



The Women's College
within The University of Queensland
ready to lead

Issue 13, June 2025

Connect

Parent Communiqué



SAVE THE DATE

Celebrate with The Women's College in 2025



SUNDAY 3 AUGUST

The Women's College & UQ Open Day

Experience life at Women's during the UQ Open Day. Students considering applying for 2026 and 2027 – along with their families – are warmly invited to explore the campus and meet current residents.

THURSDAY 14 AUGUST

Dinner with a Wooza

Prospective students and families are invited to join alumnae Zimena Furey and Izzy Nolke (2022 – 2024) for a special evening at Women's. Attend this Formal Dinner, hear stories from our past Woozas, and get a feel for College life.

FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Family Night

Current families are invited to reconnect with their daughters and experience College life firsthand. Hear musical performances by our Woozas, catch-up with other College families, and enjoy a vibrant community atmosphere.

THURSDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

Community Formal Dinner

An invitation-only event for parents of community service award winners.

THURSDAY 9 OCTOBER

Cultural Formal Dinner

An invitation-only event for parents of cultural award winners.

WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER

Sports Formal Dinner

An invitation-only event for parents of sporting award winners.

THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER

Valedictory Dinner

A spectacular evening dedicated to recognising students who are leaving The Women's College. This is an invitation-only dinner for parents of Graduands and Third Year Valedicts.

Note:

The date for each event is subject to change. Invitations are emailed to parents in the lead-up to each event and details are promoted on the College website at womens.uq.edu.au/events. Images are from past events.

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Front cover image: During P-Week, the 2025 Student Leadership Team enjoyed a tour of City Hall that was led by Lady Mayoress Nina Schrinner.

Back cover image: Freshers just before the First-Year Induction Ceremony, where our new residents and associates enjoy their first Formal Dinner and sign the College Register.

**Stay connected and join our online community
for all the latest information and events for parents.**



From the Head of College

Florence Kearney, Head of College & CEO

A strong start to 2025

Welcome to the first issue of *Connect* for 2025. In this edition, we are pleased to share highlights from Semester 1 and provide an update on recent events and developments around the College.

We began the year at full capacity, with 255 residents and 52 associates forming part of our enriching living and learning community. The Women's College continues to thrive, with students excelling in their university studies and embracing all aspects of College life.

Academic results from Semester 2 2024 were exceptional – a testament to our students' commitment to scholarship, the strength of our academic support programs, and the availability of wellbeing assistance when needed. The College's culture, underpinned by the Wooza sisterhood, remains a defining feature of our community and central to our vision of empowering women to lead lives of meaning and purpose. We continue to foster a culture where women actively support and uplift one another.

Planning for the future

This year marks the final phase of our 2021 – 2025 Strategic Plan, which has guided the College's progress across five key, interconnected areas:

- Student Experience
- Investment in Infrastructure
- Connected Wider Community
- Financial Sustainability
- Brand Awareness.

Please [click here to view the Strategic Plan](#) on our website.



Florence Kearney presents Joanne Colahan (alumna 1990 – 1992) and Lucy Colahan (First-Year Resident) with a Multi-Generational Family badge at the Mother & Daughter Dinner in May.

Having successfully delivered on the goals outlined in this plan, we have now commenced the development of our next Strategic Plan. This process is focused on positioning the College for the future, in response to the evolving tertiary education landscape and the changing needs of university students.

Wellbeing Precinct nears completion

Construction of the Wellbeing Precinct – the final component of Stage 1 of the College's Master Plan – is well underway and scheduled for completion by the start of Semester 2. This new multi-purpose space will offer students a dedicated area for recreation, study and social connection, and we look forward to its opening with great anticipation.

Semester 1 Snapshot



College at full capacity with 255 residents and 52 associates.

Pictured: Freshers at a Wing Meeting during O Week.



A range of Formal Dinner guest speakers enriched College life.

Pictured: Brett Clark AM (Director, Brisbane 2032 Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) and Student Club President Caitlin Brittain.



Top 3 finishes in a range of ICC activities, and 3rd place in the UQ Great Court Race.

Pictured: Chelsea Gladwin, Hattie Lloyd-Jones, Marisa Ricketts and Ella Scutt (listed in alphabetical order).

