Upcoming Events

29 Aug  NTEU Bargaining Meetings
   When: 12-12:50pm
   Where: 32-214

3-5 Sept  Engineers Australia Accreditation Panel Visit

5 Sept  UQ Wellness free nutrition and BodPod® seminar on good nutrition, what to eat before and after exercise, and how to read food labels.
   When: Session 1 at 12 noon, Session 2 at 1pm
   Where: Forgan Smith Building, Room E302
   Register: online

18 Sep  Undergraduate Research Conference
   Where: Innes Room, first floor, UQ Union
   Web: http://www.uq.edu.au/undergraduate/urc

19 Sep  School of Law forum: Law is sometimes viewed as a rather isolated research discipline, and so what lawyers research and how they do it can be a mystery. This session is aimed at bridging some gaps in knowledge about legal research at UQ.
   When: 4pm - 5pm
   Where: Sir Llew Edwards (Blg 14), Level 6 Terrace Room
   RSVP: By 12 September 2012 online

Congratulations

Two bursaries, valued at $1500, from the Queensland Division of the Australian Acoustical Society (AAS) have been awarded to our students. The bursaries are open to undergraduate and postgraduate students across Queensland who are undertaking research projects in the field of acoustics.

Laurence Nicol, a final-year Mechatronic Engineering student, has been awarded the RJ Hooker Bursary for 2012 by the AAS for his METR4900 thesis on “Speech Intelligibility in Restaurants and Dining Areas”. Laurence is working in conjunction with local consulting engineering firm Ron Rumble Renzo Tonin and Prof David Mee is his UQ thesis supervisor.

Dr. Robert Hooker was a lecturer in Mechanical Engineering and a former Head of Department who was a Fellow of the AAS and founding committee member of the Queensland Division of the society.

Mr Mr Guang Yang (Nick) Tang, a final-year Mechanical Engineering student, has been awarded the 2012 AAS QLD Division Acoustics Bursary for his MECH4500 thesis “Acoustical Performance of a Modern Large Open Office for use by Research Personnel”. This project is investigating the acoustical properties of the new level 5 on the Mansergh Shaw building. Nick is a 2+2 student from INTI University College in Malaysia.

Navigating Bureaucracy - Tips and Tricks

Payment to vendors
It is not a common practice to make 100% upfront payments. If you have suppliers who request 100% upfront payment, please contact Bojan to discuss (he can negotiate a partial payment arrangement with suppliers).

Collection of goods
Any goods collected must be signed for. When you receive an email from us advising your goods have arrived, please let the finance staff know if you or someone else on your behalf will collect the goods.

Fire Safety
The University requires all staff to take an annual fire safety test. This requirement extends to continuing, fixed term, RHD students, casual staff and visitors. This can be found at http://elearn.com.au/uq2/. Once you are in the portal, click on ‘annual fire safety’. It is estimated this will take about 45 minutes. If you haven’t done yours this year, please hop on line and take the test now.

OH&S minutes
Minutes from the School’s OH&S committee are available online.

Health and Safety
Funding

2013 Go8 European Fellowships - Call for Applications
The Group of Eight (Go8) has opened applications for the 2013 European Fellowships scheme. As a member of the Go8 and a participant in this scheme, The University of Queensland is offering one Fellowship for 2013 to an early career researcher from Europe. The Fellowships are open to citizens of Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Russia and Slovakia. The purpose of the scheme is to facilitate further research collaboration between Australia and Europe with the intention that Fellows will continue to collaborate with their Australian research partners when they return to their home institutions. Applications are due 19 October 2012 and for more information, visit http://www.uq.edu.au/research/rid/grants-go8-europeanfellowshipstemp-141173.

Teaching and Learning

Turnitin
Turnitin Academy Live is a new online 10-session course that will lead instructors through a powerful pedagogy for "writing to learn." The sessions are run by Turnitin itself, are free, and most can be watched "on-demand" as well as live. To register, visit the Turnitin website.

Requirements for international students
Full time enrolment requirements and exceptions
International students are expected to maintain a full time enrolment and complete their degree program in the minimum time. This is a condition of their student visa. The only circumstances in which an international student may be enrolled in less than a normal full time enrolment of #8 per semester is if they become ill or are caught up in other circumstances that could not reasonably have been foreseen and planned for, or an intervention plan has been put in place usually as the result of academic failure, or a deferment has been approved. This is a federal government requirement (see section 9.2).

