



UQPN Annual Report 2023-24



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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands on which our university stands. We pay our respects to their Ancestors and descendants, who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country. We recognise their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.

President's message

We welcome you to the very first UQPN Annual Report! For this special edition, we have merged the years 2023 and 2024 to highlight our achievements and outline our commitment to our valued members.

I'm very proud to lead UQPN alongside the rest of the UQPN committee, and stand behind our three pillars:

1. Learning and development
2. Empowerment, and
3. Community and connection.

Thank you for your continued support and enjoy.

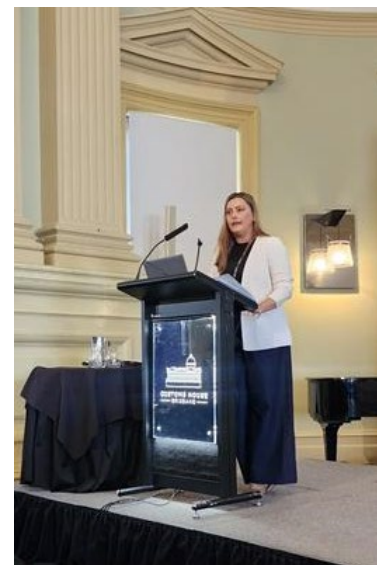
Felicity Engwicht | UQPN President


*Senior Manager, Systems and Data Analysis
Finance and Business Services*

Our patron

We are honoured for the continued support of our patron, Jo Connah, Director, Office of the Vice Chancellor.

Jo has provided regular senior support and guidance with her patronage to UQPN. She empowered UQPN leadership to transition UQPN formally into UQ and with the design and refresh of governance structures.