A semester rich with events and engagement

Semester 1 has been filled with memorable events, including a full calendar of ICC cultural, sporting and community activities. Our Ready to Lead workshops have continued to support students' personal growth and leadership development. Orientation Week (O Week) in February was a highlight for our First Year residents and associates as they settled into College life.

Honouring achievements and leadership

In March, we celebrated the academic achievements of our 2024 students and honoured several remarkable alumnae at the 2025 Academic Dinner & Alumnae Awards. Our fortnightly Formal Dinners featured an impressive line-up of guest speakers, including many alumnae who generously shared their career journeys and insights. Highlights included:

- Karina Holden (alumna 1994), filmmaker and UQ Vice-Chancellor's Alumni Excellence Awardee 2023
- The Hon. Anna Bligh AC (alumna 1978), former Premier of Queensland
- Izzy Graham (alumna 2013 – 2014), 2025 Young Alumna Award recipient
- Brett Clark AM, Director for the Brisbane 2032 Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games
- A panel featuring Dr Sylvie Giguere (alumna 2013 – 2015, General Practitioner), Dr Sally Mortlock (Senior Research Fellow at UQ's Australian Women and Girls' Health Research Centre), Dr Sonia Shah (National Heart Foundation Future Leader Fellow at the Genomics in Health group at UQ's Institute

for Molecular Bioscience), and Jess Taylor (CEO of QENDO) at the Women's Health Q&A Formal Dinner

- Juliet Biemann (alumna 2019 – 2021, First Nations Outreach Officer at the ACCC) and Bhosten Savage (Project Engineer at John Holland), guest speakers at the National Reconciliation Week Q&A Formal Dinner.

Building career pathways

In April, the Women of the World Q&A Networking Dinner: Women in Government & Politics was held in partnership with the Ready to Lead program.

In May, we hosted a sold-out Mother & Daughter Dinner on the eve of Mother's Day, celebrating the multi-generational families within our community.

Later in the month, our annual Women's Industry Night drew a record number of attendees. This event provided students with valuable networking and career-building opportunities, connecting them with industry professionals and potential employers. Our students also reap the benefits of these industry connections through the Career Opportunities Available to Woozas webpage on the Student Portal. Many students leverage connections from this event to gain internships, work experience and employment positions.

Looking ahead

As Semester 1 draws to a close, we celebrate all that has been achieved and look ahead with excitement to Semester 2 – particularly the opening of our new Wellbeing Precinct.



Sell-out Mother & Daughter Dinner.

Pictured: Dirt Bucket and the College Choir performed a number of songs at the Mother & Daughter Dinner.



Very successful Women of the World Q&A Networking Dinner.

Pictured: First-Year Residents Millie Toy, Lily Thomas and Giaan Walker at the Women of the World Q&A Networking Dinner: Women in Government & Politics.



Stage 1 of the Master Plan underway with construction of the Wellbeing Precinct.

Pictured: The foundations were poured in late May.



Family Day

Our First Years and their families were welcomed into the Women's community by our wonderful Student Leadership Team and staff on Family Day in February, marking the start to O-Week. After checking in, families were treated to a delicious buffet lunch, before an Information Session was held with our Head of College & CEO while Freshers caught up with their Resident Assistants in their Wings. Family Day concluded with our annual Welcome Cocktail Party where families met members of the College Council and staff.





Student Life

Janet Stewart, Deputy Head of College

Academic excellence and support

The academic year began on a high note as we honoured the outstanding achievements of our returning residents and associates at the Academic Dinner & Alumnae Awards in March. This celebration of results from the 2024 academic year not only recognised our students' hard work and dedication, but also served as a powerful motivator for our newest cohort of Freshers, encouraging them to set ambitious academic goals for their university journey.

Now, as Semester 1 draws to a close, our Freshers are wrapping up their first university exams, supported every step of the way by the College's academic framework. From personalised guidance and encouragement from Academic Mentors who have answered a myriad of different questions about academic life to the structured support from our Academic Resident Assistant and a robust targeted Tutorial Program, the academic culture at Women's continues to thrive.

Academic Mentors were instrumental in this semester's early weeks, offering reassurance, answering questions, and helping Freshers find their footing in a new academic environment. Meanwhile, our Tutorial Program delivered 18 sessions each week tailored to subjects identified through a student survey at the start of the year. With the Dean of Students – Emma Campbell – at the helm of scheduling, the program ensured timely and targeted support.

