



TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

ANNUAL LATIN AMERICAN COLLOQUIUM 2024

Biotechnology for health, environment,
and food security: opportunities and
challenges for Australia and Latin America



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

17th Annual Latin American Colloquium

The University of Queensland (UQ) is proud to be celebrating 17 years of hosting the Latin American Colloquium (LAC). Since 2007, we have welcomed leaders from Latin American government, industry, and the higher education sector to connect with our researchers and university staff. Together, we have discussed emerging opportunities and explored ways to address grand challenges of interest to both regions.

LAC is just one aspect of a strong and long-standing partnership between UQ and Latin America dating back almost 40 years. The University's people-to-people links with Latin American universities, government agencies, corporate networks, and non-government organisations have led to hundreds of research projects and encouraged thousands of international students to join our Brisbane campuses. Importantly, our close working relationships have supported connections between our people and our capabilities, leading to real and meaningful outcomes.

From science and sustainability to health and humanities, our collaborative work has had impact at a global level. The Global Bioeconomy Alliance (GBA) is an example of collaboration for change. A tripartite partnership between UQ, São Paulo State University (UNSEP) in Brazil, and the Technical University of Munich (TUM) in Germany is creating a strong global network of leaders in the field of bioeconomy. Hosted by UQ in September 2023, the GBA Conference showcased solutions to inform the future of the bioeconomy – locally and internationally – and facilitated action-oriented discussions on building a sustainable future.

The focus on the future of the bioeconomy has provided the foundation for this year's Colloquium theme - **Biotechnology for health, environment, and food security: opportunities and challenges for Australia and Latin America**. Our hope is this theme will encompass discussions on the relevant capacities and dimensions of biotechnology in Australia and Latin America, as well as how and where collaborations should be established to facilitate knowledge transfer, overcome obstacles and maximise outcomes.

Key activities in the UQ–Latin America relationship include the establishment of the Sustainable Minerals Institute (SMI) International Centre of Excellence (SMI ICE-Chile), which aims to address major challenges facing Chile's mining sector. The Centre has built an impressive reputation for contributing to the sustainability and improving social impact of mining in the region. Led by UQ President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Deborah Terry AC, the University's leaders had the privilege of embarking on a Senior Executive Mission to Chile and Brazil in August 2023 to meet with university partners, industry, government, and alumni. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet with new and emerging collaborators across Latin America and deepen our engagement with several long-standing UQ partners. UQ also signed agreements with several partners, committing to collaborate across teaching, research, innovation, and commercialisation.

UQ's links with the diverse countries of Latin America is not limited to research. UQ offers Spanish language as a field of study for Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of International Studies, and Diploma of Languages students. Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese language classes are also available to students and members of the public through the Institute of Modern Languages. Students with an interest in diplomacy can also apply for the UQ Embassy Internships program, which gives students the chance to spend four weeks in a Latin American or North American embassy in Canberra.

We look forward to continuing our connections and robust discussions into the future and expanding our collaboration on key global issues, academic partnerships, technological innovations, and trade relations for the mutual benefit to our regions. Thank you for participating in the 17th UQ–Latin American Colloquium.



Give us your feedback

Complete the post-event survey and submit your feedback at survey.app.uq.edu.au/2024-LAC

2024 PROGRAM

TIME	DESCRIPTION
8:30-9am	REGISTRATION OPENS
9-9:15am	Master of Ceremonies Dr Giuliana Oyola-Lozada, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, UQ. Welcome address Professor Deborah Terry AC, President and Vice-Chancellor, UQ. Her Excellency Mrs Dianela Pi, Ambassador of Uruguay.
9:15-10:15am	Keynote speaker Professor Glenn King, Recipient, 2023 Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation, Chief Scientific Officer, Infensa Bioscience; and NHMRC Investigator, Division of Chemistry & Drug Discovery, Institute for Molecular Bioscience, UQ.
10:15-11am	NETWORKING MORNING TEA
11am-12:30pm	Panel: Using biotechnology to address global challenges Moderator: Professor Damian Hine, Professorial Research Fellow, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, UQ. Her Excellency Tanieris Diéguez La O, Ambassador of Cuba. Dr Chris Downs, Director, Food and Beverage Accelerator (FaBA), Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, UQ. Professor Michelle Colgrave, Deputy Director - Impact, CSIRO Agriculture & Food. Associate Professor Marina Fortes, Group Leader, Livestock Genomics Group, School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences, UQ. Professor Trent Munro, Industry Professor and Director, Biotechnology Innovation, UQ.
12:30-12:45pm	Closing remarks His Excellency Mr Vitaliano Gallardo Valencia, Ambassador of Peru. Dr Andrew Harvey, Head, Strategic Partnerships, UniQuest.
12:45pm	EVENT ENDS



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