



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

Appointment of
Director, Queensland
Brain Institute

QUEENSLAND BRAIN INSTITUTE



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Welcome Message

UQ's newly-established Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences invites applications for the Director of our Queensland Brain Institute, which has recently transitioned into the Faculty. This position plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of neuroscience research in Queensland and beyond. You will lead a vibrant and collaborative research community, foster innovation, and translate groundbreaking discoveries into real-world impact.

The Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) at The University of Queensland is a leading research institute dedicated to improving lives by advancing understanding of the brain in health and disease. Established in 2003, QBI focuses on understanding brain function and developing treatments for brain disorders. With a strong track record of research excellence, including significant competitive grant funding and top rankings in national research assessments, QBI investigates fundamental brain processes and translates these discoveries into new therapies for conditions like dementia, movement disorders like Parkinson's disease, and mental health disorders.

As Director, you will drive excellence by leading and inspiring a world-class research team, fostering a culture of innovation, collaboration, and impact. You will shape the future of neuroscience research by developing and implementing a strategic vision that positions QBI at the forefront of the field. Furthermore, you will build strong partnerships with industry, government, the healthcare sector and other partners to translate research into real-world applications. Finally, you will champion research impact by attracting significant funding, mentoring the next generation of researchers, and effectively communicating research findings to the broader community.

This is an exciting opportunity to join a world-class institution and make a significant contribution to improving lives by furthering our vision to better understand the brain in health and disease.

Professor Danny Liew
Executive Dean, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences



Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences

The newly established Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences is an interdisciplinary powerhouse of innovation and collaboration to lead integrated solutions to the needs of the communities we serve locally and globally. UQ offers one of the widest ranges of health and behavioural sciences programs of any Australian university, and the ambition for this new Faculty is to leverage its unified suite of esteemed schools, institutes and centres to unlock opportunities within UQ and with external partners to:

- Graduate health, medical and behavioural science professionals who are champions of interprofessional collaborative practice, culturally competent and deeply respectful of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and leaders in their respective disciplines.
- Address current and emerging health sector challenges, specifically the need for a flexible workforce with a diverse skill mix, and the need to provide person and family-centred health care through collaborative decision-making in interprofessional teams.
- Grow our research and impact by exploring 'wicked problems' from a multidisciplinary perspective in collaboration with consumers and communities.
- Attract research funding from a wide range of sources (philanthropy, competitive grants, government tenders, NGO, industry).
- Meet the complex health and well-being needs of the population across the lifespan.
- Provide our students with the optimal range of educational placement opportunities to support their learning.
- Work effectively and efficiently with a range of partners locally, nationally and internationally.
- Share resources and infrastructure to further our strategic ambitions and reach in education, research, and engagement.

Comprising nine esteemed schools, and an impressive suite of Faculty and School based institutes, and research centres, the Faculty offers unparalleled opportunities for learning, discovery, and impact. From pioneering medical breakthroughs to advancing understanding of human behaviour and well-being, our interdisciplinary approach fosters holistic approaches to healthcare and societal well-being. With a commitment to interprofessional education and a focus on health, well-being, and behaviour change, we are at the forefront of shaping the future of healthcare and improving lives locally and globally.

The Faculty possesses enormous strengths spanning research, teaching, industry engagement and clinical practice and staff, students, and partners can engage with groundbreaking initiatives and programs across our schools of Biomedical Sciences, Dentistry, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences, Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work, Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Psychology, Public Health, and Medical School.

Educational offerings are informed and complemented by research across a range of fundamental and clinical areas of importance through both faculty and school embedded centres and institutes, in particular the Frazer and UQ Mater Institutes, UQ's POCHE Centre for Indigenous Health, Child Health Research Centre, and UQ Centre for Clinical Research, as well as a number of other centres and alliances, including but not limited to Business and Economics of Health, Health Services Research, Youth Substance Use Research, Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences, RECOVER Injury Research, and Southern Queensland Rural Health.



