

The School of Arts ran classes, public lectures and a members' lending library. In 1882 it created Brisbane Technical College, providing vocational and professional education for working-class tradesmen and for women. Renamed the Central Technical College, it moved to Gardens Point in 1915.

In November 1849, the inaugural Brisbane School of Arts and Sciences lecture on 'The Connection between Science and Commerce' was delivered by journalist and administrator, William Augustine Duncan. That lecture initiated Queensland's oldest continuous western higher educational lineage, setting a tone for the institution that became QUT.

A British penal colony was established in 1825 on the site today occupied by the Brisbane CBD. British free settlers were allowed from 1838.

Prior to colonisation, the Brisbane area was home to a vibrant and active Aboriginal community with at least 100 camps located within well-defined living, ceremonial, burial and public spaces. The community hosted ceremonies with tribes from surrounding areas where music, dance, songs and knowledge were shared.

Brisbane Aboriginal people had defined systems of kinship, governance, knowledge and education. Bora rings and corroboree sites existed in numerous areas across Brisbane including Nudgee, Keperra, Woolloongabba, Samford and Enoggera. The land on which QUT and Brisbane City now sits is called Meanjin.

Colonisation was cataclysmic for the Turrbal and Yugara people. Many were forcibly removed, or died in massacres or fighting to maintain their land and families.

Aboriginal resistance to colonisation continued into the late 1800s and early 1900s. Despite frequent raids of their camps and the burning of their homes, Turrbal and Yugara people continued to live in the Brisbane area.

The Aboriginal community in Brisbane was reduced to about six camps. A camp near the Kelvin Grove campus known as 'Barrambin' was maintained until the 1950s as a gathering site for families.

Despite dispossession of their land, the Brisbane Aboriginal community continued their strong resistance through undertaking protest marches and other political activities.

A number of teacher training colleges opened during the early twentieth century, sharing a practical orientation and an emphasis on sport, the arts and social activities. Many staff contributed tuppence per day to purchase the first works of what is now the QUT Art Collection. A series of mergers ultimately formed the Brisbane College of Advanced Education (CAE), with a significant presence in Kelvin Grove.

In 1965 Central Technical College became the Queensland Institute of Technology (QIT), expanding beyond the six original departments of chemistry, engineering, general studies, business studies, architecture and building. The College of Nursing (Queensland) joined in 1978, and postgraduate, part-time and cross-institutional options proliferated.

QIT became QUT on 1 January 1989 under the *Queensland University of Technology Act*, and Brisbane CAE joined the following year. QUT was *The Australian Good University Guide's* inaugural Australian University of the Year in 1993.

QUT's Learning Potential Fund (LPF) was established in 1998 to expand access for talented students at financial disadvantage. Still the largest equity scholarship program of its kind in Australia, the LPF has distributed more than 25,000 scholarships and bursaries since its inception.

In 1991, QUT established an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student support unit called 'The Oodgeroo Unit' in honour of the poet, activist and educator, Oodgeroo Noonuccal.

While much has changed since William Duncan first addressed the science-business nexus, the QUT of today is built on this storied history of access, innovation and inspiration, and we honour that legacy in pursuing our ambitions for the future.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are beginning to play a prominent role in QUT. In 2008 QUT established the Indigenous Studies Research Network. In 2016 the university appointed its first Dean of the Indigenous Research and Engagement Unit, and then in 2019 its first Indigenous Pro Vice-Chancellor. In 2019 QUT has approximately 800 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Between 1998 and 2015, the Turrbal and Yugara people lodged native title claims over areas of Brisbane including the lands where the Gardens Point and Kelvin Grove campuses stand. Their claims and an appeal were rejected, maintaining and reinforcing their dispossession.