UQ Research Culture Awards 2025

The University of Queensland is committed to fostering and rewarding a positive and inclusive research culture that upholds the highest standards of integrity, inclusivity, collaboration, and innovation in the way research is conducted, managed and communicated.

The UQ Research Culture Awards provide an opportunity to publicly celebrate the professional and academic research staff, across disciplines and career stages, making exceptional contributions to enriching our research environment.

These awards seek to inspire and encourage a shared commitment to advancing a sustainable and thriving research ecosystem that supports the growth of individuals and teams and empowers them to reach their full potential.

Key dates

- **Nominations open:** Tuesday 6 May
- **Nominations close:** Wednesday 4 June
- **Nominations supplied to Faculty/Institute/Division for review:** Thursday 5 June
- **Faculty/Institute/Division endorsement & comments to OPVC(R):** Friday 13 June
- **Research Culture Awards event:** Wednesday 10 September

Enquiries: pvcr.admin@uq.edu.au

Award categories

Responsible Research Practices

Awarded to staff consistently demonstrating and encouraging exceptional standards of responsible research practices, including but not limited to:

- Transparency and reproducibility through openly sharing methodologies, data and results, and enabling others to verify, replicate or build upon their work
- Data sharing and open access through making datasets, models, and resources freely available to others
- Respect for the welfare and wellbeing of participants, the community, animals and environment in the design of research methods; efforts related to the 3 Rs and informing, protecting and collaborating with those impacted by research outcomes
- Upholding Indigenous Data Governance and Sovereignty including the FAIR, CARE and Maiam Nayri Wingara Principles and the AIATSIS Code of Ethics
- Promoting and modelling sustainable research practices to achieve positive impacts on the environment and/or society

Research Management and Support

Awarded to staff upholding and facilitating the highest standards in the management and administration of research and research projects, including but not limited to:

- Strategic planning that benefits the research project, team and broader UQ vision
- Responsible resource allocation
- Creating efficient, supportive environments for research teams
- Developing or enhancing governance and management practices that enable responsible research conduct

Innovative Research Engagement

Awarded to staff employing creative approaches throughout the research lifecycle that demonstrate the power of engagement and collaboration in achieving impactful research. This may include:

- Employing novel methods to successfully engage stakeholders
- Fostering interdisciplinary partnerships
- Communicating research to wide-ranging audiences in creative and engaging ways
- Collaborating across diverse industries to drive impact

Researcher Development and Training

Awarded to staff demonstrating a strong commitment to developing and mentoring researchers across career stages and disciplines by:

- Playing an active role in sharing resources and knowledge to facilitate skills development
- Creating and promoting opportunities for career progression
- Actively mentoring colleagues or engaging in peer-to-peer support
- Nurturing early-career researchers, including HDRs, to ensure a diverse and vibrant research community
- Promoting development of knowledge and skills related to responsible research conduct

Advancing Inclusive Research Environments

Awarded to staff contributing to inclusive, diverse and equitable research environments to:

- Support a broad range of voices
- Include underrepresented groups in research
- Recognise and reward diverse pathways to research impact
- Champion the wellbeing and welfare of researchers and research teams

Partnering for the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Awarded to research initiatives displaying collaboration to advance the SDGs through:

- Clear evidence of contributions to one or more SDGs with quantifiable outcomes
- Strong, effective partnerships and collaborations with mutual benefits and long-term sustainability
- Using innovative approaches and creative solutions to address global challenges
- Potential for research outcomes to be scaled or replicated
- Active outreach and positive impact on local communities

Nomination and selection process

- Full awards details will be published on the Research Culture Awards webpage, and promoted via UQ Update and lockscreens when nominations open on Tuesday 6 May
- Award categories, criteria and nomination form outline will be circulated to Faculty/Institute/Division stakeholders ~two weeks prior to the nomination period, with a request to distribute and informally identify/approach/support nominations locally
- Nominations must be submitted via the online form during the nomination period of 6 May - 12pm 30 May - the nomination form outline is provided for reference/drafting only
- Nominations will be collated by the Office of the PVC(R) and emailed to respective Faculty and Institute Research Managers/Division Leaders by COB Tuesday 3 June
- Nominations will be supplied in spreadsheet format with a request for the following to be provided by COB Friday 30 June:
  - a Y/N Faculty/Institute/Division endorsement of each nomination (required)
  - a brief statement of support for any number of preferred nominations (optional)
- A formal OPVC(R) selection panel will run in late June to consider all endorsed nominations, with any supplied support statements considered as part of the nomination
- All endorsed nominees will be contacted in July with an invitation to attend the Research Culture Awards event on Wednesday 10 September 2025

Eligibility

- Individual and team nominations are invited across all categories. Team nominations should ideally include both Professional and Academic staff members
- Team nominations can include from two to twelve (2-12) nominees from one or more units and are not required to align with formal supervisory teams
- There is no maximum number of nominations for a given Faculty/Institute/Division
- Individuals and teams may self-nominate, subject to Faculty/Institute/Division endorsement of the nomination
- Individual and team nominations will be considered in one award category only, and duplicates will be compiled/assigned to a single category at the panel's discretion