

UQef Indigenous Scholarship Fund – Board Report



UQef Indigenous Scholarship Fund

Overview

Thank you to Simon Fenwick and UQef for your continuing support the UQef Indigenous Scholarship Fund. Your investment is helping to ensure the growth and success of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at UQ.

Established in 2021, the UQef Indigenous Scholarship Fund was created to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to succeed, develop leadership capacity and achieve their goals through higher education and access to professional opportunities. Research shows scholarship support is the highest factor influencing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to successfully reach graduation. Employment outcomes from higher education can create measurable and enduring social change with impact extending from the graduate to whole families, communities and across the nation.

By allowing UQ to use these funds to establish the UQef Match, you have also encouraged UQ's donor community to join you in enhancing education and future employment opportunities for aspiring Indigenous Australian students. Through this matching initiative, the impact of UQef's philanthropy was doubled with every gift, encouraging additional support from UQ's alumni and donor community.

This report outlines the finalisation of the UQef Match and shares stories of success made possible through the UQef Indigenous Scholarship Fund.

UQef Matching Fund Update

The UQef Match initiative has been very popular within the UQ donor community. All UQef matching funds have been fully allocated across all years of the pledge timeframe through to 2026. UQef's \$1,250,000 commitment has been leveraged to attract an additional \$1,250,000 in donations from UQ's alumni and philanthropic community to support Indigenous scholarships.

UQef External Match Tracker	
UQef commitment	\$1,250,000
Matched donors	\$1,250,000
Balance of match remaining	\$0
Total goal achieved	\$2,500,000

Additional New Scholarships

A total of 14 scholarships have received commitments from multiple donors in partnership with UQef. These scholarships will support over 20 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at UQ.

11 of these 14 scholarship funds will be endowed in perpetuity.

UQef Indigenous Scholarships			
Name of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Min Num of Scholarships per Year *	Commencement Year
1. Don and Tina Hamson Indigenous Scholarship	Endowed	2	2022
2. Ngupaiyiko Yamamaliko Scholarship Endowment	Endowed	1	2027
3. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Architecture Industry Scholarship	Expendable	3	2022
4. Walker Family Undergraduate Scholarship Endowment	Endowed	3	2024
5. The Clark-Ryan Family Scholarship	Endowed	1	2024
6. UQ Lawrence R Tedesco Endowed Scholarship	Endowed	1	2024
7. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarship 2	Endowed	1	2027
8. Walker Jones Scholarship for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student	Endowed	1	2024
9. Santos Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Scholarship	Expendable	4	2023
10. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarship supported by Grosvenor	Endowed	1	2026
11. Dr Alan Van Tran and Minh Ha Tran Indigenous Health Education Bursary	Endowed	2	2024
12. First Knoll Scholarship for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women	Endowed	1	2024
13. Holding Redlich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarship	Expendable	1	2024
14. Tommerup Indigenous Scholarship Endowment	Endowed	1	2025

*Minimum number of scholarships that may be awarded annually based on the value of the scholarship or the annual distribution from the endowment fund and on the recommendation of the DVC(IE) as tenure becomes available.

Donor and Scholar Stories

Walker Family Undergraduate Scholarship Endowment Fund

The Walker Family Undergraduate Scholarship Fund was substantially grown in partnership with UQef. One of the many students impacted by this fund is Brooklyn Devenish (pictured) completing a Bachelor of Veterinary Technology.

For Brooklyn, this generous scholarship support considerably eased financial challenges, allowing her to focus on her studies.

“This award meant that I could pay to live on campus in Gatton and study my dream degree of veterinary technology. My family lives 8 hours away in New South Wales, and due to the practical heavy component of this degree, I had to move on campus to complete my studies,” Brooklyn said.

“Without this scholarship I would be unable to complete my degree. I am eternally grateful.”



Santos Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Scholarship

Santos committed in 2022 to establish the Santos Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Scholarship in partnership with UQef to support UQ Indigenous Australian students with a preference for Traditional Owners of the lands that Santos operates on and fields of study relevant to the energy industry.

One these tenured scholarships was awarded in 2023 to Jarowair man **Thomas Scanlan** (pictured), studying a Bachelor of Environmental Science. Thomas graduated in June this year and was Student Speaker at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sashing Ceremony.

Thomas said, “The best part of my uni experience these last five years has been going to uni and seeing my people ... Being with the UQ mob and being in their presence gives me life and inspired me to push through this degree so I could be standing up here alongside them.”



Scholarships like this are critical to ensure students have the financial security to complete their degree and pursue their ambitions.

Dr Alan Van Tran and Minh Ha Tran Indigenous Health Education Bursary

Dr Alan Van Tran and Minh Ha Tran joined with UQef to substantially grow the Dr Alan Van Tran and Minh Ha Tran Indigenous Health Education Bursary Fund to create greater impact for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

In 2023, the bursary supported 18 students, including Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours) student Tachae Douglas-Miller (pictured).

Tachae said this financial support allowed her to dedicate her full attention to her studies and transform a potentially challenging year into a journey of academic discovery and achievement.

“Thank you so much to the donors, receiving this scholarship has been life-changing. I am able to focus on my studies and not have the pressure of working. I am so grateful and it means the world to me,” Tachae said.

“I’m deeply empathetic and love aiding others. Dentistry lets me assist those in need,” she explained. “In future, I’m eager to make a difference in rural areas and give back to my community.”



Thank you

Message from Professor Bronwyn Fredericks

I am delighted with the success of the UQef Match in mobilising donor support to increase the number of scholarships available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. The interest from our UQ community has been extraordinary, and I'm pleased to share that we have fully allocated all Match funding available through this initiative. Thank you for your investment in our young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students as leaders of the future.

We are committed to increasing tertiary education success for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at UQ. Equitable opportunity to access a world-class education is at the heart of achieving these goals. Upon graduation, employment outcomes for our Indigenous Australian graduates are strong. The impact of this success extends beyond the individual to entire communities, including, non-Indigenous Australians as we look toward the Australia of the future.

Once again, thank you for the trust you have placed in our team here at UQ. Together we are empowering the next generation of Indigenous leaders. We look forward to keeping you updated on the impact of our partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Bronwyn Fredericks
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement)