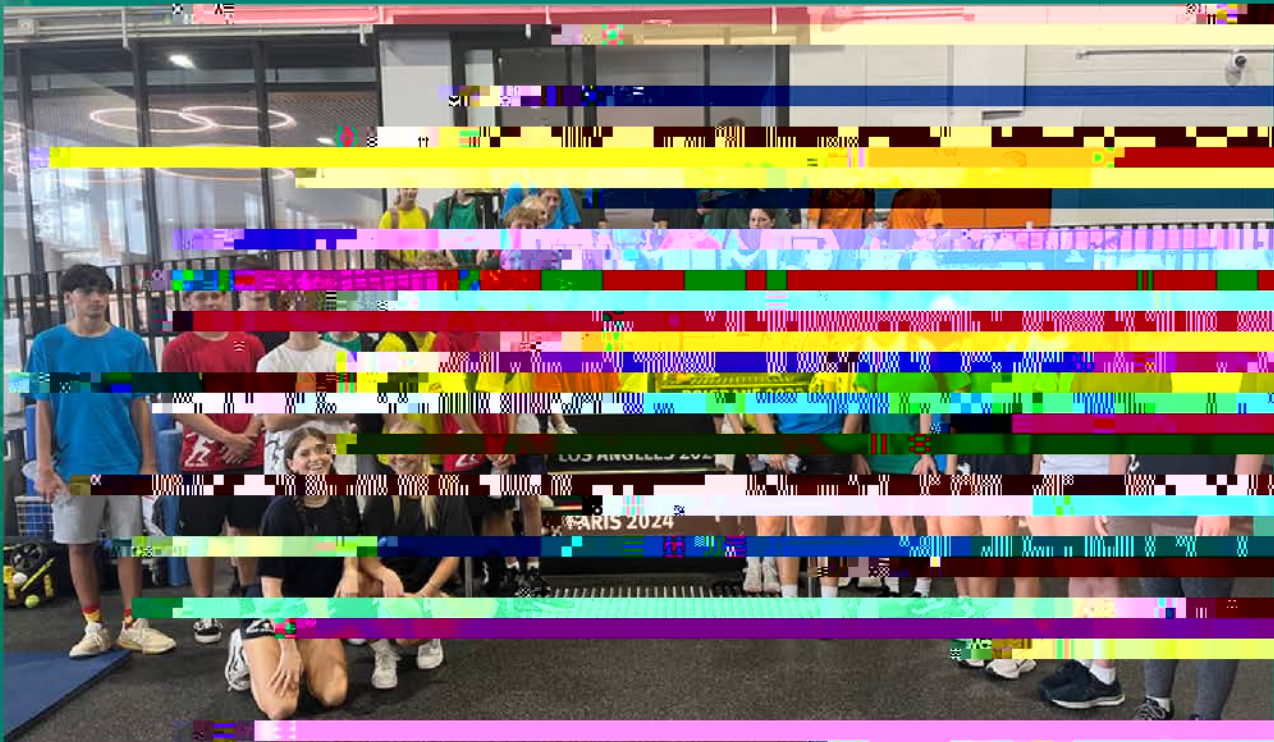


# UQ Youth Game Changers



EVENT REPORT

## Summary

In 2023, the Queensland Centre for Olympic and Paralympic Studies at the University of Queensland hosted the inaugural **Matthew Flinders Discovery Institute** at Matthew Flinders Anglican College, and the Queensland Academy of Sport, the program invested in Queensland students to inform and lead the legacies of the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games.

## What were the aims of the 3 Youth Summit Challenge?

### Build Leaders

- Understand Olympic and Paralympic Legacies and the proposed initiatives of the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic games
- Learn about the diverse people and cultures and people who will impact and be impacted by the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic games
- Explore the processes, policies and projects that bring about change, within cultures, communities, and organisations.
- Learn about factors influencing high performance sport.

### Develop Leaders

- Harness personal and team personal strengths to meet a challenge.
- Identify the unique strengths and strategies.
- Build own and team problem solving and design thinking effective strategies.

### Foster

- Proactively connect with other participants, staff, and presenters on their life journeys.
- Connect with leaders in research, policy, business, and sport
- Work with students from diverse schools and backgrounds

### Promote and Inspire

- Have fun - be young!
- Discover what it feels like to be a tertiary student, life on campus and in a residential college.
- Share thoughts, ideas, and perspectives - they are valuable and offer a significant source of youth voice.