Queensland Brain Institute

The Queensland Brain Institute (QBI) at UQ is at the forefront of neuroscience, pushing the boundaries of discovery to transform our understanding of the brain in health and disease. Since its establishment in 2003, QBI has been a global leader in tackling two of the greatest frontiers in modern science: deciphering brain function and pioneering breakthrough treatments for neurological and mental health disorders.

QBI is dedicated to unlocking the complexities of the brain—from the intricate neural circuits that drive behaviour to the mechanisms behind devastating conditions like dementia, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, and motor neurone disease (MND). By bridging fundamental research with real-world application, QBI accelerates innovation in neuroscience, translating discoveries into next-generation therapies through strategic collaborations with clinicians and industry leaders.

Home to 28 world-class faculty and cutting-edge facilities for high-resolution imaging and advanced behavioural analysis, QBI is a powerhouse of scientific excellence. To drive targeted impact, the institute has established specialized research centres, ensuring that its breakthroughs shape the future of brain health and redefine what's possible in neuroscience.

From systemic brain rejuvenation to single molecule neuroscience, and neuroimmunology to neurodegeneration, we [28 research groups](#) with a shared vision to improve brain health.

A sample of our latest achievements include:

- **UQ granted \$3 million for new Centre of Research Excellence:** A \$3 million NHMRC grant will fund a new Centre of Research Excellence in Mechanisms in Neurodegeneration – Alzheimer's Disease (MIND-AD).
- **Major milestone for UQ spin-out's promising MND drug:** NuNerve, a company formed to commercialise research from UQ's Queensland Brain Institute, has produced successful results in a human clinical trial for potential new treatment for MND.
- **Researchers find new molecule that protects brain cells from damage:** QBI researchers have discovered a molecule that protects brain cells from oxidative stress and damage, opening new avenues for possible treatments for brain diseases.
- **New study signals gamechanger for antivirals:** Researchers have discovered an alternative pathway for how viruses, including SARS-CoV-2 enter host cells, offering new potential treatment modalities.

In addition, QBI is home to world-leading research centres that are revolutionizing our understanding of the brain and fast-tracking breakthroughs in neurological and mental health treatments. These centres bring together top-tier scientists, cutting-edge technologies, and bold new approaches to some of the most pressing challenges in neuroscience:

- **The Clem Jones Centre for Ageing Dementia Research (CJCADR):** Established in 2012, CJCADR is leading the charge against dementia, uncovering the mechanisms behind neurodegeneration and driving the development of groundbreaking prevention and treatment strategies.



- **The Queensland Brain Injury Collaborative (QBIC):** Launched in 2022, QBIC is transforming care for acquired brain injuries, from stroke to concussion and traumatic brain injury. By bridging research and real-world application, QBIC is setting new standards in rehabilitation and recovery.
- **The Centre for RNA in Neuroscience:** Founded in 2023, this centre sits at the cutting edge of RNA biology, pioneering next-generation RNA therapies to combat neurological and mental health disorders. It's redefining how we approach brain disease at the molecular level.

These high-impact hubs position QBI as a global leader in neuroscience—driving discovery, shaping the future of brain health, and pushing the limits of what's possible in research and treatment.

More information about the Queensland Brain Institute can be found [here](#).



Role of the Director, Queensland Brain Institute

About this opportunity

The Director of QBI will be responsible for further developing, refining and implementing the academic and operational strategy of the Institute in close collaboration with key stakeholders within and outside UQ.

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Academic leadership

- Work effectively as part of the Faculty leadership team to maximise research impact, to support the teaching enterprise and engage effectively with stakeholders and partners.
- Provide leadership in the development of new funding opportunities for Institute research and health service activities.
- Nurture an inclusive and collegiate culture within the Institute based upon research excellence, integrity, and respect.
- Work through the Faculty to pursue opportunities to increase revenue through business and industry engagement, philanthropy and commercialising the results of research and intellectual property.

