



VENTURES

Lift Women[®]



Empower Women's Accelerator Pitch Night



28 November 2023



Turning innovators into **founders**

Ventures

At The University of Queensland (UQ), Ventures reflects the entrepreneurial spirit of our community. While you can't predict the future, we know you can develop the knowledge, networks, and skills to flourish wherever life takes you.

Entrepreneurial thinking is a universal mindset that applies to every discipline, industry, and stage of discovery.

Ventures provides support at every stage of the entrepreneurial journey, from flexing creative muscles to launching a startup or social enterprise.

ventures.uq.edu.au
#Empower2023

This Empower Pitch Night is supported by LIFTwomen and EY.

Empower Women's Accelerator

UQ is proud to present the first Empower Women's Accelerator, a three-month program supporting innovative and diverse founders. To kick-start their startups, each team has been offered \$10,000 in equity-free funding and partner incentives, connected with inspiring mentors, given access to co-working spaces, and up-skilled through workshops and seminars.

The inaugural cohort features founders from multiple disciplines who are tackling significant global problems. From finding sustainable packaging alternatives and natural solutions to antibiotics resistance, to making STEM learning more accessible and farming practices more efficient, UQ is on a mission to increase the number of female founders launching businesses and social enterprises in Australia.



Event overview

Time	Description						
5.30pm	Doors open						
6:15pm	Opening remarks						
6:25pm	Pitches and Q&A						
	<table><tbody><tr><td>1. Young Stripes</td><td>4. Dialogic Education Services</td></tr><tr><td>2. Farm Hero</td><td>5. La Foundary</td></tr><tr><td>3. OzCeutics</td><td>6. East Forged</td></tr></tbody></table>	1. Young Stripes	4. Dialogic Education Services	2. Farm Hero	5. La Foundary	3. OzCeutics	6. East Forged
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2. Farm Hero	5. La Foundary						
3. OzCeutics	6. East Forged						
7.30pm	Awards announcement						
7:45pm	Networking and refreshments						
8:30pm	Event closes						



Disclaimer: *This event is being held for the purpose of showcasing startups that are completing the Ventures Empower Women's Accelerator program and not for the purpose of seeking funding, capital, or investment. Presentations do not consider the objectives or financial situation of audience members and should not be taken as advice to investors or potential investors. Pitches are not - and should not be construed as - an offer, invitation, or recommendation to invest.*

Our speakers



Professor Doune Macdonald

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching & Learning), UQ



Nimrod Klayman

Head of Entrepreneurship, UQ



Dr Claire Naughtin

Principal Research Consultant, CSIRO's Data61



Irene Tsang

Founder and CEO, LIFTwomen Group

Empower Women's Accelerator **team**

Beth Lawrence



Ventures Empower Women's
Accelerator Manager

Rebecca Wilson



Ventures Entrepreneur in Residence,
Founder of Epic Retirement

Welcome

Entrepreneurship isn't just for entrepreneurs. We encourage people from all backgrounds to develop their agility, resilience, and creativity, and to lead their fields with confidence and integrity.

Our 2023 Empower Women's Accelerator cohort has forged ahead in an unpredictable global economy. Despite the challenges, they have discovered and seized opportunities, taking advantage of technological, economic, and social trends.

UQ is committed to nurturing innovators with great potential and accelerating their success with our expertise and guidance. By enriching our entrepreneurial ecosystem, we are creating capable leaders of the future.

The majority of UQ's 55,000 students and 7,410 full-time staff are women, who create change across the world, every day. UQ is committed to encouraging and supporting these many women who are vital to our ongoing prosperity, so they can thrive in a diverse and inclusive environment.

Thank you, for joining us in congratulating these founders on their tenacity and dedication.

Nimrod Klayman

Head of Entrepreneurship, UQ



Our judging **panel**



Daniele Bird

Partner, Forensic & Integrity Services, Ernst & Young



Anne-Marie Birkill

Co-founder, Venture Partner and Director, One Ventures



Allan English AM

Chairman of the English Family Foundation

Partner with us

We welcome and encourage involvement from the community and want you to help us grow the next generation of entrepreneurs.

- Be a mentor
- Engage in professional development workshops
- Host an intern
- Be a guest speaker
- Connect with researchers
- Give us your challenge

ventures.uq.edu.au/partner





Educate, empower, incubate

Hemanshi Galaiya

Young Stripes is a pioneering practical STEM education initiative dedicated to raising the aspirations and life chances of the next generation. Breaking the limitations of theoretical education, Young Stripes focuses on providing practical, hands-on learning experiences to children aged 4-12 in Kenyan schools. Leveraging insights from academic experts and industry, Young Stripes has developed over 200 STEM activities.