The 2023 pilot UQ Youth Game Changers adopted a multigenerational mentoring approach, bringing together:

- 41 Year 10 and Year 11 students
  - Matthew Flinders Anglican College
  - Wavell State High School,
  - Stella Catholic College
- 8 UQ Bachelor Health, Sport & Physical Education undergraduate students
- Coaches and Presenters



## Staff, Presenters and Judges

Name & Organisation			
Dr Stephen Thomas Professor John Cairney UQ HMNS and Queensland Centre for Olympic and Paralympic Studies	Associate Professor Emma Beckman QAS High Performance + UQ HMNS	Ms Michelle Keylock ParaStart Athlete	Ms Lauren Koutse, Mr Gerry Price Matthew Flinders Anglican College
Dr Lisa McCuaig Head of Flinders Discovery Institute & UQ Honorary Associate Professor	Ms Sarah UQHMS 8 x UQ HMNS Student Mentors	Dr Lameko Samuel Panapa UQ HMNS + QPIC Founder Dr Erin Christensen	Ms Ashlie Parker, Mr Ben Coley, Ms Candice De Luchi Wavell SHS
Professor Doune Macdonald UQ Pro-Vice Chancellor	Mr Brock Mahoney	Ms Cassidy Swinbourne and Environmental Biologist	Ms Jacqui Nisbett
Ms Amy Cupitt QLD Government Executive Director, Legacy	Ms Asa Greenland Queensland	Mr Rob Breuer Ms Anna Jordan Zero	Ms Emily Hall, Mr Zeb Butler, UQ HMNS
Ms Liz Foster Principal Wavell State High School	Ms Rachael Watson Paralympics Australia 2016 + 2020 Paralympic Games (could not attend)	Mr James Lowson Data & Analytics Microsoft	Ms Kate Hall 6 x UQ Elite athletes UQ Sport
Dr Megan Shephard, Dr Hedda Giorgi QAS High Performance Research Leads	Mr Joe Occhino QLD Government: Assistant Deputy Director-General, Workforce Strategy	Amanda Fielding Talent ID Lead - VALD (could not attend)	Mr Zeb Butler, Mr Ben Coley, Ms Candice De Luchi Wavell SHS Principal, Paralympic - Alignment

## What did the students do at UQ Youth Game Changers?

Working in teams of 8 students with 1 UQ undergraduate mentor, UQ Youth Game Changers participants will be challenged to demonstrate their leadership, engagement and leadership of the 2032 Brisbane Legacy initiatives. In this process or response to this challenge, participants will explore the following questions:

- How can young people be inspired to drive and support the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Legacy?
- How can young people engage with research to bring about “glocal” change in their communities?
- What can young people learn from past Olympians and current researchers and innovators to inform their contributions to and leadership of a 2032 Brisbane Olympic Legacy?
- What skills do young people need to enact leadership and advocate for the change that underpins an Olympic Legacy?

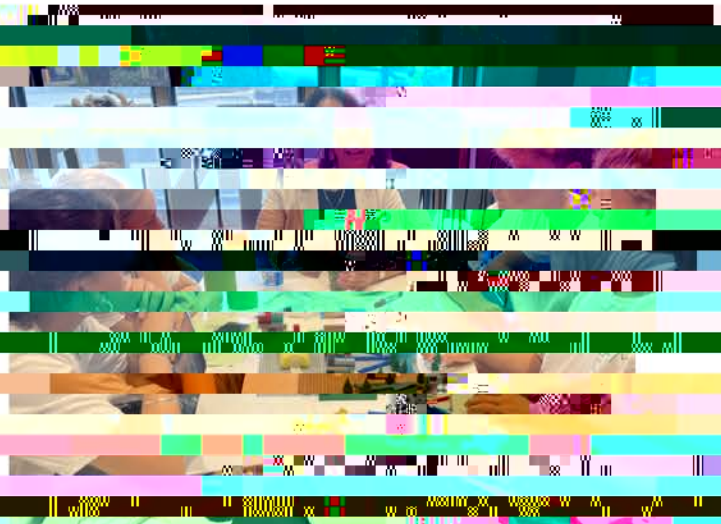
## The UQ Youth Game Changers Challenge

The 2032 Brisbane Olympic Challenge is a competition for UQ Youth Game Changers participants to create a strategy that responds to the following overarching aspiration:

*How can we promote young people's engagement with research and leadership of the 2032 Games Legacy initiatives?*

On Friday 11th October, UQ Youth Game Changers teams engaged in a pitch competition. UQ Youth Game Changers participants and UQ mentors worked together to devise a pitch to UQ stakeholders. The judges awarded the winning prize to the pitch according to the three criteria:

- 1. Originality**
  - Is this a novel solution that's fit for purpose?
  - Does the solution use any innovative ideas?
  - Are the needs, interests and aspirations of young people a strong focus?
- 2. Feasibility**
  - Is the idea able to be created within a reasonable budget and timeframe?
  - Does the idea have a realistic business plan?
- 3. Effectiveness of the presentation**
  - Is the presentation compelling and engaging?
  - Would the presentation attract potential investors/buyers and users?

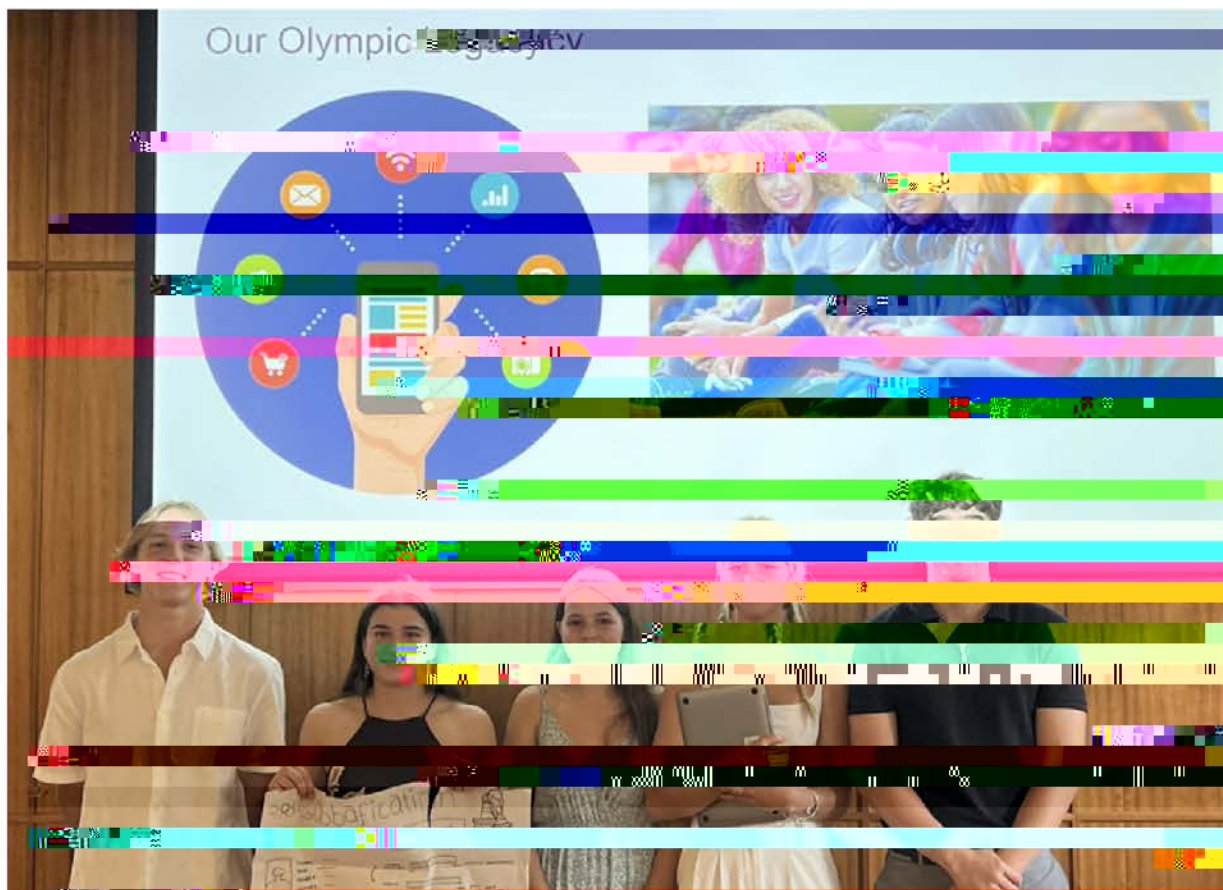


### The Winning Pitch

Team #6 successfully pitched their project "Gabbirication" to engage young people in the Games Legacy. This strategy involves creating a gaming app that allows young people to spread awareness on the impacts of carbon emissions on our health and in turn, our performance as athletes.

