



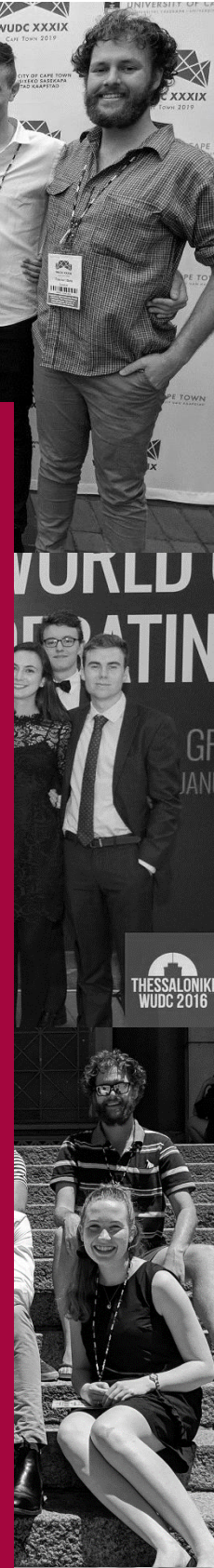
SPONSORSHIP PROSPECTUS 2020

The University of Queensland Debating Society (UQDS)

Website: uqds.org

Phone: 0488747699

Email: sponsorship@uqds.org





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President's Welcome

On behalf of the UQDS, welcome to the University of Queensland Debating Society's Sponsorship Prospectus for 2020.

The University of Queensland Debating Society (UQDS) is one of Queensland's most prestigious student societies, and one of the most active student societies at UQ. Every year, we send large contingents of students to compete in numerous debating tournaments across Australia and the World. In 2019 we had over 200 financial members.

As well as regularly competing in national and international tournaments, the UQDS also hosts a variety of events at UQ. Our Internal Competition, which runs weekly, is fiercely competitive and well-attended by both new and experienced debaters alike. Members of the Queensland University of Technology Debating Society and the Griffith University Debating Society also attend this competition. In collaboration with UQ Faculties, including the Faculty of Science, BEL Faculty and EAIT Faculty, the UQDS coordinates a range of Public Debates to engage and stimulate broader societal discussion on campus. The UQDS also hosts multiple High School Development Days throughout the year, connecting school students with experienced university debating mentors. The UQDS also host weekend (1-2 day) competitions that are attended by other Queensland and interstate institutions which provide an excellent opportunity to develop our members' skills further.

In 2020, we hope to further grow and develop as a society to allow even more university students the possibility to connect with like-minded individuals, develop their communication skills and persuasiveness, and experience the incredible opportunities provided by the UQDS. Our newly-elected Executive Committee has already introduced new initiatives such as a Buddy Program, an Alumni Network and a redrafted Equity Policy for 2020, with even more new initiatives in the works.

We see sponsorship as a crucial aspect of the long-term success of the UQDS: your support enables us to provide financial support to high-achieving debaters who would otherwise be unable to attend tournaments and to broaden our presence at UQ.

I look forward to working with your organisation in 2020 and beyond.

Kelsey Adcock

2020 President of the UQDS



About Us

HISTORY

The Society, as it stands today was established in 1960 making it the oldest society at the university. However, structured debate has been a significant component of campus culture at UQ since the university's foundation in 1909, at which time the institution's first Intervarsity Debating Team was created. The UQDS has a proud history of allowing, preparing and encouraging UQ students to participate in and contribute to public discourse on a range of topical issues.



*UQ Having Won the Australian Intervarsity
Debating Championships, 1953*

OUR MISSION

The UQDS recognise debate as a crucial instrument of learning, critical thinking and communication and as such, endeavours to teach, encourage and promote debate on campus and in the broader community. We bring together students from a variety of educational disciplines and backgrounds bound by a common passion for the art of debate with the intention of stimulated rounded, informed discourse on a broad range of topical issues.



What Do We Do?

WEEKLY INTERNAL DEBATING AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Free to participate in and run on-campus, our internal training sessions and debating competition forms the crux of most members' engagement with the Society. Held every Tuesday evening, our internal competition is fiercely competitive and is regularly attended by both new and experienced debaters alike. Participants are given under 30 minutes of preparation time to compose an 8-minute speech on a virtually unlimited scope of potential topics. Therefore, debaters must keep abreast of current affairs and hone their ability to efficiently formulate, analyse and synthesise ideas.

Pro-Am Rounds (Spans 3 weeks/Beginning of Each Semester)

The UQDS hosts three rounds of practice debates which pair experienced (professional) and new (amateur) debaters at the beginning of each semester. This enables our newest members to learn at the feet of experienced debating minds.