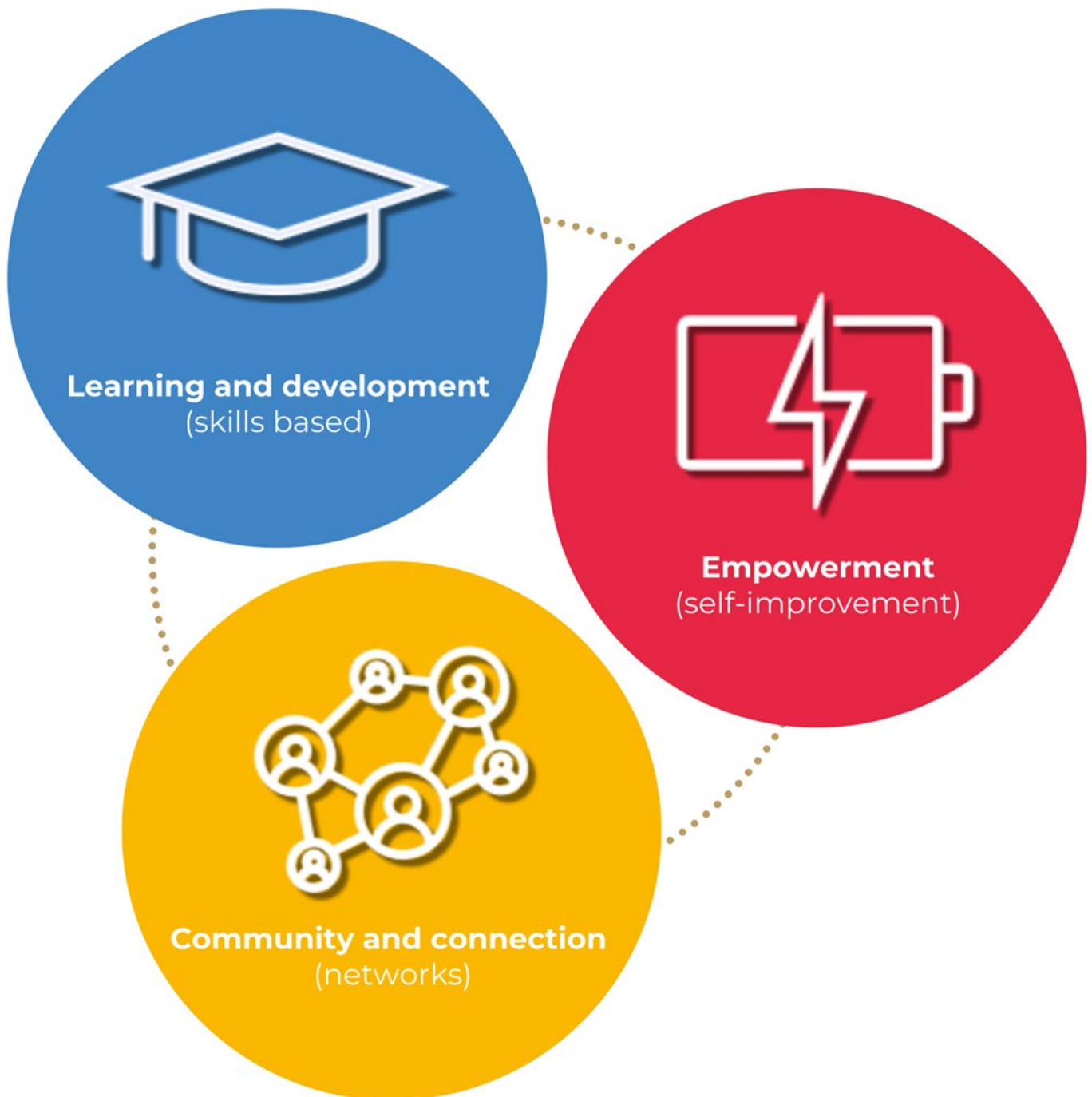


On behalf of the UQPN Committee, I want to extend a word of thanks to supervisors, managers and UQ business areas for your support in 2024. We recognise the value of time and acknowledge that it is a resource that cannot be replenished. We believe that supporting staff and allowing them the time to attend UQPN events demonstrates your commitment to their professional growth and development. And as a committee of volunteers, we are committed to creating and delivering events, workshops and networking opportunities that ensure that this time is well spent, and benefits members, business areas within UQ and the broader University. Thank you for your continued support.

*Catherine Baldry | UQPN Vice-President
Principal Executive Administration Coordinator, Medical
School*

Our pillars and aspirations

UQPN is a peer-led group led by a volunteer committee whose core aspiration is to foster learning and development, empowerment, and community and connection.

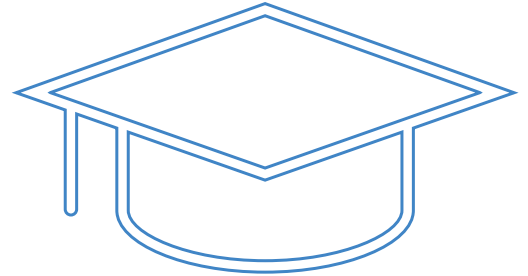


Learning and development

Offer opportunities for members to **enhance** and **refine** skills and **develop** new ones.

Skill development workshops we delivered

- Cyber security lunchbox session
- Intro to Finance at UQ
- Strength based strategies: Elevating wellbeing at work
- From Mediocre to Memorable: Leveraging the art of business storytelling
- Unlock your potential: Discover, Create and Shine!
- Core Values Index
- MS Teams Environment/Apps/SharePoint/OneDrive
- UQ Ventures: The Business of You!



UQPN Scholarship

2024 winners:

- Alison Karsh, School of Public Health - *Attended Data Literacy, Storytelling, and Influencing Decision-Makers training course*
- Bronwyn Battersby, Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining - *Attended and presented at 2024 ARMS Conference in Darwin*
- Ramya Movva, Centre for Health Services Research – *Attended Ensuring Effective Project Management workshop by PRAXIS*

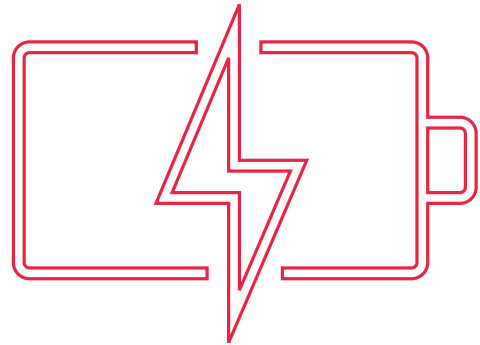


Empowerment

Help members uncover **hidden confidence** and turn aspirations into achievable goals. We want members to navigate and recover from challenges effectively and to equip them with the tools to develop the resilience and determination required for **empowerment and growth**.

Mentor Me

Our Mentor Me program was a resounding success in both 2023 and 2024 with over 50 UQPN members participating in the program. The program leverages our strengths of development and community, while guiding both mentors and mentees along the way with specialised HR resources.



“Overall the experience has been useful and I have gained a lot of confidence in understanding my strengths and planning a way forward... I found the reminder to set goals was useful for keeping the relationship on track and on topic.”

Mentee - Sally Martin, Facilities Manager, School of Biomedical Sciences

“I enjoyed the program and think I was well matched to a mentee, I'm hoping I made a positive impact.”