This app allows everyone to play as your own (personalised) Olympic athlete avatar and allows you to travel as your olympic athlete and have all the responsibilities as a participating athlete; such as - travelling to your events, competing in events and choosing the most sustainable way-of-living. In the game you start at the Olympic village and progress through stages represented by different sporting events.

The aim of the game is to be achieved through playings in your sporting events and you can upgrade, purchase gadgets, and even new characters. All processes are funded to create a more sustainable Brisbane and plant trees to create a greener future for not only us but our



### UQ Youth Game Changers Challenge Prizes and

Old Flinderians Association Confidence Prize: \$50.00 Gift Voucher

WINNERS: Team #6

- Keya
- Sohpie rees
- Lily
- Ciara Evans
- India Co

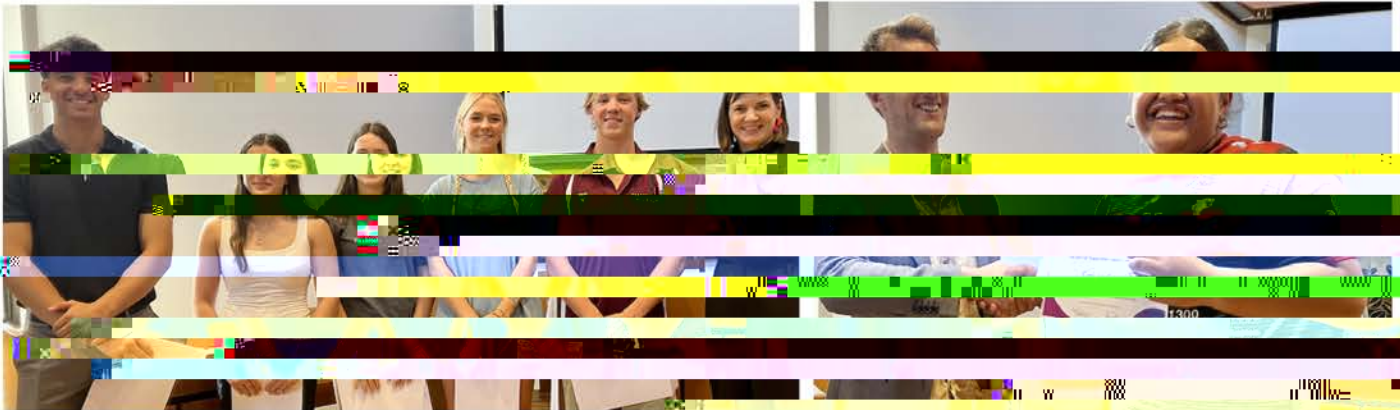
### Wavell State High School Team

WINNERS: Team #7

- Nick Reed
- Darcy Evans
- Keira Rnagi
- Genevieve Mattea
- Rohan Polley
- Millie

UQ Centre for Olympic and Paralympic Studies All Rounder Prize: \$100.00 UQ Press Voucher

WINNER: Toni-Lee Tevita (Wavell State High School)



## Feedback and Impact

What worked well...	What we discovered
<p>Focus on sport/leveraging out of sport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most popular Queensland Academy of Sport sessions</li> <li>Early morning sport and training opportunities</li> </ul> <p>Opportunities to meet new people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meal times when everyone was together</li> <li>Listening to Olympians and experts talk about their lives and</li> </ul> <p>Experiencing uni student life:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential experience a real point</li> <li>Independence</li> </ul> <p>Entrepreneurial focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UQ Ventures session was embraced</li> <li>Creating new ideas and pitching them to an authentic audience</li> </ul>	<p>Recommendations from participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve pacing and consistency of presentation</li> <li>Breaking up or limiting the presentation sessions</li> <li>Time during the day to reset and go into</li> <li>Provide more clarity about what participants will be doing and why</li> <li>More time to prepare our pitches</li> </ul> <p>Feedback from participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"This time to prepare"</li> </ul>
<p>Student messages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are the future</li> <li>An Olympic legacy is very important!</li> <li>Key Indigenous and sustainability following the Olympics.</li> <li>We have an opportunity to help through sport who aren't as fortunate as us.</li> <li>Approach everything with an open mind.</li> <li>Sport and life are much bigger than in front of you</li> <li>Don't be scared or nervous to talk to people you've never met before.</li> <li>Sport can take you to places you would never think possible, like technology.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gratitude and appreciation for QAS workers and athletes.</li> <li>Team building skills.</li> <li>Better leadership and networking skills.</li> <li>Critical thinking</li> </ul>

