



23 July 2025

QUT releases Middleton Review and adopts all recommendations

Queensland University of Technology (QUT) has today released the findings of a review conducted by The Honourable John Middleton AM KC into the National Symposium on Unifying Anti-Racist Research and Action and associated events hosted by its Carumba Institute in January 2025.

The Hon. John Middleton's comprehensive review examined the content and organisation of the Symposium, as well as the broader program of events surrounding it, including compliance with university policies and procedures.

QUT Vice-Chancellor Professor Margaret Sheil welcomed the independent assessment and undertook to implement all recommendations.

"We are grateful to Mr Middleton for his detailed examination of these events and his considered recommendations," Professor Sheil said.

The review found that neither the content presented, nor the conduct of participants, were antisemitic when taken in the context of the event. However, it found that some of the content was capable of causing offence and more careful consideration should have been given to the timing and potential risk in light of the broader social context.

"It is vital that universities remain a place where diverse perspectives can be explored, challenged and better understood, however it is equally essential that these discussions are undertaken in a way that is respectful and avoids vilification or discrimination," Professor Sheil said.

"Antisemitism or any other form of racism or discrimination has no place in a university or the broader community," she said.

QUT's response

Professor Sheil said all recommendations would be implemented, with QUT already addressing some recommendations, specifically –

- Strengthened oversight of Carumba Institute through new reporting lines to the Provost (Chief Academic Officer), providing clearer strategic alignment with other academic areas of the university as part of the Academic Division.
- Adoption of Universities Australia's agreed working definition on combatting antisemitism by QUT Council.



The remaining recommendations relating to policy, process, staff training and event governance will be implemented through existing university mechanisms.

Any matters relating to individual staff conduct have been addressed internally and with appropriate confidentiality.

Professor Sheil said QUT maintained its strong and ongoing commitment to diversity, inclusion, safety and social justice for everyone within its community.

"These values are fundamental to who we are as a university," Professor Sheil said.

"We remain committed to fostering open academic debate and supporting important research on social justice issues, including the important work of our Carumba Institute in advancing Indigenous-led research and anti-racist scholarship."

The full report, including recommendations is available on QUT's website.

ENDS