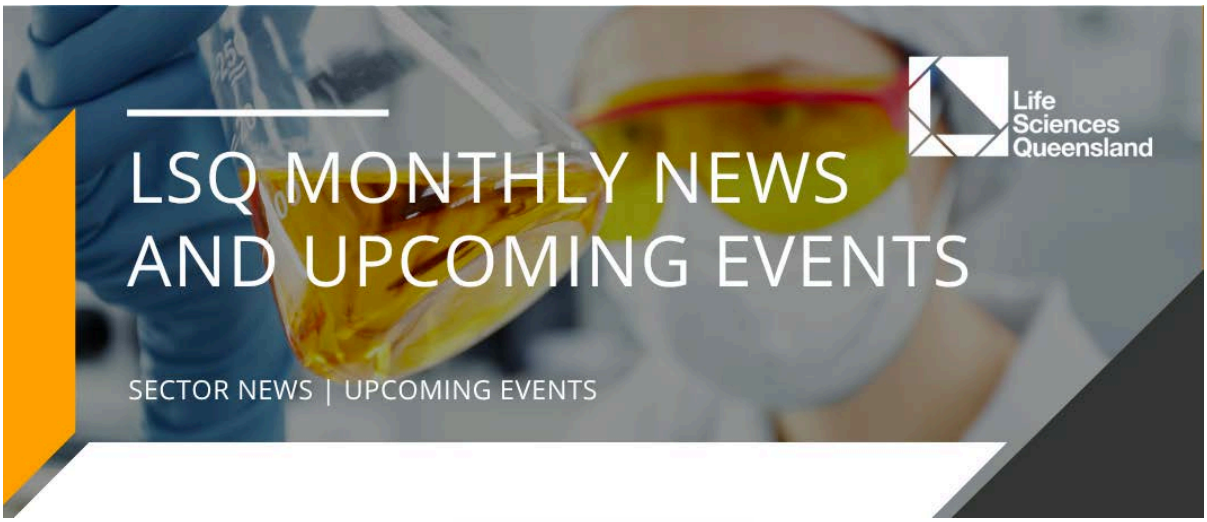


From the
Chair's Desk
An Update to Members

October 2026

Dear LSQ members and friends,

It has been another busy and productive month for LSQ, with an expanding range of activities supporting our members and Queensland's life sciences sector.

AusBiotech 2026 on the Gold Coast was undoubtedly the highlight. It was a pleasure to reconnect with so many members, both across the conference and at the LSQ stand. The strong Queensland presence reinforced the important role LSQ plays in representing and supporting our sector.

Our two signature events were particularly successful. **The LSQ Welcome Breakfast,** generously sponsored by TRI, attracted an excellent turnout. **Prof Trent Munro**, LSQ Board member, General Manager of Boggo Road Innovation Junction (BRIJ) and Venture Partner at Brandon Capital, delivered an upbeat assessment of Queensland's sector growth. This was followed by an engaging panel discussion moderated by **Prof Scott Bell,** Qld's Biomedical Advisor and Chair of Research at Gold Coast Health and Griffith University, featuring **Prof Maher Gandhi,** CEO of TRI; **Thomas Kryza**, AdvanCell; **Alexandra Galbon**, BioOra NZ; and myself.

Our annual **LSQ Networking Cocktails**, sponsored by **360biolabs, Cytiva and Thomsons**, was equally well attended, with an unexpected Gold Coast thunderstorm ensuring some guests stayed considerably longer than planned! We sincerely appreciate our sponsors' continued support.

The conference also provided valuable opportunities to engage with Qld Government Ministers, reinforcing LSQ's contribution to the State's Innovation Strategy and our ongoing efforts to secure government funding. It was particularly encouraging to hear **The Hon Tim Nicholls MP,** Queensland Minister for Health and Ambulance Services acknowledge LSQ and our work to expand clinical trials in Queensland during his keynote address at the Gala Dinner.

Clinical Trials are an important and interesting area of activity for LSQ. Indeed, the origins of LSQ can be traced back to the **Queensland Clinical Trials Network (QCTN)**, the precursor to LSQ. It is therefore entirely appropriate that we renew our focus in this area.

