Donor Report 2018-2019
A UQ EAIT Publication

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Your support allows exceptional people to flourish

Like you, we believe that lifelong success is fostered through great education – inspiring students to think differently, ask the difficult questions, be a positive disruptive influence, and fulfil every ounce of their potential.

In 2018, donors directed their support to:

**Transforming teaching and learning**

- $1.64m+ received in 2018
- Lectureships, infrastructure and chairs create and contribute to innovative learning environments

**Empowering student success**

- $660,000+ received in 2018
- Scholarships and prizes to support access to education, residential or travel costs

**Driving discovery and impact**

- $2.76m+ received in 2018
- Research support helps us nurture cross-disciplinary teams who are working towards solving the great challenges facing humanity

**Funds and gifts**

- $5.06m+ funds received
- 470 gifts received
- 222 donors

**The Donor Roll**

Thank you to our alumni and friends who made a gift to the Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology in 2018 and who continue to support the University as well as our students and researchers.

To view the 2018 Donor Roll, please visit eait.uq.edu.au/donor-roll
Thank you for your support

It has almost been a year since I took up the role of Executive Dean for the Faculty and I have been taking the time to reflect upon the year that has been. I have been overwhelmed by the amazing people I have met who are dedicated to supporting our students and research, contributing towards making UQ an organisation that I am proud to be a part of.

Over the last year we have continued to grow our alumni engagement activities, building new communities of alumni, industry and friends, as well as supporting our existing networks, across Australia and internationally.

I have been honoured to meet so many wonderful people who have a genuine fondness for UQ and a real desire to support us to create change. This willingness to make a significant difference through philanthropic support is having a positive impact on our common goal for a better world.

I am very pleased to say that 2018 was another outstanding year for philanthropic support. Your gifts contributed to a number of truly life-changing outcomes – empowering student success, transforming teaching and learning, and driving discovery and impact. Furthermore, you have supported many programs and opportunities that go beyond UQ to influence the wider community, and for this I thank you sincerely.

One example that perhaps highlights this best is the announcement of the extraordinary gift from alumnus Mr Andrew N. Liveris and his wife, Mrs Paula Liveris, who have donated $13.5 million to establish the Liveris Academy at UQ. The Academy will teach and develop future generations of leaders, preparing them to discover and implement technology-driven innovations that address important challenges related to sustainability in a time of dramatic social, technological, economic and environmental change.

Another exceptional highlight for us was the $1.5 million gift from the Trevor and Judith St Baker Family Foundation. This will significantly increase green technology research at UQ and contribute to the discovery of solutions to help reduce global reliance on carbon-based fuels and products.

The philanthropic support we receive from our alumni, staff, industry and friends continues to have significant impact on the opportunities we can make available to our students, researchers and society as a whole.

Your philanthropic support plays an invaluable role in helping us create change and inspire leadership. It also provides us with the ability to continue to cultivate and enrich UQ’s students and researchers, leading to a promising future for generations to come. We are extremely grateful to those of you who have chosen to invest in the future of UQ through your generous financial support.

I hope you enjoying reading about the impact of your generosity.

Sincerely,

Professor Vicki Chen
Executive Dean
Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology
On behalf of the Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology (EAIT), we kindly acknowledge and thank each of our donors and volunteers for the incredible generosity that you have shown over the past year. Your support has allowed us to create opportunities that will make a significant difference to teaching and learning, empowering student success and driving discovery and impact.

Your commitment to advancing education means that our graduates have the opportunity to aspire to more than just getting a job. They will have the learning facilities, support and opportunity to develop into the next generation of leaders in their chosen fields and contributors to solving global issues of our future.

Scholarships continue to provide our gifted, underrepresented and financially disadvantaged students across all disciplines the opportunity to pursue study in their chosen field. We are pleased to report that in 2018, thanks to your contributions, scholarships and prizes available to students increased, meaning more bright minds will now have the financial support to access a world class education regardless of their backgrounds. We were delighted, for example, to establish a new residential scholarship and to set up a fund that will help students from remote areas study engineering thanks to a group of our alumni in Western Australia coming together.

