Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Short version:
I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands where QUT now stands, pay respect to their Elders – past, present and emerging – and acknowledge the important role Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play within the QUT community.

Long version:
In keeping with the spirit of Reconciliation, I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands where QUT now stands – and recognise that these have always been places of teaching and learning.

I wish to pay respect to their Elders – past, present and emerging – and acknowledge the important role Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play within the QUT community.

For more information visit: www.qut.edu.au/about/our-university/acknowledgement-of-traditional-owners
Guidelines for the Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

An ‘Acknowledgement’ is a mark of respect to the Traditional Owners of the land and sea and can be given by anyone.

Two versions are provided – both are appropriate for use at QUT functions such as lectures, in-house training, workshops, conferences, seminars and meetings.

‘Acknowledgments’ are an important part of the Reconciliation process that QUT has a responsibility to foster through its teaching, research and community activities.

This ‘Acknowledgement’ is also available as a Powerpoint slide. QUT staff can download the slide at https://sharepoint.qut.edu.au/divisions/das/equity/docs/Acknowledgement%20of%20Traditional%20Owners.pptx or contact QUT’s Equity Services on 3138 5601.

Booking a ‘Welcome to Country’

A ‘Welcome to Country’ is a formal welcome onto Aboriginal Land given by an Indigenous Elder or person from that area.

‘Welcomes’ are used at major, formal functions where official guests and dignitaries are in attendance.

It is important to ensure that the appropriate representative is invited to perform the ‘Welcome to Country’.

For more information contact QUT’s Equity Services on 3138 5601.

Flag meanings

The Aboriginal Flag
Designed by Harold Thomas
The top half of the flag is black to symbolise Aboriginal people. The red in the lower half stands for the earth and the colour of ochre which has ceremonial significance. The circle of yellow in the centre of the flag represents the sun.

The Torres Strait Islander Flag
Designed by Bernard Namok
The green panels of the flag represent the land and the blue panel represents the sea. The black lines dividing the panels represent the Torres Strait Islander people. The centre of the flag shows a white dhari, a symbol for all Torres Strait Islanders. Underneath the dhari is a white five-pointed star, an important symbol for navigating the sea. The points of the star represent the island groups in the Torres Strait and white symbolises peace.