Mentor - Des Minton, Senior Manager, Student Affairs



Career guidance and inspiration we delivered

- Moving up HEW levels and applying for UQ jobs
- What's new in Workday and tips to advance your UQ career in 2024
- Mindful work and leadership lunchbox session
- Tash Winters, Research Partnerships Manager
- UQ Ventures: Pitch and Sell Workshop
- International Women's Day
- Jennifer Karlson, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Advancement and Community Engagement



UQPN Committee

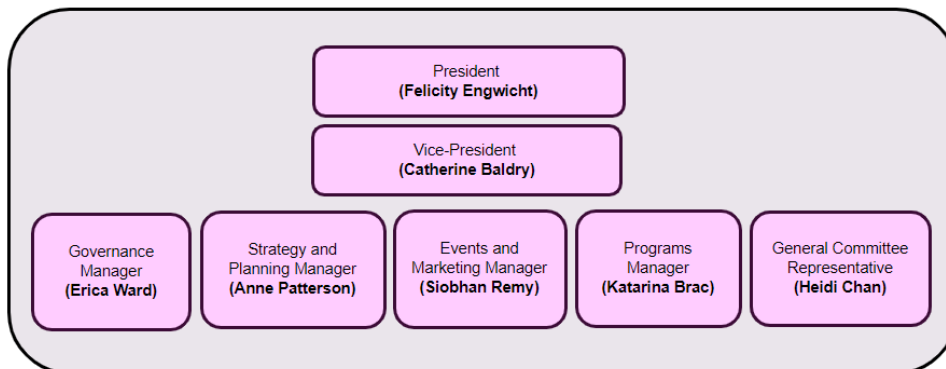
In 2024 we reorganised our committee structure and portfolios to include an Oversight Committee and portfolio leads. The purpose of the Oversight Committee is to provide advice to the UQPN President, and when required, vote (majority rules) on decisions affecting the management of UQPN:

- UQPN committee management and succession planning
- Strategic direction, priorities, and monitoring performance
- Oversight of events and strategic projects
- Budget and planning
- Network and committee culture
- Oversight of risk and assurance.

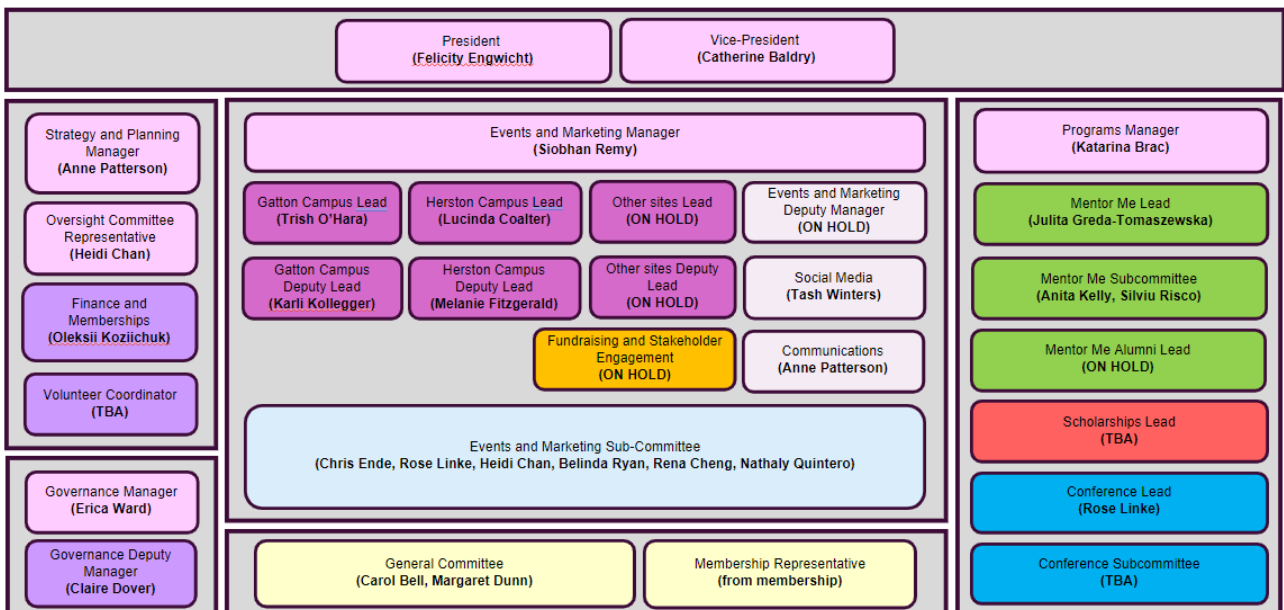


Visit our website to find out more about the [UQPN committee](#) members.