Funding for research makes possible ground-breaking discoveries and the ability to transform those discoveries into meaningful actions that will impact the life of future generations. Highlights in 2018 include an extraordinary gift from the Hull Family to establish an endowment fund to support early career research in perpetuity and the development of a new process to turn waste glass into every day products which could save millions of tons of glass from entering landfill.

Endowments are very important to UQ. The invested funds provide a reliable and growing source of income in perpetuity that enables our researchers to continue to make discoveries, some of which have the potential to be life changing and globally impactful. An endowment can serve as a permanent tribute to you and extend your values for future generations.

Philanthropy makes all of this possible and by donating to the Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology you’re setting an example which helps us to continue to build a culture that will inspire generosity in the UQ community for generations to come.

Thank you.
## 2019 Events Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 18 June  | Women in Engineering  
‘Powering Ahead: Influencing Change and Driving Personal Success’ | Aurecon, 25 King St, Fortitude Valley  
*Keynote:* Dr Jillian Kenny, Founding Director, Machinam, Co-Founder of Power of Engineering |
| 8 July   | Leaders of Influence eMobility  
Customs House, Brisbane | *Keynote:* Mr Maurits van Camp, Director of Research and Innovation, Umicore                  |
| 29 Aug   | Brisbane Alumni Drinks                                              |                                                                                              |
| 12 Sep   | Leaders of Influence Brisbane  
Customs House, Brisbane | *Keynote:* Dr David Noon, Co-Founder and COO, GroundProbe                                   |
| 10 Oct   | Celebrating Philanthropy  
Global Change Institute                                                 |                                                                                              |
| 19 Oct   | Engineering Reunion Day  
UQ St Lucia campus                                                      |                                                                                              |
| 23 Oct   | Leaders of Influence Sydney  
 Establishment, Sydney  
*Keynote:* Mr Mick McCormack, CEO and Managing Director, APA Group    |                                                                                              |
| 14 Nov   | Women in Engineering: Celebrating Diversity Cocktail  
Reception  
Customs House, Brisbane |                                                                                              |
| 29 Nov   | Brisbane Alumni Drinks                                              |                                                                                              |

The dates and details of these events may change. To stay up-to-date and to register for upcoming events, please visit eait.uq.edu.au/alumni-events
We want to continue to ensure the best and brightest minds in Australia are given optimal opportunity to be part of the global knowledge economy in the transport sector, and to shape a sustainable future.
Fellowship funding charges sustainable transport

E-Mobility Visiting Fellowship

The Trevor and Judith St Baker Family Foundation donated $1.5 million to fund a visiting fellowship at The University of Queensland – a gift that will advance environmentally friendly transport options.

Mr St Baker is renowned for his investments in innovative technologies that are environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial.

Since founding one of Australia’s largest energy retail and generation companies, ERM Power Limited from an energy consulting practice and family-owned enterprise, Mr St Baker has gone on to fund innovative companies that are moulding the future of power in Australia.

Mr St Baker said he believed Australia’s transition to a sustainable low-emission electronically driven energy industry required a wider range of research, development and technological leadership.

“The electrification of the transport sector has the potential to radically change how people procure and manage energy resources for all their needs,” he said.

“We want to continue to ensure the best and brightest minds in Australia are given optimal opportunity to be part of the global knowledge economy in the transport sector, and to shape a sustainable future.”

A long-term supporter of UQ, in 2017 Mr St Baker became a board member for UQ’s Not If, When philanthropic campaign which aims to raise $500m for priority projects by the end of 2020.

“My wife Judith and I are proud to support an initiative that will promote international collaboration and growth in a sustainable energy industry in Australia,” he said.

UQ Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Høj said the gift would accelerate Brisbane’s position as a hub of electric vehicle charging technology and manufacturing.

“Thanks to the generosity of Trevor and Judith St Baker, UQ will continue to develop promising green energy technology here in Brisbane,” he said.

“The visiting fellow will contribute to the global research initiative Rapid Switch Project, finding solutions to help reduce global reliance on carbon-based fuels and products.

“This partnership exemplifies the cross-disciplinary nature of the green technology research that UQ is involved in alongside our partners in education, industry and philanthropy.”

The e-Mobility Visiting Fellowship is proposed to be named after Tritium, a Brisbane-based e-mobility company and manufacturer of electric vehicle chargers, of which Mr St Baker is the chairman.

