THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA
CREATE CHANGE

# UQ Researcher Forum

8 December 2020

# **Acknowledgment** of Country

The University of Queensland (UQ) acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands on which we meet.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors and their descendants, who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country.

We recognise their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.

# Welcome!

- **An overview of research at UQ**
  - *Professor Bronwyn Harch*
    Deputy Vice-Chancellor
    (Research and Innovation)
- **IP Changes and Commercialisation Pathways**
  - *Professor Mark Blows*
    Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)
  - *Dr Mark Ashton*
    Executive Director
    Commercialisation UniQuest

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# Research at UQ

Professor Bronwyn Harch
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation)

# **A top 50** global university

***U.S. News*** **Best Global Universities**

**Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers**

**QS World University Ranking**

**Academic Ranking of World Universities**

***Times Higher Education* World University Ranking**

*Improvement in rank from previous assessment period in green*

# Research and Innovation: Strategic Imperatives

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| | |
|---|---|
| **Enhancing High Quality & Impactful Research** | • Renowned and ranked for excellence and impact<br>• Trusted research practice<br>• Designing for impact through transdisciplinary practice |
| **Entwined Partnerships** | • Sector focused @ scale<br>• Trusted advisors renowned for “client focus” and delivering valuable outcomes<br>• Flexible models to mobilise our know-how and IP |
| **State-of-the-Art Infrastructure** | • Empowering users to deliver world-class impactful outcomes<br>• Build TeamQLD approaches for attracting investment and delivering equal access for QLD researchers<br>• Develop research capability to amplify investment |
| **Game Changing Researcher Development** | • Positive experiences with “student/supervisor focus”<br>• Industry informed & engaged<br>• Nurturing research leadership & leaders |
| **Facilitating the Research Enterprise** | • Empowering UQ’s research community (systems; policies; procedures)<br>• Showcasing & celebrating achievements of individuals and teams<br>• Nurturing agile and resilient research support teams |

CRICOS code 00025B

# The Research & Innovation Portfolio at UQ will be renowned for its:

partnering mindset, enabling and supporting research excellence and impact

a culture of collaboration that connects, convenes, catalyses

and is underpinned by the fundamental strengths of UQ capabilities (disciplines, infrastructure and networks)

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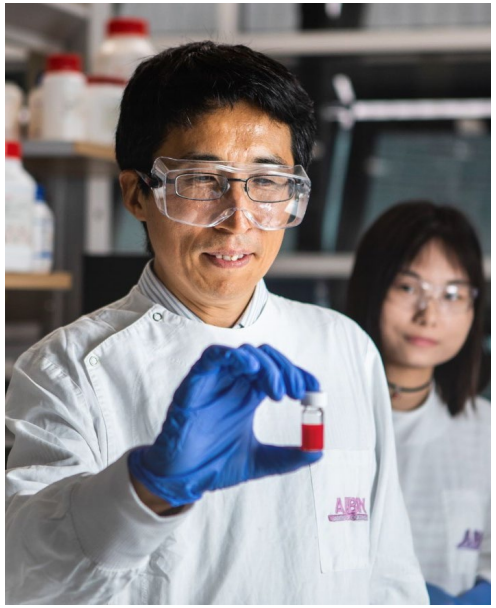
# High Quality & Impactful Research

# 2020 Research Outcomes - UQ Research has Impact

## Environment

*Mysterious 'quantum dots' to revolutionise solar energy*



## Society

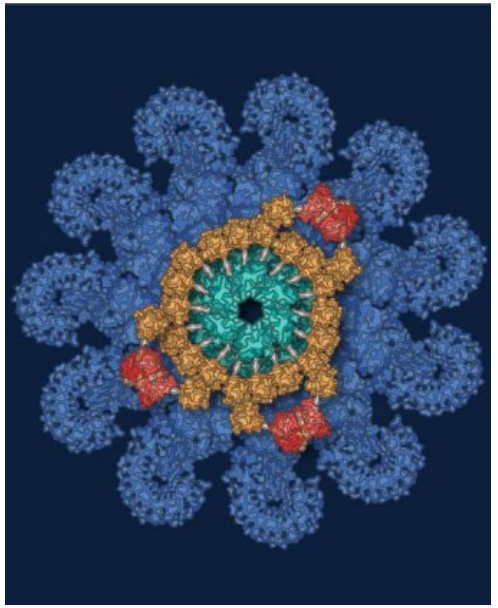
*Tackling disadvantaged children's education post-COVID*

## Culture

*Navigating Indigenous native title claims with research*

## Economic

*Landmark deal for UQ-Trinity inflammation startup*



# UQ Highly Cited Researchers 2020

- UQ received **34 Highly Cited Researcher Awards** in 2020 (32 unique HCRs)
- There are **32 UQ HCRs in 2020**, up from 28 in 2019
- Two researchers both achieved HCR status in two separate subject areas

  Biology & Biochemistry and Microbiology; Chemistry and Materials Science
- There are **8 new UQ entrants**, representing 25% of our 2020 list
- The biggest growth for UQ was in the **Cross Field category**

  The subject categories Environment & Ecology and Molecular Biology & Genetics are also well-represented

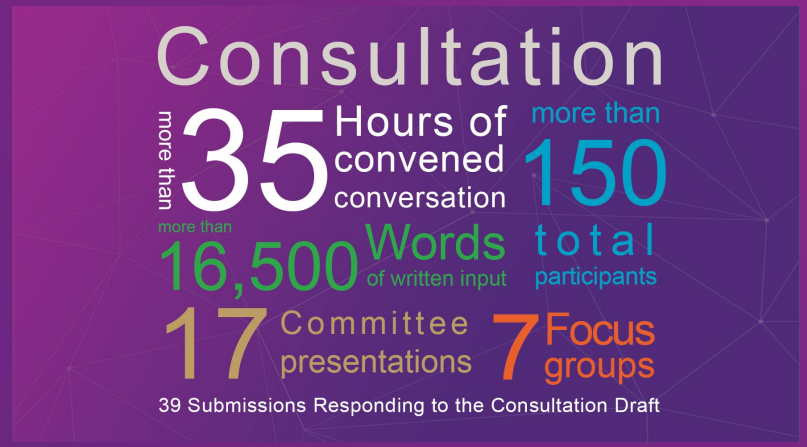
*HCRs are researchers who have published a significant number of highly cited papers. Researchers can become HCRs in 21 distinct subject areas or across multiple subjects; the latter are referred to as 'Cross Field' HCRs, a new category introduced in 2018.*

*To become an HCR, a researcher must have published several Highly Cited Publications (HCPs); the exact number required varies between subjects and depends on the number of researchers in that discipline.*