UQPN Oversight Committee



UQPN General Committee and Portfolios

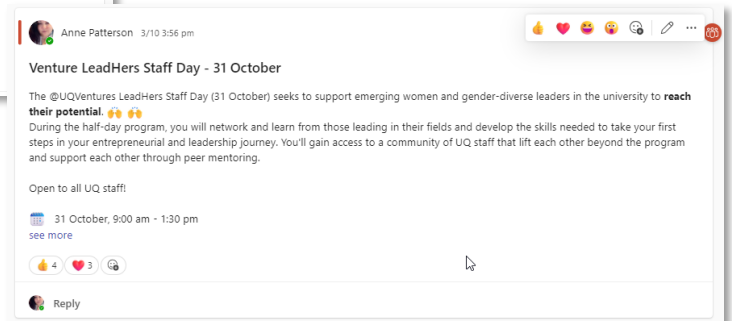
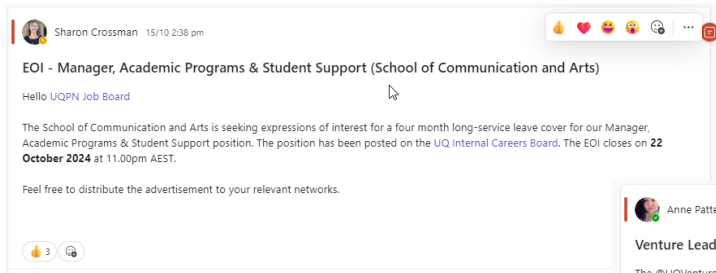


Community and connection

Offer our members a safe place to meet people from across UQ, gain new friendships and establish connections outside of their common circle.

UQPN Teams channel

Where the network collaborates and support each other – dedicated UQPN Job Board, tips and tricks channels



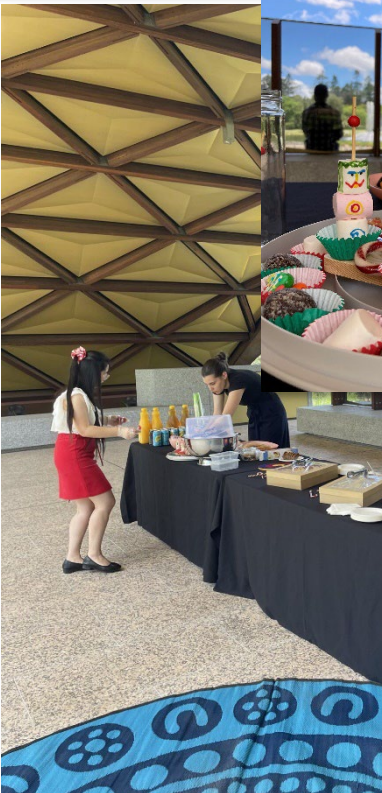
Trivia night

Our inaugural trivia night held in 2024 was a resounding success. Fun was had by all! Funds raised helped fund network activities like catering at our events and our annual conference.



Networking events we delivered

- After-work drinks
- Christmas in July
- Speed networking
- EOY celebrations



Annual celebration

Our annual celebration (AGM) was an opportunity to give all our members an update on the status of the network, an introduction to the committee members and an opportunity to meet other members of the network.



Our annual conference

Our conference brings us together for a day of professional development and networking focusing on a theme that reflects the network’s pillars and aspiration in the penultimate event of our calendar year.

In the future we want to ensure that all members who want to attend our annual conference, can attend it!