Tritium exports to 24 countries, but its manufacturing has remained in Brisbane, providing opportunities for a wide-range of professionals developing technologies for the uptake of e-mobility.

The St Baker Energy Innovation Fund, UQ and Tritium will collaborate to help make the fellowship a success.
Alumni focus generous gift on early career researchers

Hull Family Early Career Research Fund

University of Queensland alumni, John and Gay Hull have been generous supporters of research at UQ for almost a decade. Their philanthropy, focused on early career researchers in biomedical and structural engineering, has helped to provide opportunities for talented and creative researchers, taking their projects to new heights.

A million-dollar gift from the couple in 2018 has contributed to the development of innovative technology and methods to benefit the health of our society.

Their support ensures proof of concept findings and prototypes can be leveraged to apply for more substantial funding and larger-scale application, setting young researchers on a path to future success.

John and Gay decided to establish an endowment fund to support early career research in perpetuity, ensuring their gift will make a meaningful – and ongoing – contribution to UQ’s philanthropic Campaign to Create Change and, in particular, with its priorities of driving discovery and impact.

The couple said it was important to them to donate to UQ researchers, as both John and Gay, as well as all their children, are graduates of the University.

“We have chosen the field of biomedical research because of the potential benefits to the quality of people’s lives,” said Mr and Mrs Hull.

John and son, Graham, are both involved in the civil engineering construction industry and wished to encourage further research in this area.

Civil engineering researcher Dr Juan Hidalgo is one of the beneficiaries of the Hull family’s donation.

“My research is focused on the development of guidelines for the fire-safe use and design of engineered timber structures in mid and high-rise buildings,” he said.

“This funding has enabled me to develop fire tests of timber compartments to study the self-extinction phenomenon.”

Associate Dean (Research) Professor Stuart Crozier said the Faculty has already seen excellent outcomes from the projects funded by the Hull family’s donations in the past, and a number of these have had success in larger federal grant schemes.

“I am extremely grateful for this type of opportunity and the trust put on me to develop useful research to improve the safety of the built environment.”
Star students welcomed with open arms

UQ Women in Engineering

Australian engineering companies committed to a more equitable gender balance for the engineering industry are reaping the rewards of their efforts to help build and support the pipeline of female talent entering the field.

UQ’s Women in Engineering (WE) team has worked with engineering industry giants Rio Tinto and Ergon Energy Network and Energeex, as part of the Energy Queensland Group, as well as Australian Power Institute and Powerlink Queensland to present engineering-related degrees as an attractive tertiary study option to girls in high schools across Queensland and beyond.

Support from industry partners, in the form of funding, mentorship opportunities and workforce pathways for young women striving for engineering careers, has prompted a steady increase in women participating in undergraduate engineering studies at UQ and in-turn pursuing careers in engineering.

UQ is at the head of the pack among Australian universities, increasing the number of female engineering students beginning their programs in semester one 2019 to 24.8 per cent, compared to the national average of approximately 18 per cent.

The WE program was established seven years ago, as the first of its kind in Australia, to address gender disparity at both tertiary and industry levels.

The program continues to grow: in the first quarter of 2019, the WE team and student leaders engaged with over 1000 female high school students – more than the total for all of 2017, and triple the number of the same quarter last year.

Energy Queensland’s Chief Transformation Officer, Belinda Watton said the company was proud of their efforts to inspire the next generation of engineers to work in the evolving energy industry.

“We believe for any industry to survive nowadays they need to meet and exceed the expectations of community which of course is made up of a wide demographical base,” Ms Watton said.

“We identified this many years ago and right across our business we have people of all ages, genders and from every corner of the globe in technical to senior leadership roles ensuring our business remains attuned to the community’s changing needs.”

Rio Tinto Senior Manager Strategic Mine and Resources Planning, Jo-Anne Dudley, said Rio Tinto recognised the importance of technical expertise as well as diversity in their workplaces.

“For that reason we invest in initiatives like the UQ Women in Engineering program to ensure a constant intake of quality technical people,” Ms Dudley said.

“We continue this investment once graduates join Rio Tinto, coordinating ongoing professional opportunities through our technical Centres of Excellence.”