Leadership in action

Our student leaders hit the ground running with a week of intensive training ahead of O-Week. Their hard work and preparation certainly paid off, as they warmly and enthusiastically welcomed 118 Fresher Residents and 37 Fresher Associates who enjoyed a well planned and organised schedule of events, which oriented the new Woozas academically, culturally and socially.

Leading the way was the incredible O-Week Committee – a passionate group of returning residents who worked alongside the Senior Leadership Team to deliver a seamless and spirited orientation experience. O-Week was more than just a welcome; it was a launchpad for friendships, confidence and community. The positive energy sparked during those first days has continued to ripple through the semester.

Community and connection

Formal Dinners have remained a cherished tradition, bringing the College community together to share meals, stories and inspiration. These evenings are more than ceremonial – they are a celebration of our values: community, excellence and empowerment. Guest speakers have added depth and perspective, while the shared experience has strengthened bonds across year levels.

In the Inter-College Competition (ICC), our students have once again shown their incredible commitment to the College, not to mention considerable prowess.

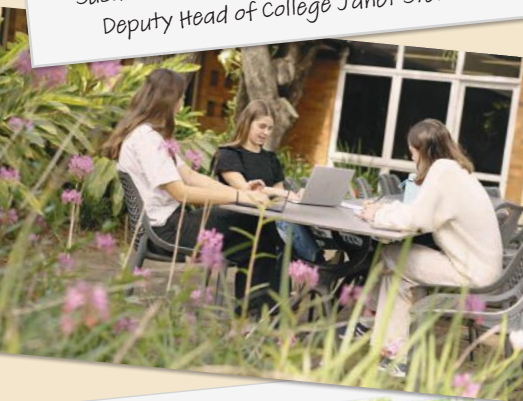
In sports, Women's achieved:

- 1st in Swimming
- 3rd in Tennis
- 6th in Hockey
- 4th in Volleyball
- 2nd in Rowing
- 4th in AFL

In the Great Court Race – which does not contribute to the ICC competition – the team, spurred on by vocal and impassioned Wooza supporters, placed a fabulous 3rd.



Left to right: Director of Advancement Susan McGinley, Senior RA Chloe Evans, and Deputy Head of College Janet Stewart.



Student leaders and Freshers at the first wing Meeting during O-week.



The 2025 O-Week Committee: Grace Armitage, Phoebe Ross, Ella Williamson and Lily Taylor.



In the Cultural competition, we proudly placed:

- 2nd in Choral fest
- 10th in Band fest
- 4th in Debating
- 9th in Chess

Ready to Lead: building future leaders

Leadership development has also been at the forefront of our work with students this semester through our Ready to Lead program. Residents and Associates across all year levels came together to explore personal growth and professional skills, guided by inspiring alumnae and professional experts.

Popular sessions included crafting a standout LinkedIn profile, mastering resume writing, and participating in our Women of the World Q&A Networking Dinner. The semester culminated in Women's Industry Night (WIN) – a vibrant mini-expo where students connected with professionals from industries aligned with their studies.

Meanwhile, our Student Ambassador Information Session equipped students to represent the College at expos and Open Days. These ambassadors have already made a strong impression at various school expos in Toowoomba and the Sunshine Coast, offering prospective students and families a genuine and often heartfelt glimpse into life at Women's. This group of Ambassadors along with our Student Leaders were also pivotal in the success of our April Open Day where we welcomed over 100 prospective students and their families.

Wellbeing and personal support

Wellbeing remains a cornerstone of the Women's experience. Early in the semester, Resident Assistants met individually with First Year Residents to check in and offer early support as they settled into life as a Wooza. These Fresher conversations were followed by one-on-one meetings with the Dean of Students (Emma Campbell), Dean of Student Life (Gayle Harris) or Deputy Head of College (Janet Stewart), providing a space to reflect on academic progress, personal goals, and the transition from home to college life.