*Semester 1, 2019 UQDS
Internal Competition Grand*

Internal Competition (Spans One Semester/One Per Semester)

These competitions give UQDS members the opportunity to come together as a community on a weekly basis, partake in debates, critique each other's performances and hone their speaking skills.



PARTAKING IN MAJOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Major Competitions are the premier opportunity for our members to represent the UQDS and UQ on a national and international level, as well as compete against the world's best debaters. Namely, these major competitions include The Australian Intersvarsity Debating Championships, The Australasian Intersvarsity Debating Championships, The Australasian Wom*n's Debating Championships and The World University Debating Championships. Debaters wishing to attend a major competition are trialed and selected by independent adjudicators. The biggest barrier that prevents debaters from attending tournaments is the cost, which often runs into the thousands of dollars. By sponsoring a UQDS, you help to support needs-based subsidies for our talented members.

The Australian Intersvarsity Debating Championships

The first major tournament of the year, The Australian Intersvarsity Debating Championships, emphasises debating development and is typically the first major competition new debaters will attend. Approximately, 250 debaters attend from across the country. The UQDS has historically been highly successful at this competition, consistently qualifying teams for finals rounds and in 2018, reaching the Quarter-Finals. In 2020, UQ will send 28 debaters to this competition, hosted in Canberra by the Australian National University.



The UQDS Australian Intersvarsity Debating Championships Contingent, Sydney, 2019



The Australasian Intervarsity Debating Championships

The Australasian Intervarsity Debating Championships is attended by approximately 300 of the best debaters from across the Asia-Pacific region. This competition presents an excellent opportunity for our members to compete against some of world's best debaters and facilitates the engagement of UQDS members with like-minded individuals from a range of neighbouring cities and countries. In 2020, this competition will be hosted in Melbourne by the Monash University.

*The Australasian Wom*n's Debating Championships*

The Australasian Wom*n's Debating Championships is a competition exclusively for non-cis male debaters. Approximately 100 debaters attend from across the Asia-Pacific region. This competition provides a specific and unique opportunity for female participants to develop their debating skills, socialise with one another, and partake in a forum held at the competition targeted at discussing gender-related issues in the global debating community and society more broadly. In 2018, the UQDS reached the Semi-Final of this Competition.

The World University Debating Championships

The World University Debating Championships is the premier international debating tournament, held over the Christmas Break, during which debaters from all over the globe come together. Approximately 800 debaters from the world's top debating institutions are typically in attendance. This competition is typically a tournament to which UQ sends its most experienced and talented debaters, and they enjoy regular success. This competition will be held at Assumption University (Suvarnabhumi campus) in Thailand over the 2019-20 New Year. The 2020-21 competition will be held in South Korea.



2018 UQDS Contingent at the World University Debating Championships in Mexico City



HOSTING INTERVARSITY COMPETITIONS

In addition to sending teams to the major competitions outlined above, the UQDS hosts a repertoire of smaller 1-2-day competitions. Open to intervarsity and interstate participation, these are key opportunities our members use to refine their skills and provide debaters without the means to attend major competitions with tournament style experience. These competitions also provide an avenue for aspiring new debaters to segue into competitive debating.

Fictional Intvarsity (IV) Competition

Fictional IV is a unique tournament in which debaters consider topics within the context of fictional universes such as literature, cinema and television. Past years have seen entertaining and impassioned debates on topics such as Star Wars, Harry Potter, Disney Princess Films and Game of Thrones. Placed before the beginning of the academic year, and as the only tournament of its kind, Fictional IV attracts numerous interstate participants.

Queensland Cup

Queensland Cup is the premier state-based intervarsity competition, contested by Griffith University, the Queensland University of Technology and UQ. Placed shortly before the mid-year break, Queensland Cup often attracts teams practicing for the Australasian Championships and is thus a competitive and highly attended tournament.

Pro-Am Intvarsity Competition

The Pro-Am (Professional-Amateur) Competition presents a fantastic opportunity for new debaters looking to develop their skills. Teams must consist of at least one veteran debater and one novice (new) debater. This provides our newest society members with an opportunity to debate alongside some of the best speakers and critical thinkers in Queensland.

Pineapple Intvarsity Competition

The Pineapple Intvarsity Competition is the newest addition to our internal competition circuit, however has quickly become one of our most popular events. Held in October, this competition is entering its third consecutive year at UQ and is consistently attended by not only the UQDS's most talented members, but some of the best intervarsity debaters across the nation.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The UQDS undertakes several programs in order to promote public discussion and debate throughout UQ and South-East Queensland. This is facilitated through a repertoire of events which cement the Society's position as an enabler of productive discourse on campus.