*An HCP is defined as a publication in the top 1% most cited in its field and year of publication. The HCP's subject is based on the subject category of the journal in which it was published. The 2020 HCR list is based on articles published between 2008 and 2018 that were in the top 1% most cited as of January 2019.*

# Celebrating Success of 2020

- Development of the UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and Innovation Strategy



**Global Change Institute**

- Innovation brokers deployed
- Global Change Research Networks
- Impact Community of Practice catalysed

**Ethics** and **Integrity** merged for ‘one stop shop’ in education and training

Delivering better service, higher quality and more impactful research

- Renowned and ranked for excellence and impact
- Trusted research practice
- Designing for impact through transdisciplinary practice

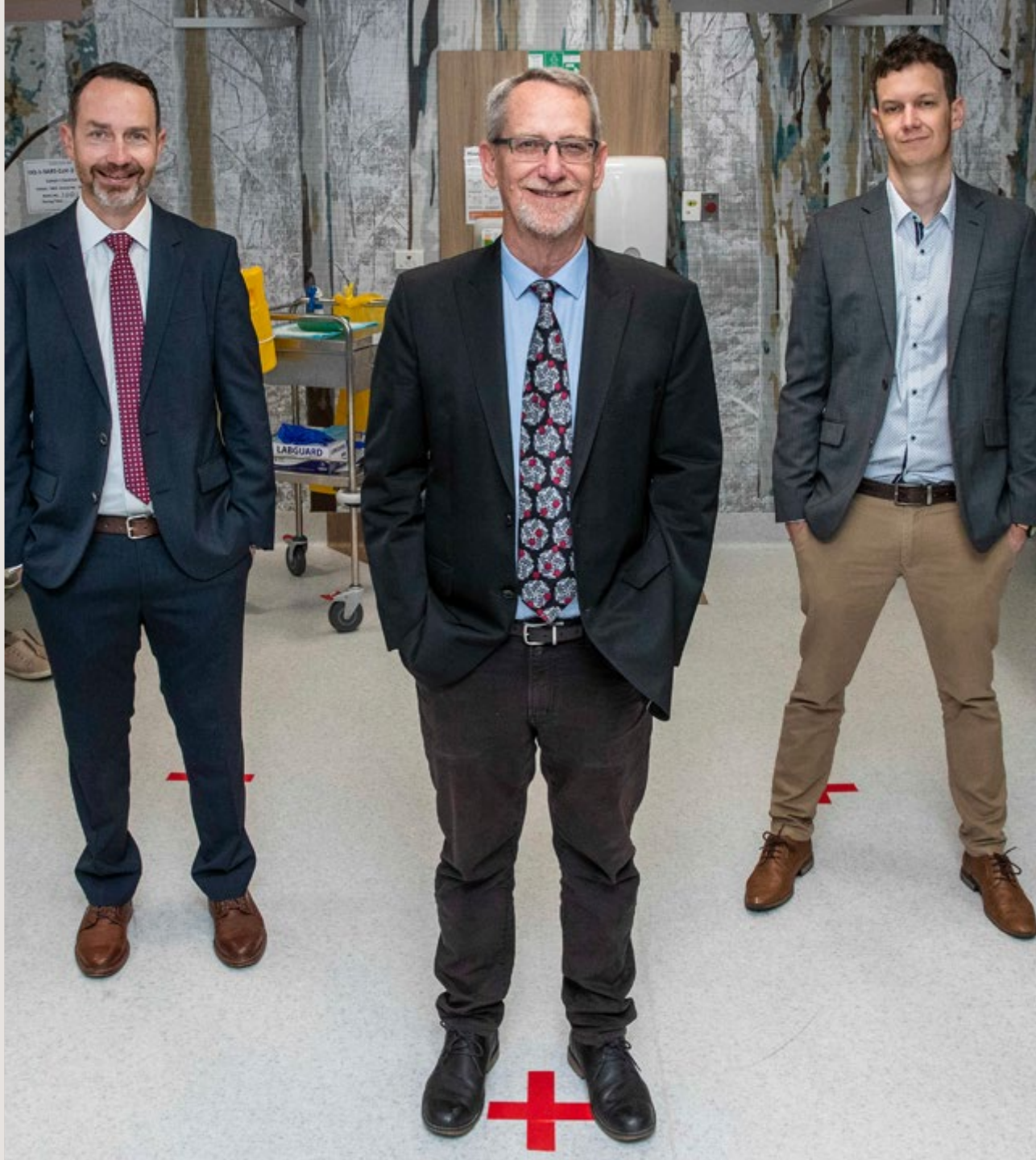
# Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research – 2020 PVCIE Successes

- 110% increase in Indigenous academic employment (2016-2020)
- 250% increase in Indigenous HDR numbers (2016-2020)
- Indigenous-led research grants/fellowships (2020)
  - ARC Indigenous Discovery: 5
  - NHMRC: 2
  - NCSEHE: 2
  - APPRISE COVID: 3
  - Amplify: 2

**Acknowledgement:** Digital reproduction of A Guidance Through Time by Casey Coolwell and Kyra Mancktelow.

# 2020 Research Support

- >8000 active research projects
- >700 new research projects approved in 2020
- >1300 staff continued critical work on campus during COVID-19 lockdown including staff who
  - Cared for live organisms
  - Maintained critical physical infrastructure
  - Continued COVID-19-related research
- ~80 COVID-19-related projects have begun in 2020




UQ's COVID Vaccine team: Professor Trent Munro, Professor Paul Young and Associate Professor Keith Chappell

# 2020 Research Funding highlights

**Sponsored Research:** Connecting & optimising services. Supporting pipeline development of large scale bids

## ARC Discovery Indigenous Projects

- UQ #1 nationally, with the largest number of awards, and the highest total funding ($4,091,000)
- UQ awarded largest total project value ($1,776,000) and highest average project value ($1,363,666)
- UQ was awarded TWO five-year projects, and ONE three-year project
- UQ applied for two Discovery Australian Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Award - awarded both!
- Total of $30,404,995 awarded to Discovery Indigenous Projects over the past 5 years (2017-2021). Of this, UQ received $5,066,000 (17%of funding pool) resulting in the most funding received nationally over 5 years

## ARC Linkage Projects (for funding in 2020)

- UQ #1 nationally for number awarded (26) and $ awarded ($12.8M)
- For funding in 2021 - two more funding announcements for this scheme; full results in June-ish 2021, *but:*
  - For the LP20 round to date, UQ is currently equal 2nd nationally for number of successful applications (5) and 3rd nationally for total ARC funding awarded ($2,490,517)