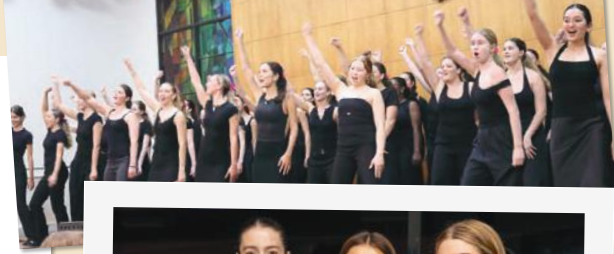
The same Student Services staff also met with each of the Second Year and Third Year Residents to proactively discuss their academic organisation and planning for Semester 1, and goal setting for the future. Such personal interviews affirm our focus on wellbeing for learning and offer a safe space for students to feel heard and supported on their university journeys.

Again, this year, students also had the option to book confidential sessions with our visiting counsellor. Our Woozas have certainly embraced the help-seeking culture of the College and this ongoing professional support has been warmly received and well-utilised.

Looking ahead: Semester 2 and beyond

As we prepare to turn the page to Semester 2, our student leaders will gather for a reflective training workshop to revisit their goals and plan another enriching chapter for our community.

The semester ahead promises further academic success, excitement and celebration, with more ICC events in full swing and social connection opportunities, including The Women's College Ball in Week 3.



Students with panellist Leigh McCreedy (centre) at the Women of the World: Q&A Networking Dinner: Women in Government & Politics.



Alice Yan and Abbie Nield at WIN, where students discovered the diverse range of career pathways within various industries.



Student Ambassadors Piper Nitschke and Anne Lacey at Toowoomba Anglican School's university accommodation expo in May.

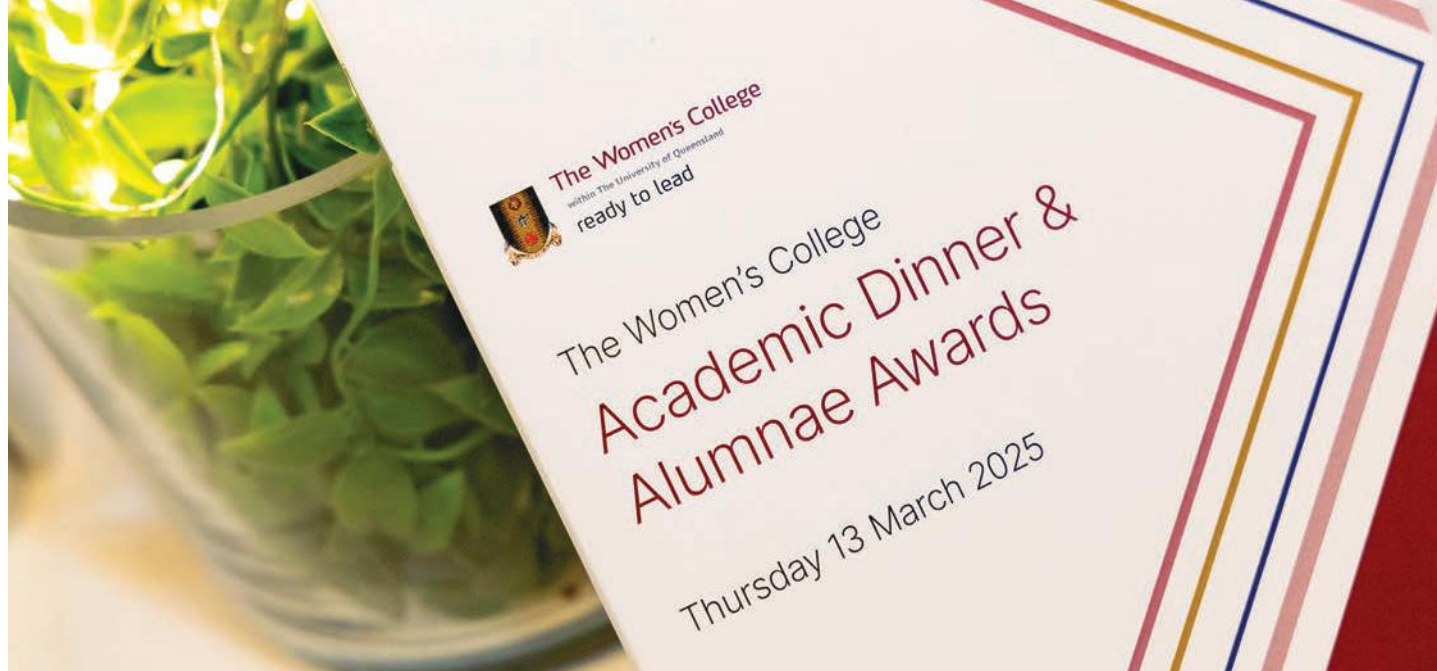
Key dates for Semester 2, 2025

Monday 14 July
Griffith University Trimester 2 begins

Monday 21 July
Semester 2 begins at QUT

Sunday 27 July
Official College Move-in Day

Monday 28 July
Semester 2 begins at UQ and ACU



We are incredibly proud of the students who were recognised for their achievements from the 2024 academic year at our Academic Dinner & Alumnae Awards in March.

