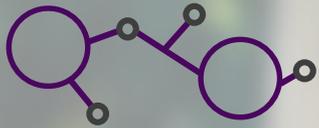




# Why does UQ need a Student Strategy

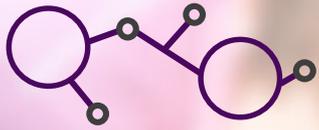
- Global trends indicate fundamental changes to the dominant university model in Australia.
- UQ's competitors are prioritising student learning and educational experience.
- Student expectations and priorities have shifted towards flexibility, quality and employability.
- UQ staff and students are passionate about identifying and supporting innovative change.
- Increasingly competitive higher education sector.



## Green Paper consultation activities

Consultation was broad & invited a diverse range of stakeholder voices to comment on the Challenges & Strategies of the Green Paper.

- **Online student survey:** 18% response rate; n=7,005
- **Leadership meeting discussions:** n = 18
- **Unit submissions:** n = 54  
Schools, divisions, faculties
- **Roundtable Event:** n =75  
Employers, alumni, staff, students
- **Open online forum:** n = 100 individual responses



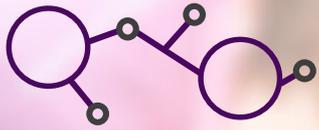
# What resonates with our students?

## **Enhanced employability development**

- Employment is a key concern for students. Over 90% believe it's important they have opportunities to interact with industry & employers.
- 96% think the UQ experience should provide lifelong skills and knowledge to support them through their careers.
- 59-69% of UGs/PGs think entrepreneurial skills development is important.

## **Personalised learning: flexible delivery, structures & schedule**

- Clear appetite for alternative online, intensive & credit options – but mix of online lectures & on-campus interactive classes most preferred (69%)
- Over half (58%) would use trimesters to accelerate, lighten or create flexibility for their study loads – 40% indicated they would take advantage of weekday classes after 6pm or weekend classes.



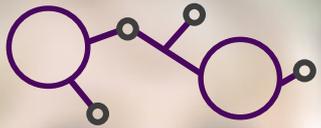
# What resonates with our students?

## Teaching & research engagement

- 62% would like to assist staff in improving teaching quality.
- Access to research projects is important to around 2/3 of students.
- 65% consider an active research profile the most important & desirable characteristic of a UQ teacher.

## Support services & facilities

- 2/3 would like a UQ staff or UQ alumni mentor & half a student mentor.
- Improved campus based study facilities: more high quality individual & group study spaces, 24 hour facilities access, cheaper & more diverse food options, more personal & self service facilities.
- A comprehensive set of support services: 40 - 65% would likely use UQ's personal, medical, living, & academic learning support services in time of future need.



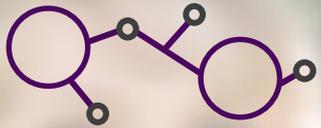
# What impedes our students?

## **Workplace experience & exposure**

- Only just over half agree UQ offers good work experience/industry interaction opportunities.
- Only 58% agree they are being prepared for a changing employment market.

## **Flexibility**

- 64% of all students engage in some form of paid employment - 39% find it difficult to balance study & paid work.
- 42% enrol in courses that are not their first preference to get a timetable that works for them. 48% miss classes because of timetable clashes.



# What impedes our students?

## **Assessment**

- Low satisfaction with feedback detail (47%) & timely return of assessments (38%).
- Only 57% agree they can talk with teaching staff on received feedback.

## **Support awareness & information inconsistency**

- Awareness of UQ's support services varies. More than 40% unaware that wellbeing programs, housing support and financial/budgeting advice are available.
- Over half consider that they receive contradictory information – UGs 57%.

## **Campus travel & transport options**

- Better commuting options would increase campus time for 63% of students.



# UQ Leadership views

**1. Flexible Learning 2. Innovative Education 3. Staffing Profile** were the top priority Green Paper challenges:

- Flexibility requires a wide range of strategies – can't be a one-size-fits-all.
- See value in year-round calendar but difficult to implement.
- Embed workplace & entrepreneurship skills with knowledge application.
- Build, balance & better utilise UQ's staff capabilities.
- Better rewarded & recognised teaching excellence.

## **General comment:**

UQ should be clear on the purpose of the Student Strategy & how it is to be implemented - staff are integral to its success.



# UQ Organisational Unit views

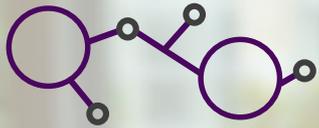
**UQ staff will be at the frontline of implementation.**

Top priority Green Paper strategies were:

**1. Assessment Frameworks 2. WIL Partnerships 3. Multifunctional Spaces 4. Invest in New Staffing Capabilities 5. Blended Learning**

## **Key views**

- **Central coordination is needed** but hesitant re universal implementation approaches.
- Will require **significant investment**, staff training & development support.
- **Increased staff capacity** can provide time for staff driven innovation.
- **Blended learning essential** to modern universities but may differ across disciplines.



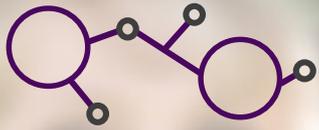
# UQ Community views (Roundtable)

The roundtable was a microcosm of the UQ community. The top three Green Paper challenges were:

- 1. Supporting Students**
- 2. Innovative Education**
- 3. Best Practice Pedagogies**

## Key views

- **Connected communities** should be **built early**.
- **Lifelong connections** can be facilitated through an **engaged alumni**.
- Innovation can occur through **interdisciplinary learning**.
- **Embedding workplace skills & knowledge application** is critical.
- **Best practice pedagogies** vary by discipline & student cohort.
- Best practice teaching relies on **rewarding teaching excellence**.



# UQ Young Alumni views

(Open Online Submissions)

Top priority strategies of young alumni were:

1. **WIL partnerships**
2. **Staff recognition**
3. **Mentors & networks**
4. **Research experiences**
5. **Student-staff links**
6. **Assessment**

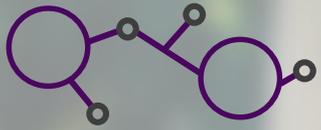
## Key views

- Employers prioritise **graduates' practical experience & application skills** above a university's reputation.
- **Insufficient collaborative research opportunities** offered at UQ.
- Promote opportunities for **learning/working in multidisciplinary teams**.
- **Recognition & reward motivates staff** to excel in teaching – attracts high quality teachers.
- **Peer support/mentors** – alumni important resource/partner.



# UQ's collective voice

- 1. Developing students' employability is of the highest priority:** Expand & improve student opportunities for industry interaction & work integrated learning.
- 2. Flexibility is key to meeting student needs, personalising learning & facilitating engagement.**
- 3. Blended learning is essential to modern tertiary studies:** Students prefer a mix of online lectures with interactive on-campus classes.
- 4. Assessment & feedback practices require improvement:** Incorporating enabling technologies.
- 5. Campus is central to the learning experience:** Spaces, services & facilities must maximise on-campus time capacity & value.
- 6. Innovation & enhancement will require appropriate resourcing & staff capability investment.**



# Acknowledgements

The UQ Student Strategy team wishes to acknowledge:

- The Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR) for their analysis of the consultation data upon which these presentation slides are based.
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- Each stakeholder who took the time to contribute to a Green Paper consultation activity.