Research scholarship

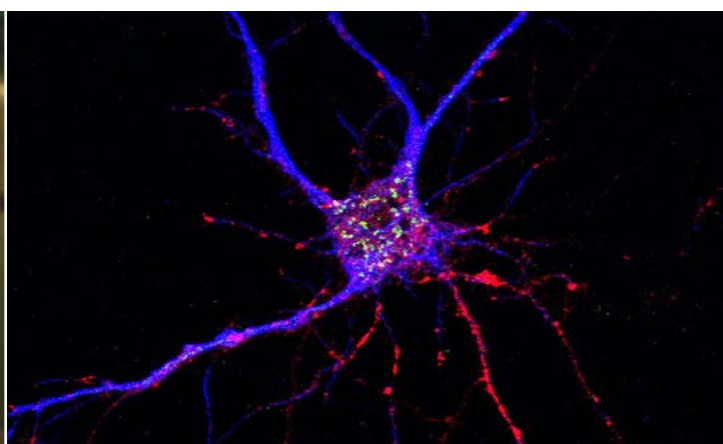
- Maintain personal academic standing, including the pursuit of research and scholarship in an area that complements the activities of the Institute.
- Attract significant national and international competitive research funding.
- Communicate research outcomes in scholarly high impact journals and at high profile national and international meetings.
- Engage with service providers, policy makers and commercial organisations to translate research outcomes into practice.
- Continue to grow an established national and international profile.

Management

- Oversee and proactively manage the physical, financial, human and intellectual resources of the Institute and ensure the Institute operates within budget.
- Optimise the use of space and infrastructure resources available to the Institute.
- Attract and retain outstanding academic and research leaders.
- Champion the training and career development of graduate students and early career researchers.

External relations

- Build strong, productive relationships within and without UQ, including partners in the health sector, government, philanthropy, professional bodies and industry.
- In collaboration with the Faculty, engage with stakeholders and develop strategic research partnerships.



- Represent the interests and needs of the Institute through membership on Faculty and University committees as appropriate.
- Where appropriate, involve clinicians, other health providers and visitors in the life of the Institute.

Other

Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including but not exclusive to:

- The University's [Code of Conduct](#).
- Requirements of the Queensland occupational health and safety (OH&S) legislation and related [OH&S responsibilities and procedures](#) developed by the University, Faculty, Institute or School.
- The adoption of sustainable practices in all work activities, and compliance with associated legislation and related University [sustainability responsibilities and procedures](#).
- Requirements of the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000*, the *National Code 2007* and associated legislation, and related [responsibilities and procedures](#) developed by the University.

Organisational relationships

This position reports to the Executive Dean, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Behavioural Sciences.

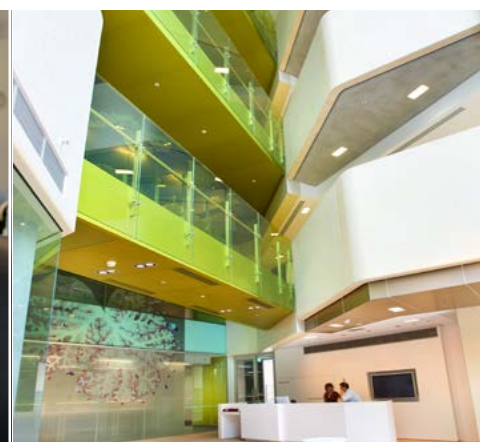


About you

- A PhD in an area relevant to existing strengths of the Institute, and an international reputation for excellence, with an active and strong teaching portfolio and research track record in publications, competitive grants, and effective PhD supervision.
- Demonstrated expert knowledge and a significant international standing professionally and academically in one or more fields of disciplinary areas relevant to the Institute.
- Highly developed leadership, interpersonal, communication and people management skills, and a track record in leading, motivating and successfully managing large, complex and diverse teams in a collegiate environment.
- Strengths in influencing and negotiating, including the ability to develop and maintain effective relationships with key internal partners and external stakeholders.
- Capacity to exercise academic leadership to enhance the standing of the Institute and Faculty.
- Demonstrated ability to shape organisational culture, implement a successful vision and encouraging and support academic staff in the delivery and enhancement of high-quality teaching and learning.
- Cross-disciplinary understanding of research, teaching and student experience.
- Sound and successful experience in the management of finance, operations, and human resources.
- Sound appreciation of relevant legislation underpinning University priorities, policies and procedures including equal opportunity and occupational health, safety and welfare.