A record number of prizes were awarded to residents for achievements in academic excellence, leadership, sports, or community service. While many of these prizes are long-standing, four of the 28 prizes were new for 2025.

The following distinguished special guests presented prizes to the well-deserving recipients:

- Professor Deborah Terry AC (Vice-Chancellor and President, UQ)
- Professor Margaret Sheil AO (Vice-Chancellor and President, QUT)
- The Honourable Anna Bligh AC (Fellow of the College and alumna 1978)
- Sallyanne Atkinson AO (Fellow of the College and alumna 1960).

Following the presentation of prizes, 100 students were acknowledged for their outstanding academic achievements in obtaining a GPA of 6 or above during one or both semesters of the 2024 academic year.

Then, continuing the College's tradition of empowering students to pursue their tertiary education aspirations, 23 residents received scholarships that were presented by Emeritus Professor Carol Dickenson AM (College Council President) and Florence Kearney (Head of College & CEO).

The event also included a Fellowship ceremony for The Hon. Anna Bligh AC, as she was formally recognised with the College's highest honour. Anna delivered the guest speaker's address, before Second-Year Resident Keely McKenzie delivered a beautiful performance of *Someone Like You* from *Jekyll & Hyde* (the musical).

We were delighted to see many parents of prize and scholarship recipients at the event, and invite you to celebrate the many diverse achievements of our students in these next few pages of *Connect*.



L – R: Prize and Scholarship presenters Professor Deborah Terry AC, Sallyanne Atkinson AO, Florence Kearney, Emeritus Professor Carol Dickenson AM, The Honourable Anna Bligh AC, and Professor Margaret Sheil AO.



Above: Brisbane Women's Club (BWC) Young Achiever Prize recipient Milla Uechtritz with her parents and BWC Director of Finance Ursula South (middle).

Academic Excellence Prizes

Barbara Page-Hanify Prize

Anna Proud

Chislehurst Prize

Victoria Jones

Ethel Raybould Prize

Kiandra Loch

Hazel Francis Prize

Emily Thompson

Henderson Foundation Prize

Nikola Sorensen

IMB Science Excellence Award

Caitlyn Coleman, Emma Byrne & Ella Hockam

Joan Robinson Prize

Allegra Daveson

Lisbeth Hopkins Prize

Elizabeth Hughes

Margaret Piddington Prize

Ella Williamson

May McLean Hancock Prize

Charlotte Low

Molly Budtz-Olsen Prize

Katelyn McManus

Principal's Prize

Zoe Devin

QUT Academic Prize

Caitlin Brittain

Suellen Topfer Prize

Yazmin Morwood

The Women's College Standing Committee Prize

Sophie Posselt

Wilhelmina Gladstone Jameson Scholarship Prize

Tara Lavery

Leadership, Sports and Community Prizes

Anna Bligh Prize

Tara Lavery

Jeff Sipek Service Prize

Jacqueline Sleaford

Vera Jones Prize

Paige Reimers

Brisbane Women's Club Young Achiever Prize

Milla Uechtritz

Sallyanne Atkinson Leadership Prize

Caitlin Brittain

Vonhoff Benson Toowoomba Region Prize

Harriet Lloyd-Jones

Committee for Brisbane Prize

Tara Lavery

The Women's College Sports Prize

Alice Hughes & Ella Peacock

Walter Taylor Ward Community Leadership Prize

Claire Asquith



Back row: Ella Peacock, Jacqueline Sleaford, Zoe Devin, Charlotte Low, Emily Thompson, Ella Williamson, Elizabeth Hughes, Caitlyn Coleman, Emma Byrne, Allegra Daveson, Yazmin Morwood, Sophie Posselt, Milla Uechtritz, Claire Asquith, Harriet Lloyd-Jones