# 2020 Research Funding highlights (cont.)

## National Fellowships

UQ still cumulatively #1 for $$ across all current ARC Fellowship schemes

(Laureates, Future Fellowships and DECRA) across all relevant scheme years

| | 2009 to 2021 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Institution | Total Apps | Total Success | Total Success Rate | Total $ Awarded |
| Adelaide | 863 | 160 | 18.54% | $104,487,146 |
| ANU | 1658 | 412 | 24.85% | $280,544,723 |
| Melbourne | 2115 | 421 | 19.91% | $283,079,736 |
| Monash | 1791 | 377 | 21.05% | $244,562,062 |
| UNSW | 1807 | 361 | 19.98% | $248,996,067 |
| UQ | **2032** | **453** | **22.29%** | **$316,334,652** |
| Sydney | 1653 | 331 | 20.02% | $221,968,370 |
| UWA | 923 | 167 | 18.09% | $116,561,313 |

### Future Fellowships (FT21)

- UQ #3 nationally #s number (11) and $ awarded ($10,128,304)

### DECRA (DE21) – announced this year

- UQ #3 nationally for $ awarded ($9,114,200)

### NHMRC Ideas Grants (for funding in 2021)

- UQ #2 nationally for #s awarded (29; Monash/UOM ahead of UQ)
- UQ #3 nationally for $ awarded ($24,986,862; Monash/UOM ahead of us)
- Impressive achievement given the power and might of southern states in health and biomedical research!

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# Global Change Institute

# GCI Mission and Vision

## Mission

To harness UQ research excellence to form partnerships with industry, government and the community to address grand challenges and **deliver impact** to the world.

## Vision

GCI's vision is to be a collaborative solutions hub, renowned for promoting global change by:

- Solving complex problems through **transdisciplinary collaboration**
- Delivering impact by **nurturing the research impact capabilities of researchers**
- **Inspiring researchers to recognise pathways** for problem focused research practice
- Facilitating dialogue that is **inclusive and harnesses diverse perspectives**

# What does success look like?

- We harness UQs **research excellence** to address **societal challenges**
- Foster the development of problem-based **research networks** that are strongly engaged with (investing and influencing) stakeholders and develop impact pathways and outcomes which are measurable
- Build major research **funding bids** and outcomes around **research networks**
- Stakeholders believe our research delivers **benefits**
- Academics believe we have made it **easier** for them to do impactful research
- UQ's **approach to impact** is renowned
- Wide **participation** from across UQ (disciplines and portfolios)

# UQ research has **impact**

**From science and sustainability to health and humanities – right across the world, every day.**

**Building better bioeconomies**

**Achieving resilient environments and livelihoods**

**Designing technology for tomorrow**

**Transforming societies**

**Leading healthy lives**

# Entwined Partnerships

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# Celebrating Success of 2020

Total research agreements

- **Research income** has increased
- Average monetary **value of research projects** has increased compared with each of the previous 4 years
- Full complement of **Research Contract Officers** have been appointed and are working well
- **UQ Energy TestLab** was formally opened in November - Siemens as Foundational Partner
- Many **IndustryConnect** events conducted - Thales, Stanwell, Infosys, Google, etc
- 2019 Survey of Commercialisation Outcomes from Public Research (SCOPR) confirms **UQ leads the University sector** in translating research outcomes through commercialization

- Sector focused @ scale
- Trusted advisors renowned for “client focus” and delivering valuable outcomes
- Flexible models to mobilise our know-how and IP

# UQ Research Capability Strengths

## Enabling

1. Biomedical and Clinical Sciences
2. Business Transformation
3. Digital Technology
4. Social Change
5. Environment

## Sector focused

6. Agribusiness
7. Materials and Advanced Manufacturing
8. Defence, Cyber and Space
9. Energy, Water and Resources
10. Public and Allied Health

# State-of-the-art Infrastructure

# Celebrating Success of 2020

### Research Computing Centre

Launched the IBM@UQ Centre of Excellence & Innovation in September; Key support of the COVID-19 vaccine work

### UQ Biological Resources

Daily care of >50,000 animals during lockdown while still delivering of a new database and the provision of space for PC3

### Centre for Microscopy & Microanalysis

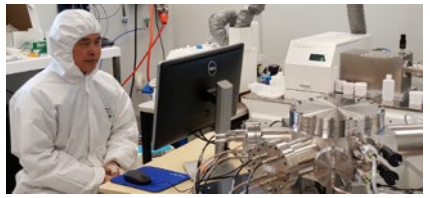
CyroTEM up and running; will soon deliver an Australian first subcellular cryogenic imaging mass spectrometer as well as leading XPS

### TetraQ

Played a key role in the UQ COVID-19 vaccine trial with rat toxicity studies and analytical services

### Genome Innovation Hub

Development of many software packages and research protocols that will continue to be used by many researchers



### Centre for Geoanalytical Mass Spectrometry

Research probed dugong diets and the fates of metals in important mining/oil fields

- Empowering users to deliver world-class impactful outcomes
- Build TeamQLD approaches for attracting investment and delivering equal access for QLD researchers
- Develop research capability to amplify investment

# Celebrating Success of 2020

## Centre for Advanced Imaging

Won a major grant from the Australian Cancer Research Foundation for the development of radiometals for cancer therapy

PEF
PROTEIN EXPRESSION FACILITY

## Protein Expression Facility

Rapid response on bioproduction of SARS-CoV-2 proteins for Queensland Government

## Pinjarra Hills Research Facility

Critical work done to develop vaccines for cattle as well as product development from microalgae

## IMB Sequencing Facility

Delivery of the first in Australian Sequel II long read capability in partnership with AGRF

## Glasshouses

Supported research on >300,000 plants

## Marine Stations

Heron Solar Power Station completed in August, UQ's 1st off-grid solar power project

tern
Ecosystem Research Infrastructure

Will provide standardised ecological monitoring protocols and systems for data collections, storage and management

National Imaging Facility

Impending delivery of new imaging capability at UQ and at other nodes in Australia

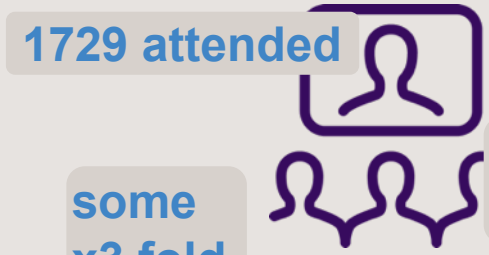
# Game Changing Researcher Development

# Celebrating Success of 2020

## HDR Commencements

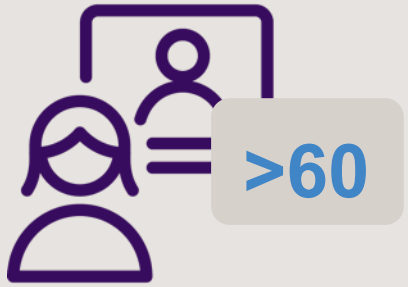
Preserving a strong pipeline of HDR programs

