically demanding work in horrendous heat, working long hours, six days a week.” “It didn’t take me long to realise I didn’t want to make a career out of that job.”

After that, Spierings worked in security and started studying at TAFE for 18 months until a knee injury prevented him from his goal of joining the army. At that point, he decided to apply for university. “I’ll never forget sitting the STAT (Special Tertiary Admissions Test), hoping to add to my OP,” he said.

“I received an OP of four and realised that I was capable of going to university and potentially doing well.” Spierings is now completing Honours in Political Science, while also developing a youth public speaking program and acting as a Deadly Choices Ambassador for the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health.
Why is our MBA program ranked Number 1 in Asia Pacific by The Economist and Number 1 in Australia by AFR BOSS Magazine? Because UQ Business School challenges the future through innovation, an understanding of emerging markets, and the social impact of business. The program incorporates immersive learning experiences, culminating in real life projects in exclusive partnerships with the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and Fudan University School of Management. These key initiatives along with our International Immersion Program provide students with global business perspective and key skills for the future. Students also have the opportunity to apply their business knowledge by tackling community issues through our renowned Social Economic Engagement Program. Learn more at business.uq.edu.au/mba
RECOMMENDED READING

A Loving, Faithful Animal
By Josephine Rowe

Josephine Rowe’s debut novel, A Loving, Faithful Animal, uncovers the wounds of war. When his home becomes his battleground, and the enemy stares back from his reflection, Jack runs. Ru struggles with her dad abandoning her. Ru’s sister, Lani, wants to escape, just like her dad, to be free from her smothering small-town life in the country. Evelyn nervously awaits her husband’s return, sinking back into a time before bruises replaced her blush. Rowe’s writing is raw and relentless; her words capture the ingrained, emotional scarring of Vietnam War veterans, and the struggles experienced by families who were left to fight the demons the soldiers carried home. Intricate details woven throughout the story give the true sense of post-war Australian life. A Loving, Faithful Animal graciously portrays a family surviving the scars of war as Jack – although no longer a soldier – is imprisoned by a war within.

Whisperings in the Blood: A Memoir
By Shelley Davidow

In what might be described as a genealogical memoir, Shelley Davidow traces the zig-zagging lines of her family’s travels across four continents, and down through four generations. Focusing on the life and times of her Jewish forebears in antebellum US and apartheid South Africa, Whisperings in the Blood tells the lesser-known tales of Jewish immigration in the twentieth century beyond the German holocaust. This is also a story of a different holocaust against a different people, and it is in the drawing of these squeamish parallels that Davidow’s narrative is at the height of its power. The scale of this story is extraordinary, and it is aptly rendered in a soaring, soulful style, that takes some liberties with fact and fiction. While a successful stylistic choice, nary a wart is exposed throughout, and characters ultimately appear so shiny and flawless they begin to feel photoshopped. Whisperings in the Blood harks the clarion call for an end to intolerance towards immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers. Australia needs this book, and it needs it now.

All My Januaries
By Barbara Blackman

Growing up in Brisbane in the 1930s and 40s, writer and well-known patron of the arts Barbara Blackman routinely began each year with a new diary. Her annual burst of enthusiasm often waned before mid-year, but a lifetime of collected thoughts and experiences has woven themselves into this delightful anthology of essays.

Established in 1948, UQP is a dynamic publishing house known for its innovative philosophy and commitment to producing high-quality books of cultural significance. It has launched the careers of many celebrated Australian writers, such as David Malouf AO, Peter Carey, Kate Grenville, Doris Pilkington and Nick Earls. UQP’s scholarly books are internationally recognised, presenting contemporary issues including peace and conflict, creative industries and our own regional concerns through a major Pacific Studies collection. Other publishing activities include fiction, non-fiction, poetry, Indigenous writing and the promotion of literacy and a love of reading through its children’s and young adult titles.

UQP is also dedicated to co-releasing front-list titles as eBooks and digitally printing selected out-of-print titles.

To purchase any of these books or sign up to UQP’s monthly e-newsletter, visit uqp.com.au.

Download the Contact app to read extracts from the books.
Tom is saving endangered species because we invest his money in conservation. Change the world by changing where you bank. bankaust.com.au/change
REMEMBER WHEN

BIG BASH IN THE BUSH

From a swashbuckling century by an English Test great to a visit by a West Indian star, Contact replays the highlights from the Tom Graham Playing Field's long innings.

It may not rank as the most important innings of his career, but the 4000 spectators who witnessed it will always remember former English Test batsman Allan Lamb's unbeaten century at Gatton’s Queensland Agricultural College (QAC), now known as UQ Gatton, on 22 October 1986.

Lamb scored 111 not out for England during the 50-over match against South-East Queensland Country at the Tom Graham Playing Field, helping the tourists to a total of 9-245.

Lamb was not expected to play in the match because of a nagging knee injury, yet raced to 87 with one over remaining in the innings.

As some spectators climbed stockyards for a better view, Lamb reached his century in style, smashing 24 runs off the final over and ending the innings with a six that scattered a picnicking group.

The English side, which also featured Test stars David Gower, Chris Broad, John Emburey and Phil DeFreitas, went on to win by 58 runs. Simon Beattie starred for South-East Queensland Country scoring 28 not out and claiming four wickets for 50, including the prized wickets of Gower and Broad.

The friendly match was scheduled as part of England's 1986–87 tour of Australia, during which they won the five-Test Ashes series 2-1.

The Tom Graham Playing Field, formerly the No. 1 or Main Oval, was established in 1931 after months of labour by the student body, with the first turf wicket laid in 1932. Its pavilion was originally positioned near the Courtney Rugby Oval before being moved to its current site in 1930 under the supervision of QAC Sports Master JS Wilson and staff member and former student Tom Graham, who the field is named after.

Graham undertook a Diploma of Agriculture at QAC between 1925–27 and excelled in athletics, cricket and football. He continued on at the College after graduation as an assistant Agriculturist and Agriculture Lecturer.

Graham was seconded to the Department of Agriculture and Stock in 1933 as an Agricultural Advisor and continued with the Department until he retired in 1971.

The field has played host to a range of functions and sports over the years.

During the US Army's occupation of the College between 1942 and 1944, it was used for staff accommodation and as a parade ground, while in 1947 a machinery and livestock display was held to mark the College’s 50th anniversary.

The field also had a brush with fame on 29 September 1961, when West Indian Test cricketer Wes Hall visited the College and demonstrated his skills on the pitch with several QAC players.

QAC amalgamated with UQ in 1990 and its name was changed to The University of Queensland, Gatton College.

A decade later the name changed again to UQ Gatton following approval to develop the campus as an international centre of excellence in teaching and research.

Today the campus is internationally recognised as Australia’s leading education and research provider in the fields of Animals, Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Food and the Environment.

Contact app to see the full scorebook from the England match.
I turned a passion into a career

Matthew, UQ Graduate

With the skills he learned at UQ, Matthew turned his love for computer games into a career at Blizzard Entertainment in California. His innovations include creating the online platform behind global gaming phenomenon World of Warcraft, which brings millions of gamers together from all over the world. By learning to see the world differently, Matthew is creating change. See his story at uq.edu.au/createchange