Additional Information

UQ is committed to a fair, equitable and inclusive selection process, which recognises that some applicants may face additional barriers and challenges which have impacted and/or continue to impact their career trajectory. Candidates who may not fully meet all the criteria are strongly encouraged to apply for and demonstrate their potential in the role, even if parts of the selection criteria can't be met. Candidates may also wish to proactively outline any barriers/challenges which have impacted their career. The selection panel will consider both your potential and any performance relative to opportunity considerations when assessing your suitability for this role.



What we can offer

Employment type

This is a full-time, fixed-term appointment for five years at Academic Level E. A remuneration package will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

Mandatory immunisations

It is a condition of employment for this role that you will be required to provide evidence of immunisation against certain vaccine preventable diseases.

Qualification verification

Academic appointments will be subject to the verification of the highest academic qualification from the conferring institution.

Visa sponsorship

Relocating from interstate or overseas? We may support you with obtaining employer-sponsored work rights and a relocation support package. You can find out more about life in Australia's Sunshine State [here](#).

How to apply

All applicants must supply the following documents through the [UQ Careers](#) portal:

- Resume
- Cover letter

To satisfy prerequisite questions and ensure your application can be considered in full, all candidates must apply via the [UQ Careers](#) portal by the job closing deadline. Applications received via other channels including direct email will not be accepted.

Questions?

For a confidential discussion, please contact Shiann Fait and Michael Walsh (Principal Advisors, Talent Acquisition) via talent@uq.edu.au.



Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI)

Our commitment

We know that our success as a university is determined by our ability to attract and retain highly talented, committed people who are leaders in their field. For this reason, we are intent on embedding a supportive and inclusive culture built around UQ's values, where the many talents, passions and perspectives of our staff and alumni are encouraged and nurtured.

In line with this, UQ deeply values equity, diversity and inclusion, and seeks to reflect the broader community by attracting and retaining high-quality staff from a range of backgrounds. We are committed to identifying and addressing areas of under-representation among staff and aim to provide a respectful and healthy work environment for staff from all backgrounds, focusing on six key areas:

- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment](#)
- [Gender](#)
- [Sexuality, gender and sex](#)
- [Cultural and linguistic diversity](#)
- [Disability](#)
- [Age](#)

UQ has a progressive [diversity and inclusion policy framework](#) to support and enable staff.

UQ's strategic EDI priorities

UQ has committed to specific targets ([The University of Queensland Strategic Plan](#)) in the areas of gender equity and Indigenous employment and undertakes substantial programs of work to achieve these strategic aims.

Improving gender equity

UQ has a [range of initiatives](#) to address barriers to attraction, retention and progression of women and gender diverse staff and close the gender pay gap. We remain committed to changing workplace culture and making gender equality central to our work demonstrated by:

- [UQ Gender Equality Action Plan](#)
- [SAGE Athena SWAN Bronze status](#)
- [AWEI Gold Award](#)
- [UQ Gender Steering Committee](#)
- [UQ Ally Network](#)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment

UQ is committed to the employment, career development and support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and recognises their contributions to its community in academic and professional roles and at all levels across UQ. The Indigenous Employment team seeks to create an environment of cultural respect and understanding across UQ for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees, and invites them to join the Indigenous staff network to stay informed and be actively involved in the UQ Indigenous community.



The University of Queensland

For more than a century, The University of Queensland (UQ) has created positive change for society by delivering knowledge leadership for a better world.

UQ ranks among the world's top universities, as measured by several key independent rankings, including the CWTS Leiden Ranking (35), U.S. News Best Global Universities Rankings (36), the Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities (33), QS World University Rankings (40), Academic Ranking of World Universities (63), and Times Higher Education World University Rankings (78).