## HDR Career Development Sessions




Helping students prepare for the future

## Remote HDR Placements




Providing more opportunities for HDR students

## Advisor Development Program

Developing high quality Advisors

- Positive experiences with “student/ supervisor focus”
- Industry informed & engaged
- Nurturing research leadership & leaders

# Facilitating the Research Enterprise

# Celebrating Success of 2020

## Research Management Business Transformation (RMBT) Program

- ✓ Research Data Manager (RDM): *completed*
- ✓ Digital Research Notebook (DRN): *completed*
- MyResearch:
  - **Ethics** designed/built/tested. **Live – 27 Jan 2021**
  - **Projects** Pre-award & post-award design & analysis
- HDR Candidature Management System: *staged roll-out of initial enhancements*
- Research Infrastructure Management System (RIMS): Integration stage. *Pilot due: early 2021*

- Empowering UQ's research community (systems; policies; procedures)
- Showcasing & celebrating achievements of individuals and teams
- Nurturing agile and resilient research support teams

# UQ's 2021 Priorities

# 2021 Challenges

**Retaining & attracting talented researchers.**

- Are we seeing performance impacts from Out-Transfers of Fellows during 2012 to 2017? A net loss of 52 (18.6%) fellows.

**Maintaining our success in grants and industry income.**

- How do we continue to improve grant outcomes and industry facing bid proposals?

**Integrated & purposeful “research partnership” function & capability.**

- How do we support strategic research and strategic impact partnerships?

**Integrated & purposeful “research and innovation” marketing & communication responding to research & innovation strategy.**

- How do we better promote our successes and capability strengths?

**In your view: what challenges are missing?**

## Challenges:

Difficulties faced while trying to reach goals and targets.

# 2021 Opportunities

**Research Support Package short term funding for 2021-2022 (~$96m to UQ) to target strategic investments.**

- How is this funding best invested to minimise impacts of COVID-19 on UQ's research performance?

**Queensland Government has significant COVID-19 budget constraints.**

- What new ways of engaging and partnering with the Queensland Government can ensure investment from Australian Government schemes into Queensland? I.e. Defence, Space, Agtech/AgriBusiness, Vaccine Response, Advanced Manufacturing, etc.

**Momentum built by the Global Change Institute (GCI) through Innovation Brokers & Global Change Research Networks.**

- How do we scale engagement and success in securing investment via large scale transdisciplinary funding proposals?

**Evolving the 'institute model' to enhance porosity via joint initiatives with faculties.**

- Ideas?

**In your view: *What opportunities are missing?***

## Opportunities:

A time or set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something.

# Research Support Package (RSP)

**~$96M for UQ** – to be strategically spent over 2 years:

- **$20M** – distributed to faculties and institutes as earnt (as per Research Block Grant).
- **$20M** – VC Research Fellowship Fund
- **$56M** – VC Strategic Research Funds – to be used for research staff salaries, research projects and infrastructure, examples may include
  - Alliance and Precinct incentives
  - Research infrastructure
  - UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and Innovation Strategy initiatives
  - Capacity building

The Australian Government is injecting an additional $1B through the RSP in 2021 to alleviate the immediate financial pressures on universities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

# 2021 Opportunities

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**In your view: *What opportunities are missing?***

## Opportunities:

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# 2021 Key Priorities

**Implementation of strategic initiatives.**

- VC's Research Fellowship Scheme (RSP)
- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Research and Innovation Strategy.
- ***What other targeted strategic investments are needed?***

**Progressing strategic research alliances.**

- Related to Defence, Space, Agtech/AgriBusiness, Space, Vaccine Response, Advanced Manufacturing.

**Progressing Research & Innovation Precinct strategies**

- Herston, Boggo Road/Princess Alexandra Hospital, AgriFood Connect (Toowoomba).

**Research infrastructure strategic planning**

- Particularly for aging assets at Gatton, Long Pocket and Pinjarra Hills.
- Synthetic Biology and Digital Humanities (NCRIS).

**Research Partnerships function and capability review.**

- Ensuring alignment of strategic partnership intent amongst Research & Innovation, External Engagement and UniQuest.

**Effective implementation of research systems to empower researchers and optimise the research enterprise.**

- MyResearch, Research Infrastructure Management System (RIMS), and Raiser's Edge (for research partnerships).

## Key Priorities:

Things that are regarded as more important than others.

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# IP changes & commercialisation pathways

Professor Mark Blows
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)

Dr Mark Ashton
Executive Director of Commercialisation, UniQuest

# New IP policy and procedure; Changes

- **HDR candidates assign** any future IP to the University as a condition of enrolment
- **New category of IP:** Other public value IP to facilitate non-commercial benefits of UQ research
- **Evaluation of IP:** clarification of process and time frame to 1st decision
- **New process to manage IP related issues:** pathway review and dispute resolution
- **Inclusion of 'creative works'** with scholarly works
- **Strengthened the position of Indigenous Knowledges holders** (consultation with PVCIE and SME)
- **Clarification of book royalties** being exempt from splits; to be received in private capacity