Front row: Tara Lavery, Katelyn McManus, Nikola Sorensen, Kiandra Loch, Anna Proud, Victoria Jones, Paige Reimers, Caitlin Brittain, Alice Hughes

Scholarships

Academic Scholarship

Zoe Billings & Ava Guthrie

Alumnae Awards Scholarship

Claire Asquith & Katelyn McManus

Ann Warrell Robilliard Scholarship

Elizabeth Higgs

Cultural Scholarship

Elizabeth Donnan

Deborah Davis Academic Scholarship

Agnethe Kjaer

Doris Una Skyring Memorial Scholarship

Jessica Gavin

Harriet Marks Scholarship

Kate Lavers

Judith McCulloch Academic Scholarship

Zoe Devin

Mary Wooza Scholarship

Laura Camilleri & Ariella Paliza

Nilnert Scholarship

Allegra Daveson & Primrose Gall

Robinson Family Scholarship

Caitlyn Coleman

Sports Scholarship

Harriet Lloyd-Jones

The Stan and Maureen Duke Foundation Scholarship

Poppy Craddock, Holly Lane & Emily Thompson

The Women's College Scholarship

Ava-Lin Jackson, Mikayla Jebreen & Jessica Sanderson

The Women's College & Student Club Scholarship

Caitlin Brittain



Back row: Elizabeth Higgs, Agnethe Kjaer, Elizabeth Donnan, Zoe Devin, Emily Thompson, Claire Asquith, Holly Lane, Caitlyn Coleman, Primrose Gall, Zoe Billings, Harriet Lloyd-Jones, Caitlin Brittain, Allegra Daveson, Kate Lavers

Front row: Ariella Paliza, Poppy Craddock, Jessica Gavin, Emma Campbell (Dean of Students), Florence Kearney (Head of College & CEO), Janet Stewart (Deputy Head of College), Katelyn McManus, Jessica Sanderson, Ava-Lin Jackson

Next page

Top row: Scholarship recipients Laura Camilleri (left), Ava Guthrie (middle) and Mikayla Jebreen (right) with their families.

Bottom row: A few of the students who were acknowledged for their academic excellence in achieving a GPA of 6.00 or above during one or both semesters during the 2024 academic year.

Recognition of Academic Excellence Achievements

The following 2024 students achieved a GPA of 6.00 or above during the previous academic year.

Semesters 1 & 2

Holly Baker
Tori Bowden
Caitlin Brittain
Georgia Butt
Annaliese Byrne
Caitlyn Coleman
Madeline Cook
Ryleigh Dettoni
Zoe Devin
Isla Faulds
Emily Ferrando
Teegan Gaul
Jessica Gavin
Grace Gillies
Prisha Gupte
Yuki Hirayama
Alice Hughes
Elizabeth Hughes
Kate Ireland
Katie Jamieson

Mikayla Jebreen
Victoria Jones
Bethany Kelly
Kate Lavers
Tara Lavery
Kiandra Loch
Charlotte Low
Chloe Mackenzie
Eva Marshall
Robyn Matthews
Sunday McCullough
Kate McDonnell
Madison McLeod
Katelyn McManus
Chloe McTaggart
Amelie Mitchell
Yazmin Morwood
Emma Neenan
Sasha Quinlan
Georgia Quinn
Alyse Stewart

Abigail Strang
Olivia Taylor
Emily Thompson
Anna Tully
Annalise White
Charlotte Wilson

Semester 1

Rachael Brown
Megan Callaghan
Imogen Elliott
Maia Griffin
Ella Hockam
Grace Howard
Katelyn Jantke
Alyssa MacLachlan
Georgia McMullen
Bianca Nicol
Rosie Peacock
Sydney Peff
Madylynn Robert

Kayla Robson
Nikola Sorensen
Sarah Stephenson
Ella Valery
Eden Williams

Semester 2

Emily Berthelsen
Zoe Billings
Lucy Bowen
Emma Byrne
Daisy Calvert-Brown
Jillian Campbell
Georgia Curran
Hena Dass
Allegra Daveson
Elizabeth Donnan
Mary Esplin
Chloe Evans
Tess Feller
Clara Ferrier

Sienna Fitzgerald
Anais Fox
Isabella Fusco
Taylah Gordon
Emily Graham
Ava Lowrie
Matilda Lowrie
Juliette Mahy
Sophie Posselt
Anna Proud
Paige Reimers
Jemima Robertson
Phoebe Ross
Charlotte Sutton
Eve Thomas
Lauren Thomas
Sophia Thompson
Indiana Tichon
Sophie Warner
Ella Williamson
Evelyn Wright



Academic Dinner & Alumnae Awards





WEEK



Student Leadership Team Report

Caitlin Brittain, 2025 Student Club President & Chloe Evans, 2025 Senior Resident Assistant

The first four months of College life in 2025 have been nothing short of exciting and engaging. We're so proud of each and every Wooza for getting behind each other and making the sea of maroon as big as possible.