Many of our members are active at different stages along the pathway from the identification of a new treatment through to its delivery to patients. With a shared ambition to increase the number of clinical trials in Queensland, LSQ is organising a discussion: **"Clinical Trials: Opportunities and Challenges"** on **8 December at QIMR Berghofer** (details in our events section).

The meeting will explore both the challenges and opportunities for growing clinical trial activity in Queensland, and how greater collaboration might help achieve this. The event is open to all, and we encourage anyone with an interest in this important area to come along and contribute to the discussion.

On the advocacy front, LSQ continues working alongside AusBiotech on proposed Federal changes to the **R&D Tax Incentive and Capital Gains Tax arrangements**. Progress has been made, with further refinements under consideration. Importantly, our involvement ensures that our members' concerns are heard and represented.

Since the mid-October issue of the newsletter, we held our first **LSQ Thirsty Third Thursday (LSQ 3T)** at the Pig and Whistle in SouthBank. It achieved exactly what we had envisaged with around 30% of our members connecting - or meeting for the first time.

The aim is to reinforce network of people working in overlapping parts of the Bio sector and the simple concept of the LSQ 3Ts seems to help achieve that. I look forward to seeing many of you at our next **3T** on **Thursday 19 November**.

Warm regards,

Frank Gannon
Chair

Life Sciences Queensland

ENTRI Biomanufacturing Facility Officially Opens

The Translational Research Institute (TRI) officially opened **ENTRI**, its $100 million-plus purpose-built biomanufacturing facility, on **20 October 2026**, marking a significant milestone for Queensland's life sciences sector. The facility will enable biotech companies to manufacture medicines for clinical trials in Brisbane, with advanced cGMP clean rooms, state-of-the-art laboratories and technical support to accelerate research translation and commercialisation. LSQ Chair **Professor Frank Gannon** and Engagement & Partnerships Manager **Natalie Davis** attended the opening, celebrating this important investment in Queensland's biomanufacturing capabilities.

The facility also brings together LSQ members **TRI, AdvanCell and Sanofi**, establishing its chemistry discovery team at ENTRI. This growing industry collaboration strengthens Queensland's biotechnology ecosystem and supports the development of next-generation therapies.



LSQ at AusBiotech 2026!

We were pleased to be part of the AusBiotech Conference on the Gold Coast from 21–23 October, connecting with members, industry partners and the wider life sciences community at **Stand 13**, alongside the Queensland Government pavilion.

The conference was a valuable opportunity to strengthen relationships, explore new collaborations and showcase Queensland's vibrant life sciences ecosystem. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to connect with the LSQ team!





LSQ–TRI Welcome Breakfast | AusBio Conference 2026 Day 1

LSQ, proudly sponsored by the **Translational Research Institute (TRI)**, hosted a welcome breakfast on **Wednesday 21 October 2026** at the Sofitel Gold Coast Broadbeach. The event featured a keynote address by Professor Trent Munro, BRI General Manager, followed by a panel discussion moderated by **Professor Scott Bell**. Panellists included **Professor Maher Gandhi** (CEO, TRI), **Professor Frank Gannon** (Chair, LSQ), **Thomas Kryza** (AdvanCell) and **Alexandra Galbon** (Bio Ora, New Zealand). The discussion explored how Queensland can translate its research strengths into real-world impact, highlighting the importance of collaboration, industry partnerships and investment in advancing the life sciences sector.



Queensland Networking Cocktails | AusBio Conference 2026 Day 1

An evening of networking, connection and collaboration brought together Queensland's life sciences community during Day 1 of the **AusBiotech International Conference 2026**.
Held on **Wednesday, 21 October**, at the Kurrawa Surf Club's Beachfront Function Room on the Gold Coast, the event welcomed industry leaders, researchers, investors and professionals to exchange ideas, strengthen partnerships and celebrate Queensland's thriving life sciences sector.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the evening a success!