# Student Feedback

## Student Feedback

Would you recommend this program?

"Yes, because it's a great opportunity and I get to meet Olympians. I've learned a lot from them and I've an idea of what I might be thinking about our country."

What new things did you learn?

"My social media became better and smart and inspiring people and having conversations with them."

UQ Youth Game Changers key take home messages

1. We are the future.
2. All Olympic legacy is very important.
3. Key issues to focus on in Australia include India, sustainability following the Olympics.

## Testimonials

Parent of a Year 10 Flinders student

"Thank you for inviting my son to attend the UQ Youth Game Changers program. He was so enthused by all the opportunities made available to him as part of the program. It was great to pick him up from school and hear him explain every event in excited detail, and to see his sporting interests to a great extent. I can't even remember the last time I saw him so connected to school activities or seeing himself as part of a valued member of a group."

Nick Frost (Olympian & Accenture)

"I was truly blown away by the people in the room. I was truly blown away."

Brock Mahoney (Managing Director, Accenture)

"I'm certain it will grow into a truly excellent program and important for our future."

James Lowson (Microsoft Data and AI Manager)

"What an awesome group of students - we'll be in touch with them in the future."



# Media Coverage

## WQY Youth Game Changers



### Media

- Multimedia story from ABC News
  - <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-12-12/young-queenslanders-changing-the-game-on-brisbane-2023-12-12>
- News Story on Queensland Academy of Sport
  - <https://www.qasport.qld.gov.au/inside-qas/qas-hosted-young-queenslanders-changing-the-game-on-brisbane-2023-12-12>
- Courier Mail article (syndicated in other News Agencies)
  - The Herald Sun (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]
  - The Courier Mail (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]
  - The Advertiser (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]
  - The Mercury (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]
  - Gold Coast Bulletin (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]
  - The Toowoomba Chronicle (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]
  - NT News (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]
  - Cairns Post (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]
  - Townsville Bulletin (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]
  - Geelong Advertiser (Licensed by Copyright Agency) [Click to view]

Total Media Exposure - 12 items

Potential News Value - \$10,000

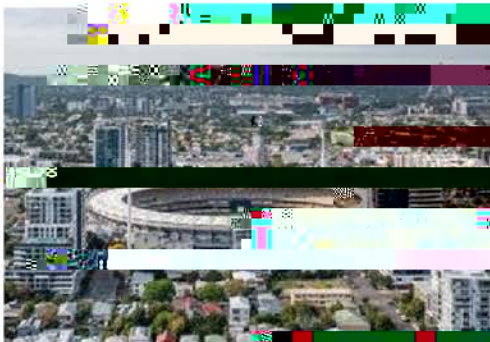
### Students gaming for Games Legacy

Online gaming could be the secret to engaging young Queensland youth with the opportunities of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The University of Queensland held its first Year 10 Youth Game Changers Summit at the Students nitched their leg-

### Students gaming for Games Legacy News • The Sunday Mail (Print version)

(Licensed by Copyright Agency) • 3/12/2023  
... for Games legacy Online gaming could be the key to engaging young Queenslanders with the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The University of Queensland held its first Year 10 Youth Game Changers Summit at the Queensland Academy of Sport on Sunday.

AVE Value: 5,252.52 | Reach: 364,000



### Why online gaming could be key for Games legacy

News • The Daily Telegraph (Licensed by Copyright Agency) • 27/12/2023

from Wavell State High School and Matthew Flinders Annapolis College.

three-day program. " ...  
AVE Value: 39,815.24 | Reach: 2,759,199

# UQ Youth Game Changers



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Matthew Flinders Anglican College



[www.mfac.edu.au](http://www.mfac.edu.au)



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