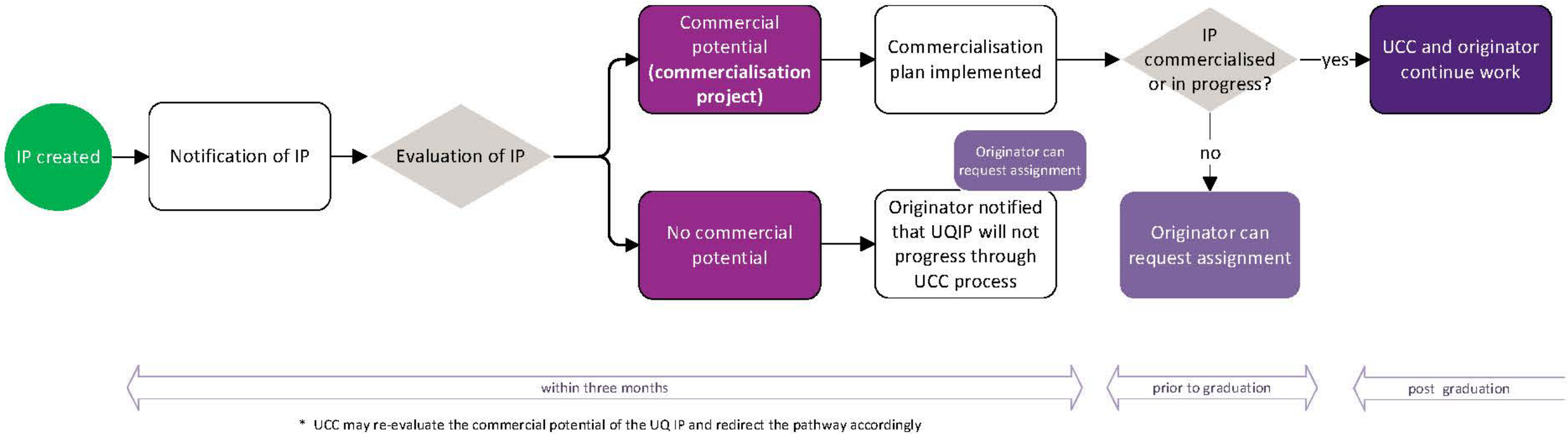
# HDR candidate IP

- Assign IP to UQ as condition of admission to the HDR Program
- Will retain copyright in their theses and the IP in scholarly work and creative work

**Benefits to HDR candidates:**

- Will receive a share of any net commercialisation returns like staff
- Can access UQ legal services and UniQuest expertise
- Will have the same standing as staff in any negotiations
- Simplified pathway to commercialisation when co-originator with UQ staff member
- Simple and expedited process for IP assignment if appropriate

# Workflow for IP created solely by HDR candidate



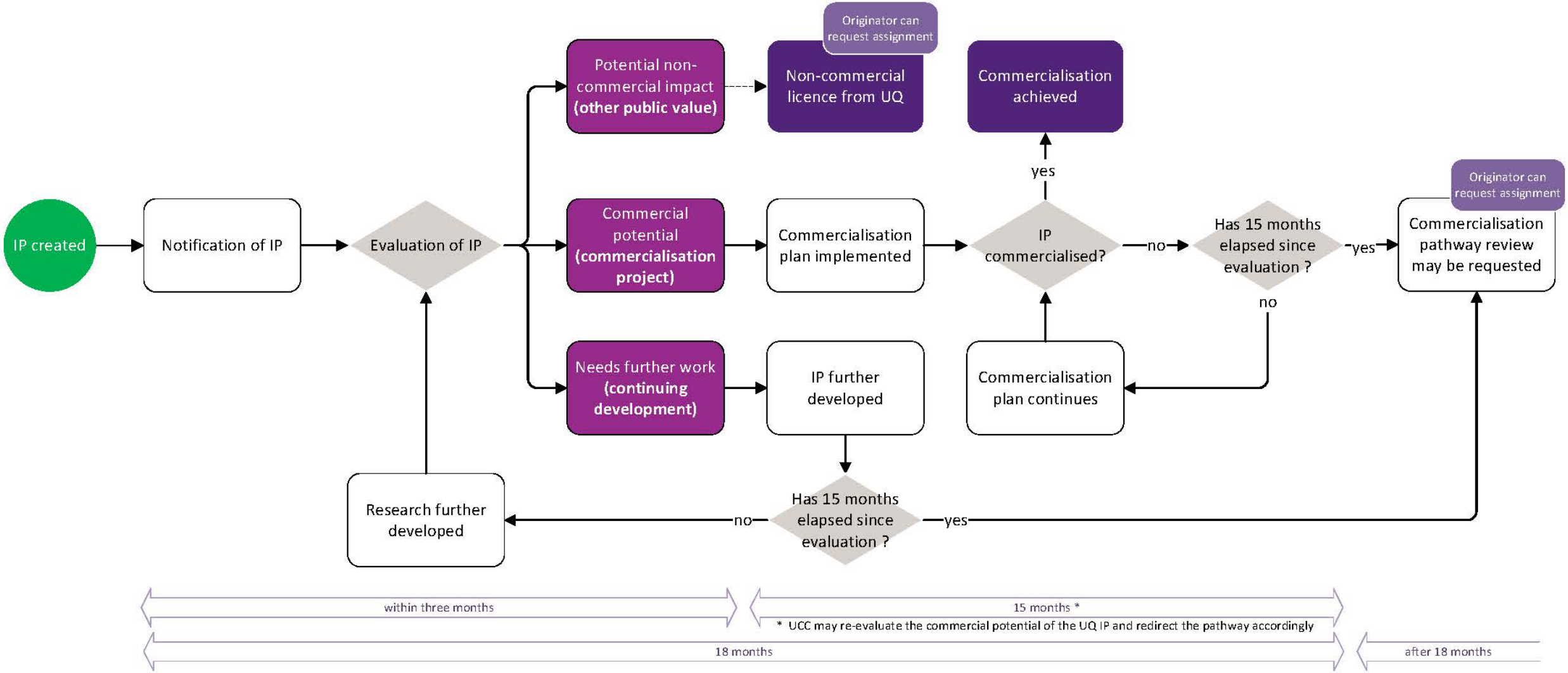
# Other public value IP (little or no commercial value)

- To align with the National Principles of Intellectual Property Management for Publicly Funded Research
- Acknowledgement that although not all IP will have commercial value, it still has value to the community and can result in research impact
- For faster and more effective dissemination of non-commercialisable technologies, processes and ideas to the benefit of the broader community
- Addresses current issue of lack of visibility of public value IP being licenced by local areas

# Notification/Evaluation of UQ IP and the commercialisation process

- After complete notification from a researcher, **UniQuest has 3 months** to:
  - Evaluate the commercial potential of the UQ IP
  - Assess any potential 3rd party encumbrances or IP ownership
  - Identify any requirement or opportunity for IP protection
  - Understand researcher publication and grant application requirements
- **Leading to three outcomes:**
  - ➢ Public value IP
  - ➢ Commercialisation project
  - ➢ Continuing development required to potentially commercialise

# Workflow for IP evaluation - staff



# Managing IP issues; pathway review and dispute resolution

The commercialisation pathway (licence, start-up etc) is developed in collaboration between the researcher and UniQuest