A Little Office Excitement: Fire Drill at QIMR

On **27 October at 2:30pm**, the QIMR Berghofer team took a break from their usual work for a scheduled fire drill. Everyone evacuated safely, with our very own Nat stepping into her role as Fire Warden to help keep things running smoothly. A timely reminder that even in life sciences, sometimes the most important exercise is knowing how to exit the building!



LSQ at Queensland Parliament House

Frank joined Professor Sunil Lakhani, Chair of Breast Cancer Trials, at Queensland Parliament House on 29 October for a meeting with the Hon Tim Nicholls MP, Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss how industry, research and government can work together to support breast cancer research and clinical trials in Queensland, and to bring new treatments to patients sooner.



Renewing Members

A big thank you to **AnteoTech**, **ARM Hub** **Neil Finlayson Consulting**, **New England Biolabs**, **Protagonist Therapeutics**, **Resolian Bioanalytics** and **Sanofi** for your ongoing support. We're thrilled to have you as part of the LSQ community and appreciate your continued commitment to advancing Queensland's life sciences sector.

LSQ Events



LSQ Thirsty Third Thursday - Join us in November

After a great start in October, **LSQ Thirsty Third Thursday (LSQ 3T)** is back. It's a relaxed opportunity for Queensland's life sciences community to come together, connect and catch up. No speeches, no agenda and no entry fee, just good company and conversation.

Our next **LSQ 3T** will be on Thursday **19 November from 5.00pm** at Pig 'N' Whistle, Grey Street, South Bank. Whether you joined us last month or haven't made it yet, come along, catch up with familiar faces and meet new colleagues from across the sector. **Register Here**



2026 LSQ AGM & Networking Breakfast

Join us for the **2026 LSQ Annual General Meeting & Networking Breakfast!** Connect with Queensland's life sciences community at our upcoming AGM and morning networking event, proudly sponsored and hosted by **Minter Ellison**. Join us on **Friday 27 November,** from 7:30–10:30am at the Minter Ellison offices, Level 22, Waterfront Place, 1 Eagle Street, Brisbane for a morning of connection, conversation and an opportunity to hear about LSQ's year ahead. **Register Now**



LSQ End-of-Year Celebration

Join us for the **LSQ End-of-Year Celebration!** Celebrate another year of innovation, collaboration and achievements across Queensland's life sciences sector. Reconnect with colleagues, strengthen industry connections and raise a glass to the year that was. Join us on **Thursday 3 December 2026, at Cloudland, Brisbane**, for an evening of networking and celebration. **Register Now**

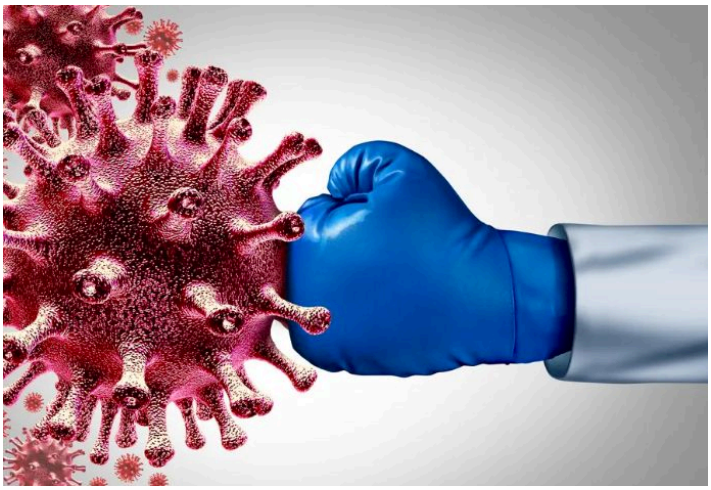


LSQ Clinical Trials Seminar 2026

Join us for the **LSQ Clinical Trials- Challenged & Opportunities Seminar!** Connect with Queensland's life sciences community to explore the latest developments, challenges and opportunities shaping clinical trials. Hear insights from across the sector, exchange ideas and build valuable connections with researchers, clinicians and industry professionals working to advance clinical research and patient outcomes.