At UQ, we're changing the way higher education is imagined and experienced. Our students enjoy a rich campus experience, including a range of accommodation options, as well as innovative and flexible learning pathways, diverse and dynamic partnership opportunities, and an integrated digital and campus learning environment.

More than 57,000 students – including the majority of Queensland's highest academic achievers as well as top interstate and overseas students – study across UQ's 4 beautiful campuses in South East Queensland at St Lucia, Herston, Gatton and Dutton Park. They include around 20,000 postgraduate and approximately 21,000 international students who contribute to a diverse, supportive and inclusive campus community.

With a strong focus on teaching excellence, having won more national teaching awards than any other Australian university, UQ is committed to providing students with the best opportunities and practical experiences during their time with us, empowering them with transferable knowledge and skills that will prepare them to exceed expectations throughout their careers.

UQ's 332,000 graduates are an engaged network of global alumni spanning 184 countries, and include more than 18,000 PhDs.

UQ's 5 faculties, 8 globally recognised research institutes and more than 100 research centres attract an interdisciplinary community of 2,500 scientists, social scientists and engineers, who champion research excellence and continue UQ's tradition of research leadership. This is reflected in UQ being the number one recipient of Australian Research Council Fellowships and Awards nationally across all scheme years (452 awards worth \$339 million).

UQ has an outstanding track record in commercialising innovation, with major technologies employed across the globe and gross product sales of more than \$57 billion.

UQ is one of only 4 Australian members of the global Universitas 21, a founding member of the Group of Eight (Go8) universities, a member of Universities Australia, and a member of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU).

UQ employs more than 7,500 academic and professional staff (full-time equivalent) and has a \$2.47 billion annual operating budget.



Governance

The University of Queensland is governed by a 22-member Senate representing University and community interests. Senate is led by the Chancellor, elected by the Senate. The University of Queensland Act 1998 grants Senate wide powers to appoint staff, manage and control University affairs and property, and manage and control finances to promote the University's interests.

uq.edu.au/about/governance

Strategic direction

By 2032, UQ will be known as a university that:



Delivers highly sought-after graduates, who are prepared for future success through rich and broad educational experiences



Leads as a premier provider of high-quality postgraduate and lifelong learning opportunities



Leverages the breadth and depth of its research capabilities and vibrant precincts to address the world's most pressing challenges



Is a trusted and agile partner widely regarded as a leader in entrepreneurship, knowledge exchange and commercialisation



Has an extensive global reach in education and research with a strong commitment to capacity building in the Indo-Pacific



Breaks down barriers to education through the targeted and effective Queensland Commitment



Is values-led, deeply committed to delivering for the public good and supporting our people, leading reconciliation, and embracing different life experiences and perspectives



Strategic plan 2022–2025

Our vision

Knowledge leadership for a better world.

Our mission

Our core purpose is to deliver for the public good through excellence in education, research and engagement with our communities and partners: local, national and global.

Our values

What we strive for

Creativity

We apply our creativity as a way of seeking progress. We value new ideas, seek fresh perspectives and pursue game-changing innovations and opportunities

Excellence

We strive for excellence in everything we do. We apply the highest standards to our work to achieve the greatest impact for the benefit of communities everywhere.

Central to what we do

Truth

Truth is central to all that we do as a university. We seek truth through our focus on the advancement and dissemination of knowledge, and our deep commitment to academic freedom and freedom of expression.

How we work together

Integrity

We always act with integrity. As stewards of the University's resources and reputation, we are honest, ethical and principled.