P-Week & O-Week

Our Student Club Executive, Resident Assistance team and O-Week Committee came together for a busy P-Week to ensure that we could deliver another successful O-Week for the incoming Freshers – and what a success it was! After a beautiful Family Day where we met the Freshers and their families, we immediately knew that this year would be incredible. It was a massive week of war cries, interdigitating and dancing before we then welcomed back our beloved second and third years.

It is truly a special feeling going into a new year as our returners come back to make our Wooza family whole again. The start of this new chapter was full of laughs, friendship and many new memories. And just like that, it was time to jump into all the Inter-College Competition (ICC) activities on offer.

Sports

Our Sports Convenor, Ella Peacock, has done a phenomenal job ensuring the seamless running of all things TWC sport this semester. As we approach the end of Semester 1, we could not be prouder of the grit, talent and Wooza spirit our girls have shown across so many competitions. The results so far have been outstanding, with Women's having placed 1st at the ICC Swimming Carnival; a night where our Woozas lined the pool, standing in the pouring rain, cheering our girls to victory. Then came Hockey, Volleyball and Tennis, with a shoutout to the amazing Tennis Convenor Sienna Cavallaro for a wonderful 3rd place finish. We then came to the highly anticipated Rowing Regattas, which are always a highlight of the sporting calendar as the girls put on an amazing display of Wooza spirit and athleticism. The Head of River was a beautiful day, and the King's Hill was flooded with maroon from the Women's girls who supported their friends. We finished with a spectacular 2nd place, which was an amazing achievement for the whole team and convenors Caitlyn Coleman and Asia Heaps. AFL rounded out the semester after a few rained-out weeks, and the team showed incredible grit and determination on the field, leading to a well-deserved 4th place.

Cultural

Our Cultural Convenor, Ainhua Fernandez Santalla, has been working tirelessly behind the scenes to support all TWC cultural pursuits. Although Semester 1 has seen only a handful of events – with College Idol postponed to Semester 2 due to Cyclone Alfred – the girls have made their mark in true Wooza style. We have seen an excellent array of talent at Chorfest, Bandfest, Debating and Chess, with a huge congratulations to the choir for an

amazing 2nd place led by Claire Thompson and Kiandra Loch. Our Debaters reached the semi-finals to come in an overall 4th place.

Community

This year, Community Convenor Claire Asquith has gone above and beyond to foster a spirit of giving and connection within our Wooza community. From major charity events to meaningful wellness initiatives, Semester 1 has been one to remember. Highlights included our fantastic participation at Clean Up Australia Day and a moving ANZAC Day service. Claire also introduced our first Wellness Week of the year, a long-time favourite at Women's. This year saw the addition of new activities such as a Book Club, social sport, and a morning at the markets, offering something for everyone and a much needed chance to rejuvenate for the busy semester we have all had.

A standout moment was Shave for a Cure with St John's College, where an exceptional \$30,000 was raised. This figure is an extraordinary and unprecedented achievement – especially compared to last year's \$11,000 total – and is testament to the generosity and spirit of our community. The incredible community effort also saw Pink Ladies Day moved to an away event to raise money for the National Breast Cancer Foundation. The event was a roaring success as the room was filled with an abundance of pink and countless laughs and smiles. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to raise money for a very special cause.

Social

The social scene at Women's has never looked brighter, and much of this is thanks to our incredible Social Convenor, Emma Byrne. Emma has done an outstanding job curating a social calendar that has brought energy, excitement and unity to our College community.

At the heart of this success was our sold-out Women's at Home, themed this year as 'A Night in the Garden'. Through Emma's leadership and the teamwork of the SLT, the event was exceptionally well-run and left everyone buzzing.