Academic advisers can make recommendations to the Associate Dean (Academic) about revised study plans based on reduced enrolment loads for international students who have evidence of compassionate and compelling circumstances.

Applications for visa extensions are common and endorsement by the faculty is usually straightforward.

Late arrival
Under the new Tuition Protection Service legislation, the university is now required to keep a centralised record of any student who is arriving on campus to start their program after the first date of classes. All late arrivals must be requested by the student in writing, and must be approved in writing, with this communication retained on the student file/record. If there is no such record the student is in breach of the student visa conditions and any application for a visa extension must and will be refused by the ADA.

Teaching and Learning

Go8-C9 Student Leadership in Cooperation (SLIC) Project
The UQ Graduate School is offering the opportunity for two UQ research higher degree students to take part in the Go8-C9 Student Leadership in Cooperation (SLIC) Project in early to mid-2013. The aim of the project is to develop proposals and ideas for cooperation between Australian and Chinese universities in order to promote opportunities for outbound student mobility from Australia. Student participants will be required to present their proposals and ideas at a debriefing event upon their return to Australia. The program will provide up to $5,000 to support each student participant for the cost of visiting the C9 universities, which may include airfares, accommodation or other costs associated with the visit. UQ Graduate School will select two research higher degree students to participate in the project. We are now calling for applications from interested students. Details are available online - http://www.uq.edu.au/grad-school/SLIC and the deadline for applications is Wednesday, 19 September 2012.

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AAEE offers three awards to recognise excellence in the engineering education and research community. Members of AAEE are encouraged to apply. **Submissions link and full criteria are available on the AAEE web site.**

**Australian Council of Engineering Deans**

**National Award for Engineering Education Excellence** – Awarded for excellence in learning outcomes via degree programs, discipline majors or other significant initiatives that have produced outstanding and enduring outcomes.

**Prize** - $10000 plus framed certificate

**Award for Engineering Education Research Design** – Award for rigorous, innovative and transferable research design in the field of Engineering Education.

**Prize** - $5000 plus framed certificate

**Award for Engineering Education Engagement** – Award for fostering an excellent standard of engagement with colleagues or students recognising a collegiate approach to learning and teaching, research and a sharing of expertise.

**Prize** - $5000 plus framed certificate

**Eligibility for all awards**

- Previously unsuccessful applicants are eligible to apply.
- The same body of work cannot be submitted as an application in two categories even if seemingly appropriate for both categories.
- It is not necessary to meet all selection criteria of an Award to be eligible to apply for an award.
- All nominees MUST be current AAEE members (membership application is free - see http://www.aaee.com.au/membership.htm).
- The work must have been mostly conducted in Australia or New Zealand.
- Winner or Highly Commended recipients from the last two years are only eligible to apply if work completed is significantly different from previous applications or the application is in a different category.
- Winners or a winning team member MUST be present at the AAEE Annual Conference dinner

**Submissions and timelines**

Online submissions to Engineers Australia: https://engineersaustralia.wufoo.com/forms/aaee-annual-awards-2012/

Submissions close 1 October

Judges recommendations by 17 October

Winners notified by 31 October 2012.

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**2012 Australasian Association for Engineering Education (AAEE) Annual Conference**

3rd - 5th December 2012

The Awards Ball will be held in the Olympic Room at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

This year’s theme, **The Profession of Engineering Education: Advancing Teaching, Research and Careers** will explore opportunities for improving teaching and scholarship, rigorous research in engineering education and career advancement as an engineering educator.
Welcome to 2012 Equity Alert, a bulletin for UQ’s volunteer networks of Discrimination & Harassment Contact Officers (DHCOs) and Equity & Diversity Information Networkers (EDINs).

Please ensure that you distribute widely amongst your organisational areas via email, electronic attachments and hard copy printouts

**UQ Postdoctoral Research Fellowships for Women – Now Open!**

The University of Queensland invites applications for a small number of Postdoctoral Research Fellowships for Women to commence in 2013. The Fellowships are open to women with a PhD or equivalent qualification whose academic careers have been interrupted, delayed or otherwise constrained by family or other responsibilities. This includes applicants who are precluded from applying for post-doctoral research fellowships in locations elsewhere. **Some Fellowships will be available for full-time research over a period of three years while others will be available for half-time research over a period of three years.** The research must be conducted at The University of Queensland in any of its disciplines.