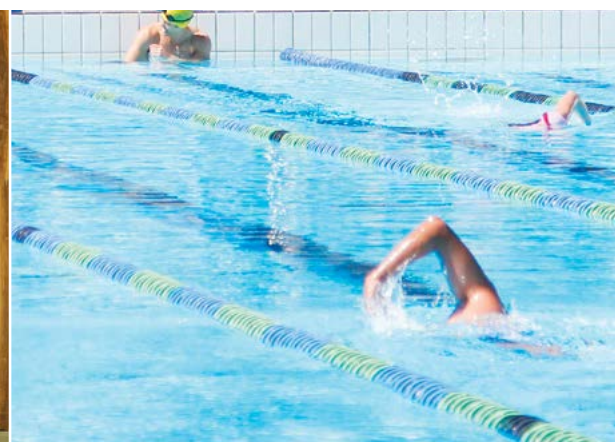
Courage

We are courageous in our decision-making. We are ambitious, bold and agile. We demonstrate moral courage, so that we are always guided by a sense of what is right.

Respect and inclusivity

We provide a caring, inclusive and empowering environment for all. We engage respectfully with one another and promote the value that our diversity brings to our whole community.

about.uq.edu.au/strategic-plan

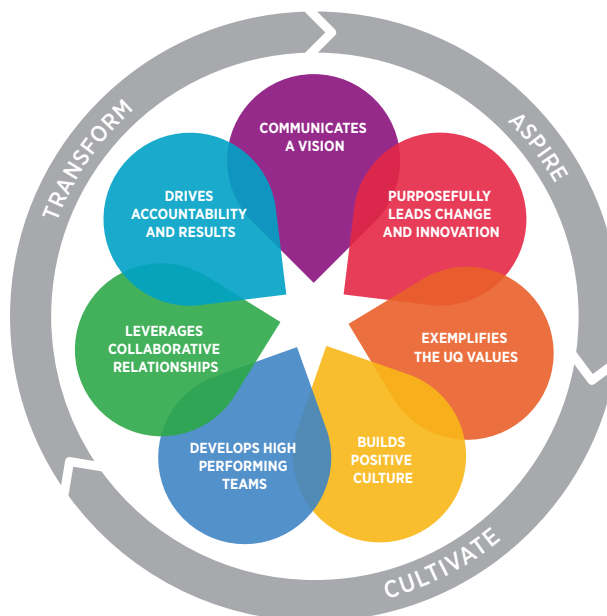


UQ Leadership Framework

As a leader at UQ you are a role model for our values.

Our leaders act with integrity and prioritise the development and growth of our people to ensure excellence for the long term.

The Leadership Framework is underpinned by seven capabilities expected by all UQ leaders.



Aspire

Enact UQ's vision, anticipate change and leverage innovation.

1. Communicates a Vision

Develops and communicates a clear vision and direction for the future, aligned with UQ's vision, values and aspirations.

2. Purposefully leads change and innovation

Remains agile and effectively manages change and unexpected disruption by finding innovative solutions.

Cultivate

Exemplify the UQ values and develop high performing teams and positive culture.

3. Exemplifies the UQ Values

Role models UQ values and demonstrates loyalty to the University.

4. Develops high performing teams

Develops empowered and high performing teams, investing time, energy and resources into helping people achieve their potential.

5. Builds positive culture

Creates respectful and constructive workplaces where people feel safe and valued, and addresses unacceptable behaviours.

Transform

Deliver results that make a difference and create long-term value.

6. Leverages collaborative relationships

Identifies opportunities to collaborate and forges partnerships, embracing the ethos of 'One UQ'.

7. Drives accountability and results

Holds self and others accountable for delivering against objectives and is focused on creating long-term value for UQ.



About Brisbane

Brisbane is the sunny, sophisticated capital city of Queensland and gateway to many famous attractions. Australia's third largest city and fastest-growing capital with a population of more than 2.5 million, it offers a safe, friendly, multicultural environment characterised by the Brisbane River, parklands, convention facilities, museums, theatres, art galleries, a casino, malls, shopping districts, and a host of cosmopolitan restaurants and cafes.

Selected as host city for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, visitors can expect unbeatable sports experiences in 37 world-class venues, set against a backdrop of iconic beachfronts, breath-taking rural hinterland, and an exciting city rich in culture and entertainment.