Join us on **Tuesday 8 December 2026** at **QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, Level 3 Auditorium** for an engaging morning of insights, collaboration and networking. **Register Now**

LSQ Member & Sector Events



Viral Clearance: A Complete Overview, with ICH Q5A(R2) Insights

We are pleased to partner with **Charles River Laboratories** for this upcoming seminar on viral clearance. Hear from industry expert Anja Tessarz, PhD . as she explores viral clearance study requirements, regulatory considerations, early- and late-stage studies, and specific considerations for gene therapy products.

Join us on **Monday 16 November 2026** for valuable insights relevant to professionals working in biologics, gene therapy, quality and regulatory affairs. **Register Now**

See our website for more events

Member and Sector News and Events

Tell us your news and upcoming events by sending an email to info@lsq.com.au.



Women in BIO & Health: Clinical Trials, Innovation, Research & Careers

The Queensland Department of State Development is hosting **Women in BIO & Health: Clinical Trials, Innovation, Research & Careers** on **Thursday, 5 November 2026, from 9:15am–11:30am** at UniSC Clinical Trials, Maroochydore. The event will explore innovations in clinical research, research-to-trial partnerships and career pathways, featuring industry experts, clinical trial leaders and a tour of UniSC Clinical Trials' new facility. **Read more**



Queensland AgTech Month (Webinar 1 - Free)

The Queensland Department of Primary Industries (DPI) is hosting a webinar on **Thursday, 5 November 2026, from 10:00am–11:00am** to kick off Queensland AgTech Month. Hosted by DPI Director-General Graeme Bolton, the session will feature inaugural Liz Alexander Bursary winner Britta Marsh, announce the 2027 bursary recipient, and provide guidance on joining Team Queensland at evokeAG. 2027, including the expression of interest and application process. **Read more**



Quantum Biotechnology Research

The QUBIC Seminar Series, hosted by the ARC Centre of Excellence in Quantum Biotechnology at The University of Queensland, will continue with free online seminars on **5 November, 19 November, 3 December and 17 December 2026** via Zoom. The series showcases research at the intersection of quantum science and biotechnology, exploring emerging technologies and their applications in biological research and imaging **Read more**

Expanding into the U.S.: San Antonio's Healthcare, Bioscience & Military Health Advantage

Trade and Investment Queensland (TIQ), in partnership with BioMedSA, invites Queensland life sciences companies, researchers and industry stakeholders to an introductory webinar exploring opportunities to expand into the U.S. market through San Antonio's healthcare, bioscience and military health ecosystem.

Hear from senior representatives across industry, academia and military health about the region's research capabilities, clinical innovation, commercialisation pathways and opportunities for international collaboration and partnerships.

Wednesday, 11 November 2026 | Online via Microsoft Teams. Join the Webinar

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TRI Game Changer Seminar: Shaping Australia's National Health and Medical Research Strategy

The Translational Research Institute (TRI) invites you to the next **Game Changer Series 2026**, featuring two leading experts in pancreatic cancer research and surgery.
Dr Peter Bailey, Director of Translational Research at the Botton-Champalimaud Pancreatic Cancer Centre in Lisbon, will present *Pathways of Dissemination in Pancreatic Cancer*, followed

by Professor Markus Büchler, Director of the Centre, who will discuss *Advances in Pancreatic Cancer Surgery*. **Read More**