For more information about the Women in Engineering program and how to engage with us, please visit www.eait.uq.edu.au/we
PhD student shatters waste glass problem

The Warwick and Nancy Olsen PhD Scholarship

While thousands of tonnes of glass continue to end up in landfill or stockpiled in warehouses around Australia, a UQ PhD student has developed a new chemical engineering process to take waste glass and turn it into something useful.

Rhys Pirie’s interest in circular economies led him to look at ways of using silicates in agriculture and crop nutrition. It was while carrying out this research, he and Professor Damien Batstone found an affordable and affective way to extract silicate from glass, an ingredient that is used in thousands of everyday products.

“My PhD has highlighted that to create circular economies, we need to find economic ways of making use of waste; both the raw materials in the waste and the energy embodied in it during the manufacturing process,” he said.

“That’s what this process does and we’re pretty confident that it will create positive, far-reaching and virtuous economic cycles.”

UQ’s commercialisation company UniQuest filed a patent covering Rhys and Damien’s process and soon received a number of enquiries from potential commercial partners and industry.

Rhys was a recipient of the Warwick and Nancy Olsen PhD scholarship, which financially supported him and allowed him to take his research to the next level. He says without it; his research success might not have been possible.

“I was extremely relieved and incredibly grateful when I learned I had been awarded this scholarship,” Rhys says.

“I had finished up at my part-time job the week before I found out about the scholarship. At the time, I wasn’t sure how I was going to keep afloat financially, but I knew I couldn’t juggle work and full-time study any longer.”

The Warwick and Nancy Olsen Scholarship was established in 2011 to support a Higher Degree by Research candidate in the field of biochemical engineering, with an emphasis on using under-utilised natural resources in a manner deemed to be beneficial to humanity.

New Zealand-based chemical engineer, Mr Olsen said he understands all too well the frustrations of a lack of financial support during a student’s time at university.

“I had always wanted to earn a PhD myself, but I could never afford to do so,” Mr Olsen said.

“It’s great to see what Rhys has achieved with the support of this scholarship. Being able to obtain a patent for his research is an endowment of real value for the whole economy and I would encourage others to become significant donors.”

“We need to find economic ways of making use of waste; both the raw materials in the waste and the energy embodied in it during the manufacturing process.”
25-year plan to reach the stars

Indigenous Tertiary Scholarship and InspireU Scholarship

Sitting inside the cold metal of an aircraft simulator, illuminated by the light of the Boeing Research & Technology – Australia sign, engineering student David Corporal explains how each apparatus contributes to achieving flight.

While independent flight is still a long way off for this aspiring astronaut, he is nearing completion of the first major milestone — graduating with a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Mechanical Engineering) from UQ.

“Space exploration offers immense value to humankind, not only through the discovery of resources, materials and medicines, but in the scientific discoveries that underpin spaceflight,” he said.

“To be one of the few people to be physically involved in these initiatives would be a great privilege.”

David first discovered his dream to become an astronaut after coming across a video of then-commander of the International Space Station Chris Hadfield.

“I discovered that it takes about 25 years to become an astronaut,” he said.

“So I sat down and developed a 25-year plan.”

The gruelling and competitive journey to becoming an astronaut has been successfully completed by only three Australians to date and if successful, David would become the first Indigenous Australian to walk this path.

One of the first components of this plan involved earning an engineering Bachelor’s degree from a leading Australian tertiary institution.

However, one of the biggest initial hurdles was being able to juggle work and study commitments to secure the grades he’d need to pursue this path.

Coming from a family who supported his dream but who did not have great means would have ordinarily meant David would need a part-time job to fund his time at university.

“It’s the cost of things like food, transport to university, textbooks and equipment that I needed to account for.”

Through the support of an industry scholarship and the InspireU program David was able to work less during semester so he could focus on his studies.

“I didn’t think much of it at the time, but I want to tell you in retrospect what that meant for me,” he said.

“By not needing to work as much, I was able to both focus on my studies and get more involved in campus culture through extracurricular activities.”

This involvement led to an internship at Boeing where, among other things, he is working on robotics and programming to develop and test space rovers for his thesis.