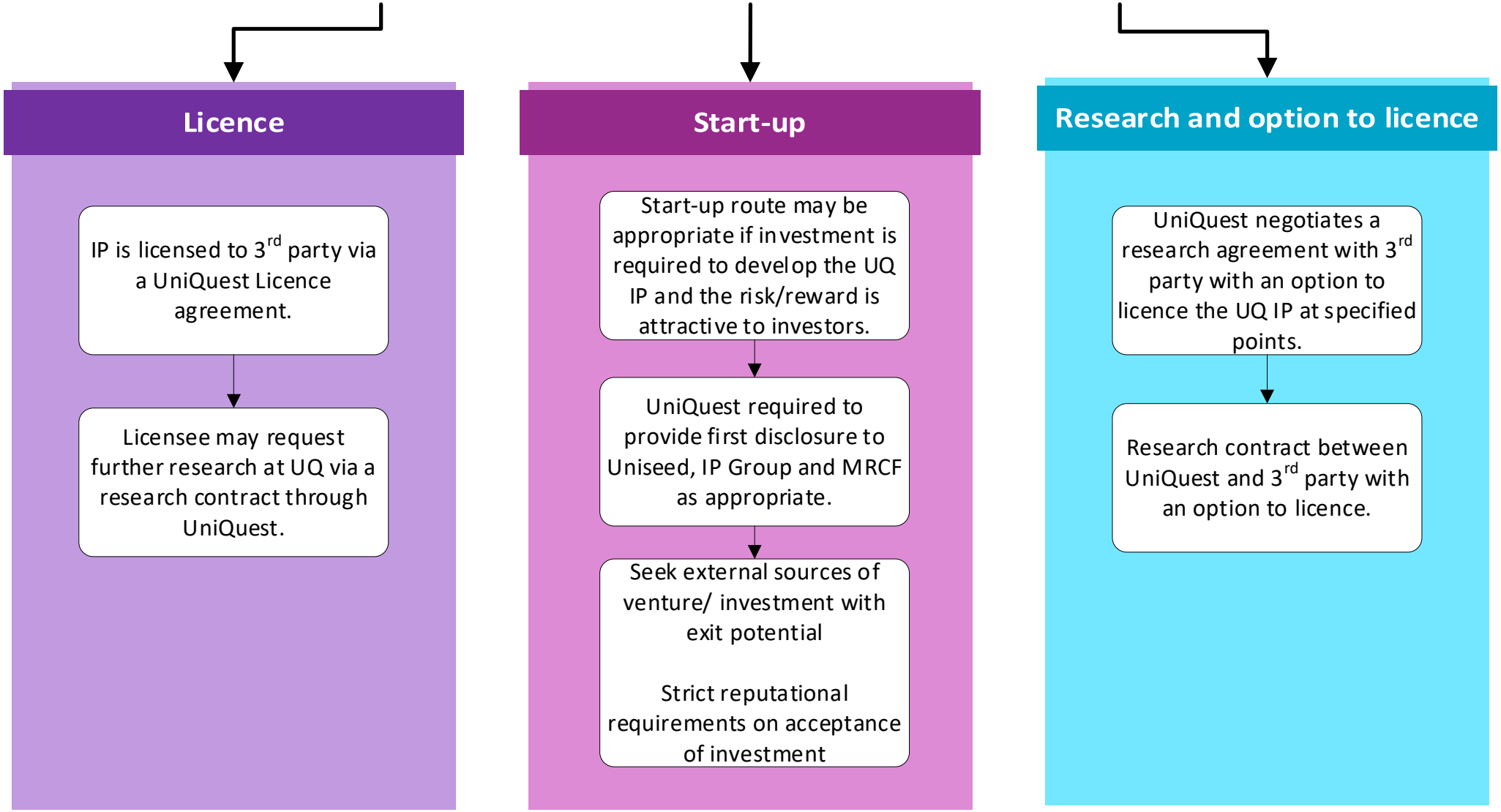
- **Pathway review**
  - After 18 months from invention notification, a researcher may request a review of the commercialisation pathway if there is no longer agreement between the researcher and UniQuest with regards the commercialisation pathway
  - The matter may be referred to the UQ Commercialisation Pathway Advisory Committee (CPAG), with final decision by DVCRI
- **Dispute resolution**
  - Any Originator disagreements will be mediated by PVCRP, with final decision by DVCRI

# Commercialisation at UQ

- The University of Queensland Act states that the University should seek:
  - To **exploit commercially**, for the university's benefit, a facility or resource of the university, including, for example, study, **research or knowledge**, or the practical application of study, research or knowledge, **belonging to the university**, whether alone or with someone else;

- Commercialisation achieved via the University's Commercialisation companies;
  - UniQuest, Australia's longest standing (>35 years) and most successful
  - JKTech – SMI focussed.

# Potential commercialisation pathways investigated by UniQuest for UQ IP




UNIQUEST

## 2020 Survey of Commercialisation Outcomes from Public Research (SCOPR)

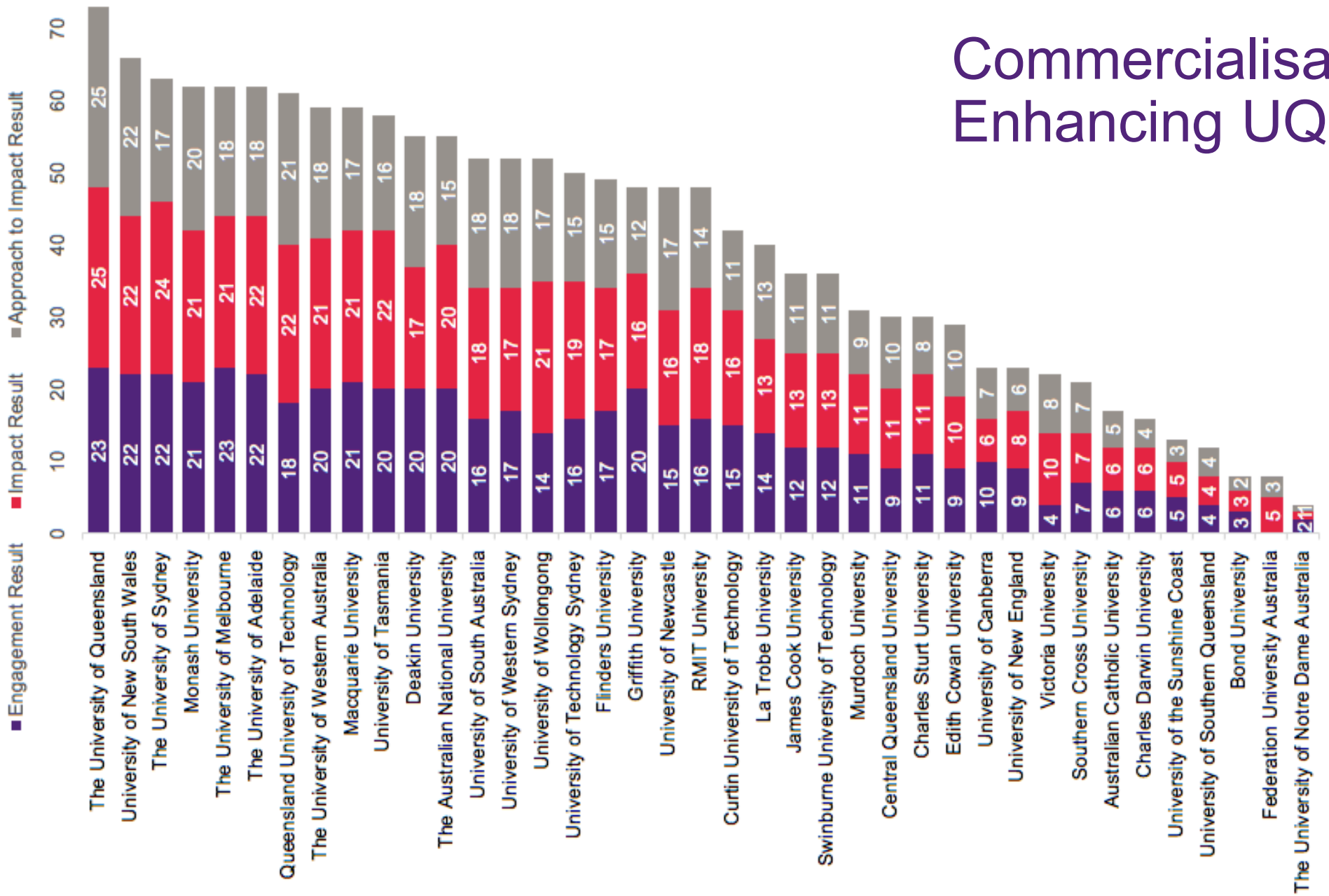
UniQuest 2019 performance indicators against Group of Eight universities