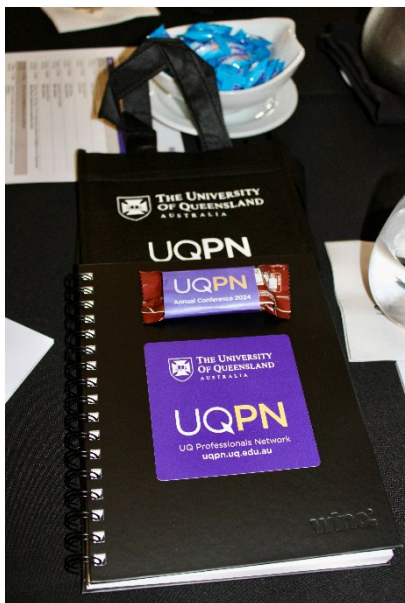
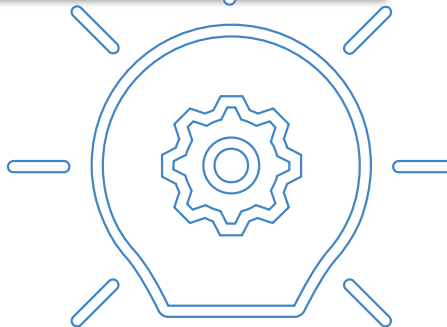
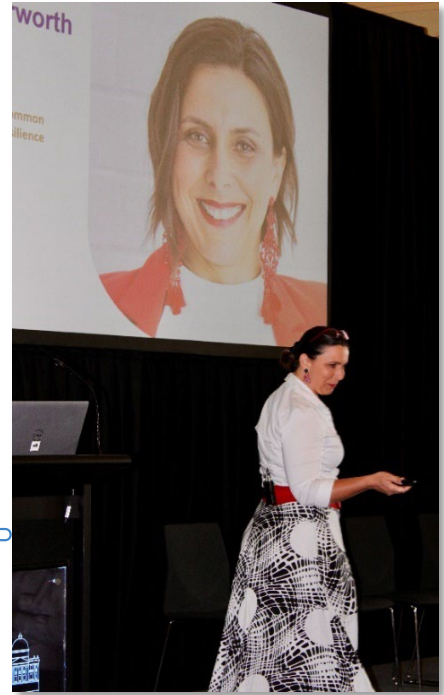
2023 - Connecting the Dots

Speakers: Dr Lavender Shu, Director & Founder, MediaMo Australia | Bec McIntosh, Principal Global Programs, Trade and Investment Queensland | Andrew Flannery, Chief Operating Officer, UQ



2024 - Empowerment: Cultivating Confidence, Aspiration and Resilience

Speakers: Mary Wong, Leadership and Speaking Coach, Optimal Life Solutions | Leanne Butterworth, Empathy educator and author, Empathy First | Gail Jukes, Chief Financial Officer, UQ





Our future

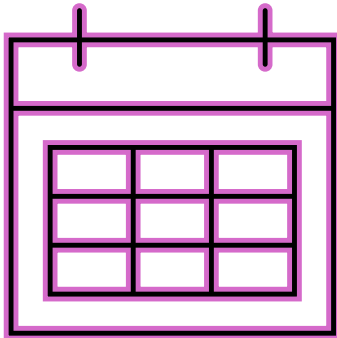
The University of Queensland Professionals Network (UQPN) was established on 24 February 1977 for the purpose of fellowship and the exchange of ideas.

UQPN celebrated its 45th anniversary in 2022 and continues to hold true to its founding members' desire to provide an avenue for the professional and personal development of individual members and networking opportunities for all professional staff employed by and associated with the University.

In 2024 UQPN refined its aspiration pillars to:

- Learning and development
- Empowerment, and
- Community and connection.

In the future, the UQPN leadership and committee seek to foster and refine quality opportunities for the UQ professional staff community.



Visit our website to find out [what we have planned for 2025!](#)

Our aspiration is to foster quality opportunities for the UQ professional staff community

Awards and achievements

In 2023 UQPN was honoured to be nominated in the UQ Awards for Excellence in the category of “Excellence in Service”. We were so proud to receive a commendation in this category which our then president Jodi Li gladly accepted on behalf of the UQPN committee.



Member feedback

What members find **challenging** in their careers:

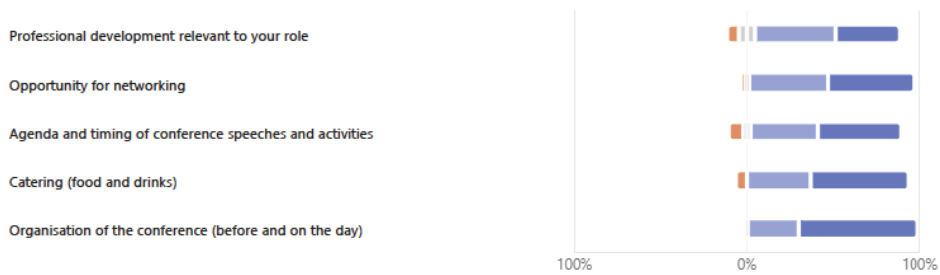


Future topics our members would like UQPN to cover:



How our members rated our last **annual conference**:

● Unsatisfactory
 ● Could have been better
 ● Neutral
 ● Good
 ● Excellent





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