Public Debates

The UQDS, in collaboration with other Student Societies, the University of Queensland Union, and various UQ Faculties, facilitates the hosting of public debate events on campus in the tradition of the Oxford Union. Debates have been held on a broad range of topics in previous years including the merits of gene-editing and nuclear power, to issues such as data privacy and artificial intelligence which have become increasingly relevant in a rapidly advancing world. Attendance of public debates typically numbers in the hundreds and presents a fantastic opportunity for the Society to engage the broader UQ community. We invite sponsors of these debates to send representative speakers should they wish.



UQDS Public Debate, 2015

High School Development Days

The UQDS holds an annual high school one-day competition, providing senior school debaters the opportunity to participate in university style debating. This provides students with a taste of what intervarsity debating has to offer, as well as mentorship by experienced university debaters, an invaluable resource for students from schools without established debating programs. In 2020, the UQDS is looking to expand the offerings of High School Development Days to engage with younger students and provide a taste of more formats of debating.



SOCIAL EVENTS

The UQDS recognise the importance of celebrating our victories and building our internal debating community. Beyond being simply intellectual competitors, our debaters are part of a warm and supportive community. Regular events are held by the UQDS to give debaters a chance to express themselves in a more sociable capacity.

Major Competition Send-Offs

Before sending teams across the country or around the globe to partake in some of the world's most prestigious debating competitions, we like to send our debaters on their way with a UQDS tradition - a send-off social! This presents an opportunity for the society to come together outside the confines of competition and wish our competing members well. Send-off socials are held before every major competition.

The UQDS Summer Ball

Held annually in the month of October, the Summer ball is the Society's flagship social event. Always highly anticipated, this social event provides an opportunity for all members to gather at an off-campus venue and celebrate the year that has come. Prizes are awarded at this event to recognise the best and most improved novice and veteran debaters. Further, this event is also where we celebrate the achievements of the outgoing Executive Committee and welcome those to serve on the committee in the next calendar year.



UQDS Summer Ball, 2016



*The Wom*n's Social*

The annual Wom*n's Social, typically held in September, presents a unique opportunity for our non-cis male members to come together and socialise with one another. This event is held in a picnic format inside of UQ's iconic Great Court.

The Novice Social

Entering the world of debating, like starting any new activity, can often prove a daunting experience at first. We do our utmost to encourage our new debaters and develop their skills. This includes hosting a range of events and competitions targeted at novice development and the consistent efforts of our two permanently appointed Novice Officers tasked with guiding new members through their first years as UQDS debaters. The Novice Social presents yet another opportunity to do precisely this, providing novice debaters with the chance to mix and mingle with one another, our older more experienced members, our Executive Committee and our Novice Officers. This event is held at the beginning of the Semester One.



Participants of our Novice Intersociety Competition



Why Sponsor Us?

ACCESS TO INTELLIGENT AND ELOQUENT CRITICAL THINKERS

Sponsoring the UQDS provides you with unique access to a diverse pool of university students who are well-equipped to succeed in a professional environment. Armed with under 30 minutes of preparation time, debaters cooperate in teams to confront complex policy challenges and craft practical solutions, whilst simultaneously defending their positions from criticism. These advanced communication and critical thinking skills enable them to confidently make presentations to clients, create meaningful professional relationships and contribute in team environments.

EFFECTIVE MARKETING TOOL

Sponsors gain the opportunity to market their company or organisation to a highly engaged social media community. The Public UQDS Facebook Page has over 1,350 followers who are actively engaged with the Society online. Further, the Society has an active mailing list of members and alumni who we regularly contact and deliver information to. The UQDS also hold stalls at university Market Days. These are campus-wide events which occur twice a year (at the start of each semester), giving students the opportunity to purchase membership to various student-led societies and clubs. Foot traffic on these days is approximately 40,000 people, consisting of students and staff from across the university. We are able and willing to distribute your entity's promotional material at this event. Lastly, the Society also regularly host Public Debates on topical issues which draw large crowds (hundreds) of students and staff alike. Sponsorship of these debates provides excellent potential for exposure to the broader UQ community.



UQDS Registering New Members at Market Day, Semester 2, 2019



POSITIVE LOCAL, INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

As the largest debating society in Queensland, the UQDS takes a leadership role in hosting competitions and social events with other Queensland Universities, broadening the scope of our sponsors' exposure. Beyond this, the UQDS consistently sends several teams to Australian, Australasian and World Championship competitions. Furthermore, the Society has had 2 notable successes at these major tournaments, including winning the Australian and Australasian Championships. Sponsoring these teams provides our partners with domestic and international exposure, as well as a stellar reputation to associate with and support.

REMOVE FINANCIAL BARRIERS FOR TALENTED DEBATERS

The UQDS is in no shortage of talented debaters able and willing to compete in national and international competitions. However, an unfortunate reality is that many of our debaters are full-time students, unable to bear the cost of interstate and international travel to major debating competitions. Our sponsors allow the UQDS to subsidise travel, accommodation and tournament registration costs for our debaters to make participation in these competitions as accessible as possible.