Each week in their programs, students experience a new activity: from designing perfumes and building circuits to making prosthetic arm models and using math to solve crimes. Bundled into a series of STEM modules, these activities are delivered at various age appropriate depths through extra-curricular programs within schools, empowering students beyond traditional classrooms.

info.youngstripes@gmail.com

youngstripes.wixsite.com/youngstripes

Young Stripes





Connecting service providers of agricultural equipment with farmers in Cambodia

Sorkunthika Srour and Vikram Fidolin Anandharaja

Farmers in Cambodia own an average land of 1.6 hectares. Without the economic capacity to invest in expensive tractors and equipment, they receive agricultural services ranging from planting to harvesting from the tractor owners, known as service providers. Yet, the current status quo of bookings is inefficient for both parties, impacting their profitability.

Farm Hero is a marketplace that connects service providers of agricultural equipment with farmers in Cambodia. Our dynamic booking system enables the service providers to maximize their equipment use and small-scale farmers to schedule their bookings and get them faster.

We are on our journey in transforming the digital economy in the rural areas of Cambodia and Southeast Asia.

hello@farmhero.tech

farmhero.tech

Farm Hero



Empowering Our Health: Natural Non-Antibiotic Antimicrobial for Skin

Dr Preet Pandey, Dr Zyta Ziora and Dr Conny Turni

We are OzCeutics, a team of researchers from The University of Queensland and we are developing an antibacterial sol-gel spray using natural ingredients to treat and prevent mastitis and buffalo fly bites in cattle.

This innovative solution prevents and treats skin conditions that traditionally call for antibiotics. Easy to apply, our spray forms a protective gel film upon contact with the skin, treating the area effectively. This localised treatment enhances concentration and reduces application frequency, minimising side effects and cytotoxicity risks.

z.ziora@uq.edu.au

OzCeutics





Dialogic
EDUCATION SERVICES

Advancing the teaching profession

Dr Charlotte Pezaro and Dr Natalie McKirdy

Nothing beats a motivated and knowledgeable teacher working face-to-face with young people. That's why we're passionate about offering high quality, deeply engaging, professional development for teachers, no matter where they live and work.

Building on our experiences providing workshops and webinars, we're launching online courses that provide interconnected content knowledge that goes beyond the curriculum, paired with best practice pedagogy, small group real-time virtual connections, and a community of practice.

inquiries@dialogic.com.au

dialogic.com.au

Dialogic Education
Services





Working with nature's alchemy to redefine waste

Anh Van and David Sea

In response to escalating environmental challenges posed by plastic pollution and rising waste, La Foundary is dedicated to transforming the narrative on disposable materials.

Through nature's intelligence and research-driven innovation, we redefine waste into naturally decomposable bio-materials, taking a significant step towards sustainable solutions in our everyday lives.

la.foundary@gmail.com

lafoundary.com

La Foundary



EAST FORGED

Shake, psssch, pour East Forged

Kym Cooper

East Forged is an innovative approach to one of the world's oldest and most popular beverages, TEA. The dusty 'iced tea' category has not served the industry well in recent years which has devalued the benefits of drinking tea. Further, sugary sweet iced teas does not cater for Australia's diverse tea drinking communities who describe it more like a soft drink than a tea drink.

The consumption sensory experience underpins the East Forged recipe development which currently includes cold brewing and nitro infusion. The crafted teas are manufactured in Australia from Australian-grown teas and whole plant-based ingredients with next to no calories and are deliciously unsweetened.

kym@eastforged.com

eastforged.com

East Forged





People's Choice Award

Your vote counts! Help us determine the winnings of the **Empower People's Choice Award**.

The Empower Women's Accelerator Pitch Night is a chance to celebrate our startups as they reach the end of the program. With this, UQ is awarding prizes worth \$5000: the Empower Startup of the Year Award and the Empower People's Choice Award.

Your People's Choice Award vote will have a direct impact on our startups and the shared prize money they receive. Read the full terms and conditions on our website to learn more about this.

Ready to vote? The process is simple:

1. Grab your Ventures token which you'll receive upon entering the event.
2. Watch the pitches and choose your people's choice startup.
3. Drop your Ventures token into your chosen startup's box which you can find at their allocated tables at networking.

Have any questions? Ask a nearby Ventures staff for assistance in voting.



Read the terms and conditions on our website
ventures.uq.edu.au/empower-pitch-night

Thank you

We're proud of what our remarkable founders have achieved.

On behalf of UQ, we would like to express our sincere thanks to our speakers, mentors, founders, and all who have contributed to the development and delivery of the 2023 Ventures Empower Women's Accelerator program.

We appreciate all those who have joined us to celebrate this milestone occasion for this year's Empower founders. We encourage you to share moments from tonight on social media using **#Empower2023**.

UQ is proud to be a part of Australia's entrepreneurial ecosystem. By working together, we will venture forward to create new opportunities and address today's complex and interconnected global challenges. Connect with us and follow our founders on their journey **@UQVentures**.

Keep in touch

Find out about the next Accelerator program as well as the latest Ventures programs, events, and hackathons by joining our newsletter.

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THE UNIVERSITY
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AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

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