- Leading Go8 university for total research commercialisation income
- Leading Go8 university for total value of equity held in start-up/spinout holdings
- Leading Go8 university for active start-up companies
- Leading Go8 university for invention disclosures
- Leading Go8 university for new non-patented technologies approved for technology transfer, and active non-patented technologies held



UNIQUEST

# Commercialisation; Enhancing UQ's reputation




Many of UQ's engagement and impact case studies submitted during the E&I process built on commercialisation outcomes led by UniQuest.

# Commercialisation; Direct benefits for researchers

- **UQ researchers receive 1/3 of any net return** from commercialisation through the split's process in the UQ IP policy
  - Standard approach to rewarding commercialisation
  - Aligns researcher interests with the Public interest
- **Successes**
  - >80 researchers have received >$15M returns from commercialisation in the last ~4-5 years
  - 7-10 researchers have received significant (multi-million dollar) returns
- **Equity in start-ups**
  - Researcher benefits not reliant on holding direct equity; UniQuest holds equity on behalf of UQ and UQ researchers
  - Holding direct equity would greatly restrict a researcher's ability to pursue further research related to the IP being commercialised

# Q and A Session

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# Questions on notice

1. What is the balance of designing research for innovation and designing research for knowledge?
2. Could you please give us an indication of the funding available in 2021 and beyond?
3. Considering reduced research funding due to COVID19,  how will UQ ensure that ECRs are not disadvantaged?
4. Is there any formal training on grant proposal preparing for early career researcher?
5. How does UQ plan to close the gap between public policy & implementation capacity & how EMCRs could actively engage with them?
6. What kinds of financial support is available for interdisciplinary strategic initiatives?
7. What's the difference between GEE, RPM and OSR activities?
8. Conjoint appointments for people working in Qld Health are not easy - what are existing pathways and any future changes?
9. Are there plans to upskill UQRAN with a grantsmanship training program such as this one at UTS?
10. Is donor funding of research recognised as grant funding? e.g. donor gives $100k for research?
11. Can current project IP items in research contracts be strengthened to improve benefits for our Indigenous collaborators?
12. What is UQ's strategy to sustain medical research funding given the restructuring of NHMRC funding models?

# Thank you!

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Create change

# Questions on notice

1. **What is the balance of designing research for innovation and designing research for knowledge?**

- Universities (and research organisations) need to balance their investment and research focus across “knowledge generation” and “knowledge translation” to ensure they are able to deliver benefits to society, culture, the environment and our economy. A balance is required to ensure generated knowledge is translated; and that translated knowledge catalyses further discovery and knowledge generation.
- And for the various fields of research, this balance is achieved in different ways as disciplines and researchers go through (often parallel) cycles of generation and translation.
- UQ will continue to have its research endeavours focus on both knowledge generation and knowledge translation to ensure we deliver on our purposes of 1) educating and training, 2) undertaking research, and 3) enriching our communities. KPIs for research show UQ is great at both knowledge generation and knowledge translation.

# Questions on notice

**2. a) Could you please give us an indication of the funding available in 2021 and beyond?**
**b) Considering reduced research funding due to COVID-19, how will UQ ensure that ECRs are not disadvantaged?**

- Funding for research remains available via grant schemes, industry, government and philanthropic engagement. The federal government continues to fund specific funding agencies i.e. ARC, NHMRC, MRFF, RDCs, CRC/Ps, etc.
- UQ funding for research has been impacted for 2021 and beyond with the reduction in international students (as are other activities across UQ).
- Funding for specific research related expenditure has been provided by a once-off short-term funding relief by the federal government of $1B, of which UQ will receive approximately $96M. These funds will be used to support specific activities within Faculties and Institutes to address local area COVID-19 research impacts (e.g. impacts on EMCRs), and strategic initiatives for the organisation that address specific areas of focus (e.g. VC's research fellowship scheme [relevant to EMCRs], research infrastructure, and other strategic initiatives).
- Funding supporting the majority of our research initiatives will continue – but a prioritisation process with be used to ensure required savings are delivered.
- Continued strong grant performance and industry collaborations will hopefully provide further ongoing opportunities.

*If you are feeling disadvantaged, speak to your supervisor, HR or Associate Dean (Research) / Deputy Director (Research) to ensure they are aware of your concerns.*

# Questions on notice

**3. Is there any formal training on grant proposal preparing for early career researchers?**

- Yes – formal training on grant writing is largely undertaken by Faculties or Institutes since this type of training is best aligned with specific research areas. *Contact your Faculty Associate Dean (Research) / Institute Deputy Director (Research) for more information as relevant to your Faculty/Institute.*
- Information sessions are also run on general schemes by the Sponsored Research team.
- UQ Library provides generic training that relates to the use of metrics to describe research performance in grant applications: https://web.library.uq.edu.au/library-services/services-researchers
- The Graduate School also provides a range of free-of-charge career development opportunities for early career researchers: https://cdf.graduate-school.uq.edu.au/

# Questions on notice

4. **How does UQ plan to close the gap between public policy and implementation capacity, and how can EMCRs actively engage with them?**

- The Centre for Policy Futures (CfPF) is UQ's hub for research on policy engagement.
- The CfPF has a wide-ranging policy engagement remit which connects to a variety of contemporary issues.
- It currently offers opportunities (including for EMCRs) for engagement and workshops for policy development via their *Getting Research into Policy and Practice* (GRiPP) training.