EXCEPTIONAL EMPOWERED FEMALE LEADERS

The UQDS has a proud record of engaging, empowering and retaining female debaters, evidenced by our equal opportunities commitment, participation in women-only training days and debates, and rigorous adherence to tournament Affirmative Action policies. Sponsoring UQDS provides you with the opportunity to enhance your firm's visibility to exceptional female debaters from around the world.



*UQDS at the Australian
Wom*n's Debating*

HIGHLY ENGAGED MEMBERS

The UQDS has an incredibly active membership. Debaters attend weekly internal debates and training sessions, several small weekend-long tournaments hosted by the UQDS throughout the year and, several major domestic and international competitions. Therefore, you can rest assured that sponsoring our society will keep your entity in constant contact with our talented members and at the forefront of their minds.



UQDS Alumni

Our members pursue success in high-profile graduate employment in fields as diverse as law, commerce, consulting, economics, engineering, science and politics. This can be attributed to the fact that debating attracts confident students who seek to challenge themselves, defend their ideas and develop their skills in a competitive environment. Some of our most successful members have been listed below.

FRANCIS PATRICK DONOVAN

- *1941 Debating Team Captain*
- *1946 Rhodes Scholar*
- *Australian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the OECD*

JULIE MCKAY

- *2004 UQDS President*
- *Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at PricewaterhouseCooper*
- *Director of UN Women Australia*
- *National Finalist for Young Australian of the Year*

TOM GOLE

- *Principal at BCG*
- *Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University*
- *Worked for RBA, IMF and World Bank*

ASSOC. PROF. CAITLIN GOSS

- *Associate Prof. at the University of Queensland*
- *D.Phil. in Law at Oxford University*
- *Worked as Associate to Hon. Justice C.E. Holmes*
- *2009 Rhodes Scholar*

LAUREN HUMPHREY

- *Australasian Debating Championships Grand Finalist*
- *Consultant at McKinsey and Company*

PROFESSOR JOHN DEVEREUX

- *Barrister-at-Law*
- *Professor of Law at UQ*
- *1988 Rhodes Scholar*

ALICE HEATHCOTE

- *Senior VP and CFO of Renewables Division at ContourGlobal*

SIMON QUINN

- *Deputy Director of the Centre for the Study of African Economics*
- *2005 Rhodes Scholar*
- *2007 Oxford Union Debater of the Year*

KRISTEN PRICE

- *2007 Australasian Intervarsity Debating Championship Winner*

ERIN O'BRIEN

- *2007 World University Debating Championships Grand Finalist*
- *Senior Lecturer, QUT Faculty of Law (School of Justice)*

NICHOLAS SALMON

- *2014-2016 Queensland Secondary School State Team Debating Coach*
- *2019 Rhodes Scholar*



Pricing

The UQDS offer a broad range of sponsorship opportunities with the intention of adding meaningful value to our partners. We recognise that each and every one of our sponsors are different and consequently, give them the scope to assemble bespoke packages which cater to their unique interests. However, we have assembled 4 great value pre-packaged sponsorship deal for your convenience.

PACKAGED OPTIONS

	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum
Contribution	\$250	\$500	\$1000	\$2000
Email Blasts of Your Design to Members	1	2	3	5
Acknowledgement on society t-shirts	-	-	Yes	Yes
Facebook Post of Your Design on the UQDS Page	2	3	4	6
On-Campus Presentation to Members	-	-	1	2
Naming Rights to a UQDS Hosted Intervarsity Competition	-	-	1	1
Pick a Topic Theme for a Round of Our Internal Competition	-	-	1	2
Naming Rights of a UQDS Major Competition Team	-	-	-	1
Choose the Theme of and Receive Naming Rights to a Public Debate	-	-	-	1
Promotional Material Distributed to New Members at Market Day	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Website Presence	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Acknowledgement of Sponsorship at All Major Events	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Inclusion of Sponsor in Email Signatures for All Society Correspondence	-	-	Yes	Yes

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Final Remarks

On behalf of the 2020 UQDS Executive Committee, thank you considering supporting of our Society. We look forward to working with you in 2020. Should you have any questions about anything in this document or about the Society more broadly, our Sponsorship Officer, Jahan Patel or our President, Kelsey Adcock would be more than happy to help.

Should you be interested in becoming a Sponsorship Partner of UQDS, we would love to hear from you. We are able to begin a discussion over email, phone or in person.

Jahan Patel

Executive Sponsorship Officer

Email: sponsorship@uqds.org

Kelsey Adcock

President

Email: president@uqds.org