Brisbane also offers a range of lifestyle benefits. Combine artistic and outdoor adventures at South Bank, where cultural institutions and restaurants meet riverside gardens and a lagoon. Take a paddle steamer or ferry down the Brisbane River, abseil Kangaroo Point cliffs, or bike ride through the City Botanic Gardens. Or enjoy a day trip to Moreton Island, Noosa, the Sunshine Coast or Gold Coast, or visit beautiful national parks, rainforests and tourist attractions such as Australia Zoo, Dreamworld and other theme parks.

The perfect place to raise a family, Brisbane has been dubbed a food and drink lover's paradise, and is also one of Australia's most liveable and affordable capital cities, with sunny days almost all year round and enough rainfall to keep the city and suburbs cool and green.

A few hours drive north from Brisbane is the Great Barrier Reef, one of the 'natural wonders of the world'. As the largest World Heritage Area, it stretches more than 2,000 kilometres alongside the coast, and is home to around 1,500 species of fish and 350 types of coral. Stradbroke and Fraser Islands are also world-famous attractions close to Brisbane, featuring some of the largest sand dunes in the world.

A leader in education

Brisbane has a wide range of high-quality schools at primary and secondary level, religious and non-denominational, single-sex and co-educational, with many offering excellence programs or other specialty features such as the International Baccalaureate. Brisbane also offers some of the greatest learning institutes in Australia, with 3 internationally recognised universities covering all areas of study from law and medicine through to business, marketing, tourism, IT and biotechnology. The University of Queensland (UQ) is one of Australia's leading research and teaching institutes, ranking among the world's top universities.

Lifestyle

In the heart of Brisbane city, Queen Street Mall is a vibrant shopping and lifestyle precinct and is Australia's most popular pedestrian mall. Brisbane is also the home for many of Queensland and Australia's major sporting events in rugby league, rugby union, AFL and cricket.

Brisbane residents have excellent access to health care in both public and private sectors, covering hospitals, general practitioners, dentists, and other allied healthcare professionals. The numerous public and private hospitals include the Princess Alexandra Hospital, the Mater Hospital network, the Queensland Children's Hospital, and the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. Urgent and emergency medical care is readily available to everyone.



Further information

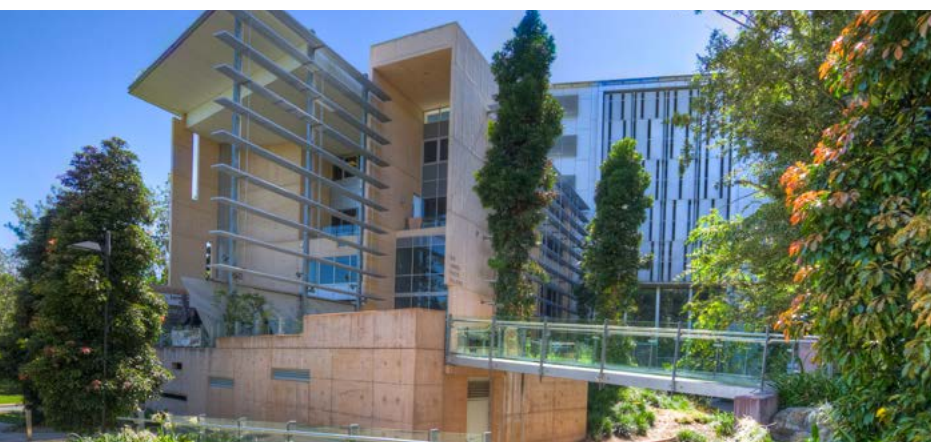
General information on the University is available through the University's website.

Other documents which you may wish to refer to include:

- Annual Report
- Governance and organisational structure
- Key statistics
- Organisational chart
- Research at UQ
- UQ Strategic Plan 2022–2025
- Global Partnerships
- Reconciliation at UQ
- Indigenous Employment Strategy

Other useful links

- Brisbane City Council
- City of Gold Coast
- Moving to Queensland
- Australian Taxation Office





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uq.edu.au