The UQ Postdoctoral Research Fellowships for Women support the University’s research strategy to introduce special initiatives to advance women in research. **The purpose of the Fellowships is to assist eligible women to re-establish their academic research careers after a career break or interruption.**

Applications must be submitted to the proposed host School/Centre/Institute by **7 September 2012**. For information on how to apply, visit [http://www.uq.edu.au/research/rid/fellowships-women-78698](http://www.uq.edu.au/research/rid/fellowships-women-78698)

**New UQ Library Book Scanning Service**

UQ Library has recently adopted a new policy, to scan books on behalf of research students and staff who are blind or have a visual impairment, where there is no electronic copy available which meets their needs. At present, two research students and one academic staff member are registered for this service. Having an electronic copy makes it possible for the book to be “read aloud” using screenreader software.

The first book scanned under the new policy was B. Pinkus and I. Fleischhauer’s *Die Deutschen aus der Sowjetunion*, requested by research student Serena Dorf. An additional challenge was that this book needed to be scanned for OCR text recognition in German; the Kirtas scanner and associated software available in the Library made it possible to produce a PDF scanned for German language, very quickly and of superior quality. Serena’s verdict: “An academic text I can finally audio read without errors, mispronunciations and technical down time … I can now spend precious time on the research process rather than the technical processes involved in converting academic texts into a format that can be audio read.” The service is on trial until the end of 2012.

Christine Heslehurst (Digitisation Supervisor - SPADS), Serena Dorf (RHD student) and Wendy Redgen (SPADS) with the Kirtas scanner.
Equity Office Staff Development courses

There are still some spaces available in the Equity Office’s 19th October session of Ally Training. The Ally Program was established in collaboration with UQ (Student) Union to provide a ‘safe zone’ for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBT/I) students and staff through awareness-raising. At the end of the program, participants will have a basic understanding of LGBT/I issues and knowledge of relevant community resources that will assist them in their role as an official UQ Ally. Through the Allies, the university provides a safe, welcoming and confidential environment to those seeking support or information. UQ Allies, however, do not provide “expert” advice or counselling.

This course will enable participants to:

1. gain a deeper understanding of the issues experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex students and staff
2. gain information about LGBT/I community resources
3. be familiar with the legislative and policy environment in which The University of Queensland operates
4. gain an understanding of how this initiative supports the University's policy commitment to developing an environment free of harassment and discrimination.

To register, go to: https://staffdevelopment.hr.uq.edu.au/course/UEDAT1

Human Rights Commission to launch national anti-racism strategy

Race Discrimination Commissioner, Dr Helen Szoke will launch the National Anti-Racism Strategy next week.

When the Australian Government announced Australia’s new multicultural policy in February 2011, a key component was the establishment of a Partnership to develop and implement a comprehensive National Anti-Racism Strategy for Australia.

Led by Dr Szoke, the Partnership includes the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, the federal Attorney-General’s Department, the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, the Australian Multicultural Council, National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples and the Federation of Ethnic Communities’ Councils of Australia.

Between March and May this year, Dr Szoke ran a consultation involving 23 meetings in 17 locations around the country, with more than 200 submissions received and more than 1580 online survey responses.

Dr Szoke said she hopes releasing the strategy will provide a turning point in dealing with racism in Australia.

“When we launch the National Anti-Racism Strategy we will be calling on all Australians to join the campaign, to name racism, just as we name bullying, or we name violence, or we name harassment, so that we can make sure we are ever vigilant where racism does creep in,” Dr Szoke said.

To find out more about the partnership and the strategy go to www.humanrights.gov.au/antiracism/index.html

Did you know....

The Australian Human Rights Commission has a podcast series called “Pod Rights”. The fortnightly episodes each examine different human rights issues, often in the form of discussions between one of the Commissioners, and an expert in the field. You can listen to the podcasts, or read the transcripts, here: http://www.humanrights.gov.au/podcasts/