Faculty of Engineering

Future Directions

2024 – 2027

QUT

the university for the real world®

Foreword

Connections – the QUT Strategy 2023 to 2027 **outlines our university's shared purpose: to provide transformative education, student experiences and research relevant to our communities. The QUT Faculty of Engineering champions this endeavour through our excellence in engineering, built environments and advanced technologies.**

Our faculty is located in the centre of Brisbane—one of the fastest growing metropolitan cities in the country. In addition to rapid growth, our communities face significant intergenerational challenges such as population aging, climate change and environmental degradation.

Our faculty is committed to addressing these challenges through our education and research— ensuring that the knowledge we create today serves the generations that succeed us. Key to achieving this will be to ensure that advancements in sustainability are embedded throughout our curriculum, research priorities and operations. Further, we will continue to build our support for Indigenous Australian engagement, success and empowerment through partnerships and shared learning.

Future Directions outlines the key goals we will strive to achieve as a faculty over the coming years. It describes how we will:

- deliver transformative learning experiences that empower professionals with the real-world skills and networks needed to lead tomorrow's industries
- develop unique research capabilities and grow our partnerships to ensure our innovations deliver excellence and impact for the communities we serve
- foster a socially responsible and inclusive educational culture, where staff and students can realise their inherent potential to create positive change.

I wish to thank the many staff and stakeholders who helped develop this strategy. I look forward to working together to achieve this future state.

Ana Deletić

Professor Ana Deletic FTSE HonFIEAust,
Executive Dean, Faculty of Engineering

Our vision

To lead Australian education and research in engineering and the built environment for a sustainable future.

For more information about the QUT Faculty of Engineering, go to qut.edu.au/about/faculty-of-engineering

Our edge

Our future direction as a faculty is steeped in the university's long-standing, real-world approach to higher education and research. Our emphasis on employability, inclusion, industry collaboration and impact are all integral to how we conduct education and research.

Creating opportunities for our students to connect with authentic, transformative and industry-engaged learning is a key point of differentiation with other leading higher education providers, and we will continue to strengthen these distinctive student experiences.

Our *Research Strategy* aims to address significant, complex and ongoing challenges that shape our global landscape, including:

• climate change and sustainability

• population–related drivers

• technology disruption.

Our path to impact is linked to our enduring connections to industry and high-level engagement with a range of strategic sectors to deliver benefits to health, transport, aerospace, manufacturing, mining and agriculture.

These are our strengths and the key to our future successes.

Our people, place and culture

GOAL 1: To foster an inclusive culture and work environment that enables excellence in all areas.

Priorities

- 1.1 Lifting our cultural competence in engaging with Indigenous Australian communities and organisations, as well as supporting Indigenous Australian staff to engage in targeted culturally supportive and focused activities.

- 1.2 Promoting wellbeing, inclusion and diversity.

- 1.3 Supporting career development, progression and excellence through capability and mentoring programs.

- 1.4 Strategically aligning our recruitment to support anticipated areas of need across our education, research and operations.

GOAL 2: To cultivate our faculty's reputation as the best place to partner, work and study.

Priorities

- 2.1 Engaging with alumni, philanthropy and industry partners to support student success, graduate outcomes and research impact.

- 2.2 Optimising the utilisation of our physical spaces and equipment, as well as showcasing our facilities to the community.

- 2.3 Developing cutting-edge laboratory and teaching spaces to support delivery of the faculty's *Research Strategy* and educational experiences.

- 2.4 Raising our international profile through partnerships with international universities, corporations and alumni.

Our educational experiences

GOAL 3: To inspire and attract diverse learners to study with us.

Priorities

- 3.1 Collaborating across QUT to deliver outreach activities with Indigenous Australian school students—promoting pathways into careers in engineering, architecture and the built environment.

- 3.2 Inspiring diverse, high-potential school leavers to pursue our courses by engaging with targeted high schools.

- 3.3 Growing our international student cohorts, including through developing strong institutional partnerships.

GOAL 4: To continually reshape our educational offerings to reflect future-focused industry and community priorities.

Priorities

- 4.1 Enhancing quality assurance and accreditation processes to ensure our courses maintain their real-world focus and contemporary disciplinary content.

- 4.2 Implementing and monitoring our new postgraduate offerings and double degrees.

- 4.3 Embedding Indigenous Australian perspectives and knowledges throughout our education and frontline support services.

- 4.4 Diversifying continuing professional education and micro-credential offerings, as well as exploring opportunities to offer flexible delivery modes, including online education.

GOAL 5: To enhance students' sense of belonging, learning experience and employability by strengthening our real-world focus and pedagogy.

Priorities

- 5.1 Creating signature experiences that develop students' leadership and networking skills, as well as connecting them to their chosen professions.

- 5.2 Ensuring student success through targeted support, creating engaging classroom experiences and enhanced work integrated learning.

- 5.3 Enabling opportunities for students to connect with each other and mentors, as well as to develop their academic interests beyond the classroom.

- 5.4 Ensuring our courses prepare graduates to ethically, responsibly and critically use generative AI in their careers.

Our research and innovation

GOAL 6: To enhance our research excellence aligned with our *Research Strategy*.

Priorities

- 6.1 Strengthening the international reputation of our research centres and research strengths through targeted international collaborations and partnerships.

- 6.2 Building our disciplinary strength and growing our external research funding through targeted capacity building and seeding new collaborations.

- 6.3 Boosting the impact of our publications by increasing the number of outputs published in the highest-quality outlets (such as D1 journals) in line with discipline norms.

- 6.4 Investing in, championing and building capability of our early-career academics (ECA), researchers, and research support staff.

GOAL 7: To build, cultivate and strengthen first-class, long-term partnerships with industry, government and communities.

Priorities

- 7.1 Formulating partnerships to support Indigenous Australians' research priorities and supporting the implementation of the *QUT Indigenous Australian Research Strategy*.

- 7.2 Investing in the creation of new large-scale initiatives that support strategic industry partnerships.

- 7.3 Profiling our research capabilities to industry sectors of strategic importance to our communities.

GOAL 8: To create high-quality research training experiences.

Priorities

- 8.1 Boosting domestic higher degree research (HDR) applications and increasing the number of industry scholarships by showcasing HDR as a premier pathway to careers and leadership in industry.

- 8.2 Elevating the HDR experience by cultivating the supervisory expertise of our academics, driving innovation and promoting a culture of respect and support.

- 8.3 Increasing the number of HDR internships to enrich research training experiences.

Access our *Research Strategy* at qut.edu.au/research/our-research/engineering

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