*For more information contact Professor Brian Head (Acting Centre Director).*

# Questions on notice

**5. What kinds of financial support is available for interdisciplinary strategic initiatives?**

- The Global Change Institute (GCI) has been re-invigorated to have a focus on drawing together interdisciplinary expertise from across UQ, industry, government and the community to address grand challenges and build a strong Australia within a competitive global economy. GCI works to deliver research-driven discoveries across five key impact areas.
- GCI has recently funded its first round of Global Change Research Networks (GCRNs). The proposals which are explicitly focused on providing financial support for transdisciplinary research initiatives with the explicit goal of harnessing interdisciplinary expertise to address grand challenges being faced by industry, government and/or society.

*Additional details at https://gci.uq.edu.au/global-change-research-networks*

# Questions on notice

## 6. What's the difference between GEE, RPM and OSR activities?

The three offices work very closely together but focus their attentions according to the aspects of UQ's business for which each has custodianship. These three areas connect regularly, to stay aligned and complement each other's strategic endeavours and support UQ's research community.

**Research Partnerships (RPO) and Research Partnership Managers (RPMs):**

- Responsible for research partner relationships – international and local.
- Work with Sponsored Research to put in place research projects involving research partners, including industry-focussed grant schemes.
- Look after relationships with industries for contract research and where research funding comes into UQ via a third party, rather than directly from a funding body.
- When a relationship with a research partner is primarily for research, the RPM would be involved in structuring particular engagements via research agreements.

**Sponsored Research:**

- Facilitate and co-ordinate schemes where research is the primary intent of the scheme, even though there might be an international relationship element – UQ-DAAD is an example.
- Sponsored Research supports UQ's relationships with competitive funding bodies.

**Global Engagement & Entrepreneurship (GEE):**

- Responsible for high level international institutional arrangements, with a particular focus on university relationships with UQ. When these foreign relationships engage research activity – GEE will engage RPMs and the Graduate School as required by the particular activity being explored.
- It has broad engagement in the entrepreneurship space, mainly supporting undergraduate student activity through UQ Ventures.
- Includes the International Development team that facilitates consulting projects funded by development/aid. When projects engage research activity – GEE will engage RPMs and UQ Consulting Research Expertise (CoRE) as required by the particular activity being explored.

*If anyone has any lingering issues in understanding the differences, please contact Professor Mohan Krishnamoorthy.*

# Questions on notice

7. **Conjoint appointments for people working in Queensland Health are not easy – what are existing pathways and any future changes?**

   - The new Human Capital Management Solution (HCMS) will streamline much of how we do HR business, including conjoint appointments. This will result in a common approach for Queensland Health conjoint appointments.

*People are invited to share any explicit concerns with Professor Mark Blows.*

# Questions on notice

8. **Are there plans to upskill UQRAN with a grantsmanship training program such as this one at UTS?**

- This is a great training program run by the Australian Research Management Society's (ARMS) NSW Chapter – engaging UTS professionals to undertake the training.
- Sponsored Research has held several grantsmanship training sessions including:
  - Impact Case Studies
  - Fellowship grantsmanship training
  - More are in development for 2021

*People are invited to share their training requests with Jodi Clyde-Smith, Director, Sponsored Research.*

# Questions on notice

**9. Is donor funding of research recognised as grant funding? e.g. donor gives $100k for research?**

- Research funding through donations, bequests, charities and foundations (both Australian and international) are recognised as Category 3 funds under HERDC.

# Questions on notice

**10. Can current project IP items in research contracts be strengthened to improve benefits for our Indigenous collaborators?**

The new Intellectual Property for Staff, Students and Visitors Policy outlines UQ's position on Indigenous Knowledges and UQ aims to ensure that appropriate recognition, protection and respect is given to Indigenous Knowledges and its owners.

The **UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and Innovation Strategy** was endorsed by UQ Senior Executive Team (USET) on 27 November 2020.

- **Action (3.1)** on the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)'s office is to create a suite of documents for best practice protocols, templates and guides, with aligned staff development, for research benefit sharing and reciprocity that empower both UQ researchers and our research partners to ensure:
  - Free, prior, informed and staged consent.
  - Mutually Agreed Terms.
  - Agreed Benefit Sharing Agreements (including but not limited to benefits arising from commercialisation of research).
  - Traditional Knowledge and Intellectual Property benefit sharing and ownership.
  - Research outcomes communication standards.
- **Action (3.2)** on UniQuest is to support commercialisation outcomes for UQ research and innovation that benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

*Contact Professor Mark Blows, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), for any questions about UQ's IP Policy.*

*Contact Jean McBain for any questions about the UQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and Innovation Strategy.*

# Questions on notice

**11. What is UQ's strategy to sustain medical research funding given the restructuring of NHMRC funding models?**

- The restructure of NHMRC funding models coincides with a $1B/per investment in health and medical research through MRFF.
- UQ is #2 in the country for the number of NHMRC Ideas Grants awarded and #3 in the country for number awarded in 2020 – behind Monash and Melbourne.
- UQ is #3 in the country across the NHMRC Ideas schemes for the two years that it has been running - behind Monash and Melbourne.
- This profile is similar to that in recent years prior to the restructure of the NHMRC scheme. *As such, the question is how do we maximise opportunity through the NHMRC restructure and the $1B per annum MRFF funds?*
- We need to support our senior researchers to successfully secure Leadership level Investigator Grants where funds lie for building research concentrations, capabilities and capacity. From that, we grow the programmatic research that enables successful competition for Ideas Grants and the innovations that see us secure Synergy Grants.
- However, the government is asking us to think about the impact and outcomes that our research will have – not just in health and biomedical research, but much more broadly. That has to be part of the question formulation from the beginning of a research journey, not at the end. As such, our work with Global Change Research Networks (GCRNs), the Research Impact Nexus, building research pipelines for Centres of Research Excellence (CRE), Partnership Grants and MRFF schemes such as Frontiers and Fellowships will continue to be a priority. For example, UQ has submitted more CRE grants in this last round than ever before.

*For further information about funding opportunities for medical research please contact Jodi Clyde-Smith, Director, Sponsored Research.*