QUT Excolo! Pitching Competition Grand Final 2026

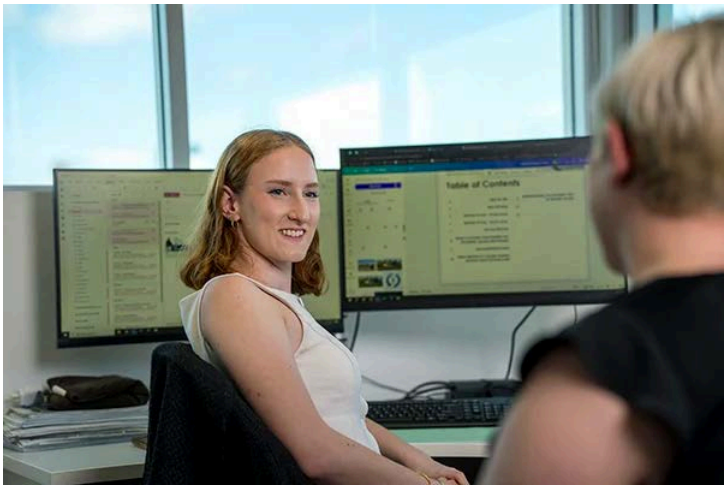
The QUT Commercialisation Club invites Queensland's life sciences and innovation community to the **Excolo! Pitching Competition Grand Final**. Research teams will pitch their innovations to an expert judging panel for a share of **$200,000 in investment funding**, supporting the translation of promising research into real-world impact. The event will also feature the inaugural QUT Entrepreneurship Excolo! Student Founder Prize, celebrating emerging student entrepreneurs.

Join on **Thursday 19 November 2026, from 4:00–7:30pm** at RoomThreeSixty, QUT Gardens Point Campus, Brisbane, for an evening showcasing research commercialisation, innovation and entrepreneurship. **Register Now**



2026 e-Grad School Global Conference

The free 2026 e-Grad School Global Conference, hosted by QUT, will take place on **Tuesday, 24 November 2026, from 12:00pm–5:00pm**. The conference will explore how cutting-edge research can be translated into innovation and real-world impact, covering emerging technologies, responsible innovation, entrepreneurship, commercialisation and global collaboration. The keynote will be delivered by Distinguished Professor Lyn Griffiths on bridging genomics, technology and translation for real-world impac. **Read more**



Free Short AI Courses

Registrations are now open for the first four micro-credential courses being offered in person for small businesses in Far North Queensland. The first round includes a new **Leveraging AI** course, designed to help small businesses learn how to use AI to improve productivity and build digital capability. From January, additional courses in Business Planning, Continuity and Resilience, and Workforce Development will be available, delivered in partnership with the **University of the Sunshine Coast**.

In-person participation also provides an opportunity to connect and network with other local businesses, while small businesses elsewhere in Queensland can participate through **online or self-paced learning**. **Read more**



Charles River - New Service Offering

Charles River Microbial Solutions Melbourne is pleased to announce our newly accredited ISO/IEC 17025 Environmental Monitoring Incubation & Enumeration Service. This service offering provides incubation, colony enumeration, and reporting for environmental monitoring media plates, helping laboratories improve efficiency, optimize capacity, and maintain confidence in their EM data.

Our Accugenix® Microbial Identification Services can now provide seamless support from incubation through identification when microbial growth is detected.

See EM Incubation and Enumeration Service notice to learn more about this new offering or request more information through this link. Our team will be happy to recommend a solution tailored to your specific needs.

2026 Event Date Claimers



ISHCA26: Implementation Science Health Conference Australia

ISHCA is Australia's premier implementation science conference for the health sector, focused on implementing the best evidence in healthcare.

Health Translation Queenslant (HTQ) and Tropical Australian Academic Health Centre (TAAHC) together will present the latest advances, expert insights, case studies and results across evidence synthesis, knowledge translation and implementation science.

This is a not-to-be-missed opportunity to grow your knowledge, expand your professional networks and gain real-world insights at the nexus of policy, research and practice. It will take place at the **TRI Auditorium** on **26 - 27 November.**

Grants, funding and business opportunities

Biomedical Translational Fund

This fund provides companies with venture capital to help develop biomedical discoveries into tangible products, services and outcomes. Discoveries can be therapeutic, medical or pharmaceutical. They can be a product, process, service (including digital health services), technology or procedure. **Read more >>**

Austrade Go Global Toolkit

Single-access point for whole-of-government information and advice, providing key market information to potential exporters and those looking to export into new markets. **Read more >>**

Dust Diseases Board (DDB) Grants and Awards

Providing $3.5 million in funding to support innovative research and strengthen emerging and clinical talent focused on the causes, prevention, and management of dust diseases.
Read more >>

For NHMRC and MRFF grant opportunities visit GrantConnect

Our foundation supporters and partners

Heartfelt thanks for their impactful support









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