He was also able to take on additional responsibilities as a student representative and delegate on UQ’s Reconciliation Action Plan, and even earned a place on the UQ Cheer Squad, which came second in nationals last year.

“All these things paralleled my university studies, and I think, are just as valuable as the engineering skills I learnt,” he said.

“They taught me how to work in diverse groups of people who don’t always see eye to eye,” he said.

David said the opportunities he was afforded by his scholarship have been irreplaceable.

“Education is one of the greatest gifts that you can give someone,” he said.

“I want to say thank you to these people for nourishing me and the other scholarship recipients.”

In addition to thanking the benefactors of his scholarship, David said it was the love and encouragement of his parents that eased his path to university.

“I think that the paths we walk in life are paved by the people who came before us – and the path I walk today was laid by the determination, hard work, and sacrifice of my parents.”
Priority giving funds

Women in Action Fund

**Diversity**

The Women in Action Fund supports female engineering, design and technology students to engage in community and industry-based experiences through study tours, student exchange, and short-term professional and personal development experiences. By mobilising our best and brightest female talent, we nurture young women who aspire to careers in these fields, and encourage diversity beyond the university environment.

eait.uq.edu.au/women-action-fund

ICT Alumni Advantage Scholarship

**Information and communication technology**

Aimed at promoting diversity within the School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering, this scholarship program focuses on encouraging students from non-traditional backgrounds into ICT programs, with a particular focus on attracting female students, rural and Indigenous Australians, and students from low socio-economic backgrounds.

itee.uq.edu.au/ict-scholarship

Innovations in Water – Research Start-Up Fund

**Advanced Water Management Centre**

The Innovations in Water Fund was established to enable UQ alumni, industry partners and friends who are passionate about making a difference to our ‘water future’ to philanthropically support the next generation of emerging talent. Funds raised will be used to support outstanding postgraduate and early-career researchers to translate their innovative ideas into applied research projects under the guidance of leading academic and professional experts.

awmc.uq.edu.au/innovations-water-research-startup-fund

RJ ‘Gus’ Wiles Scholarship Endowment Fund

**Chemical engineering**

In honour of our friend, colleague and valued teacher, UQ seeks philanthropic support that will see Gus’s legacy live on in perpetuity as part of the UQ Chemical Engineering student experience. Established in 2010, the RJ ‘Gus’ Wiles Scholarship Endowment Fund enables two annual travel scholarships to be offered to talented but financially disadvantaged students for overseas study opportunities.

chemeng.uq.edu.au/gus-wiles
Electrical Engineering Alumni Advantage Scholarship

Electrical engineering

The Electrical Engineering Alumni Advantage Scholarships are making a difference to the lives of aspiring electrical engineers. These are designed to encourage and support students where financial, gender, geographic or cultural disadvantage are a barrier to aspiring to tertiary studies. Scholarships are awarded to successful candidates to reduce financial burden, enabling deserving and talented students to more fully focus on their studies and realise their potential at UQ.

itee.uq.edu.au/ee-scholarship

John Simmons Student Mobility Fund

Mechanical and mining engineering

Whether it is participating in the International Mining Games, heading overseas on an internship, or launching a new student society, the John Simmons Student Mobility Fund will have a huge impact on the lives of young people with drive and ideas in the School of Mechanical and Mining Engineering. The fund is used to distribute small annual grants to help undergraduate students get more from the extracurricular activities that make university such a life-changing experience.

mechmining.uq.edu.au/john-simmons-student-mobility-fund

UQ Social Outreach Studio Fund

Architecture

The UQ Social Outreach Studio Fund supports current architecture students to deliver real benefits to people facing social or economic disadvantage through great design solutions. Funds will be used to assist students with the cost of materials, travel, exhibitions and community reporting in program areas undertaken in rural, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Pacific Island communities.

architecture.uq.edu.au/giving

The Icarus Program

Civil engineering

Not all students respond to education in the same way. The Icarus Program within the School of Civil Engineering blends traditional civil engineering learning with research-focused projects, providing an alternative pathway for students whose learning needs and interests extend beyond a traditional classroom environment. Philanthropic support at all levels will play an important role helping to develop the program now and into the future.

civil.uq.edu.au/icarus/support-icarus