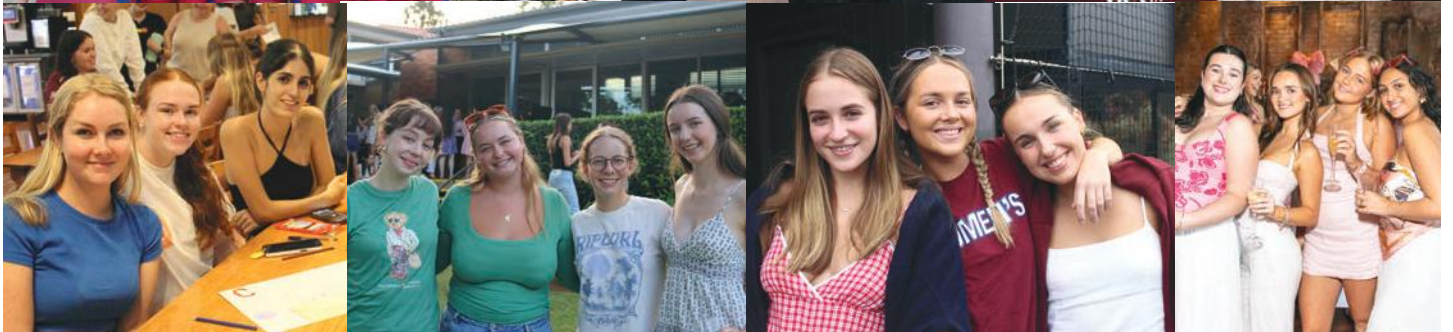
The fun hasn't stopped there! Supported by her wonderful Social Committee, Emma also spearheaded the much-loved Woozalympics. Held on The Quad, this annual event never fails to deliver, providing the perfect platform for friendly rivalry and fostering new friendships across cohorts in a spirit of fun and community.

In short, Semester 1 has been absolutely extraordinary here at Women's, from the electric atmosphere of our sporting competitions to heartfelt moments in community initiatives, the creative spirit of our cultural events, and the unbeatable fun of our social events. Our Woozas have once again proven why Women's is so special.

A huge thank you to our Convenors, committees, and to every resident and associate who has given their time, talent and heart to make this semester one for the books. With Semester 2 just around the corner, we cannot wait to see what's in store – bring it on!

Senior





Advancement Update

Susan McGinley, Director of Advancement

Celebrating a semester of impact – thanks to you

The power of philanthropy is alive and well at The Women's College – and this semester, it's been driven by the extraordinary generosity of our parent community. With your support, our bursaries and scholarships program will make a tangible difference in the lives of our residents. Thank you for helping us shape a brighter future for the next generation of Women's students.

As we approach the end of the financial year, we invite you to be part of our *Because You Gave* appeal. Your gift, no matter the size, will directly support students who rely on financial assistance to stay, strive, and succeed at College. To make a tax-deductible donation, please visit our [Support Women's webpage](#).

Multi-generational moments: a legacy of connection

Our annual Mother & Daughter Dinner in May was a heartwarming celebration of family, tradition and Women's College spirit. Mothers were treated to a musical welcome by our talented choir and band, which was then followed by an insightful panel discussion featuring three multi-generational families – current residents and their alumnae mothers – who shared stories about their time at College.

A highlight of the evening was the official acknowledgement of 13 multi-generational families – including five new additions this year – a proud reminder of the enduring ties that connect generations of Women's women.

Mother & Daughter Dinner raises over \$8,000

A huge thank you to our generous families who supported the Mother & Daughter Dinner major raffle. Together with voluntary contributions, we raised over \$8,000 for the Alumnae Awards Scholarship and Mary Wooza Scholarship, which provide financial assistance to current residents.

Join us at The Women's College Long Lunch on Saturday 23 August

Gather your friends and fellow supporters for a stunning afternoon of fine food, wine and purpose at the Long Lunch. All proceeds will go directly to our Alumnae Awards and Mary Wooza Scholarships, which empower students to thrive academically and personally.

Early bird tickets are available until 5:00pm on Monday 30 June 2025. For more details, visit our [Events webpage](#).

Giving Day: help us celebrate student leadership on Wednesday 15 October

This UQ Giving Day, the College is partnering with the Student Club to support a scholarship for an outstanding 2026 third-year resident who has demonstrated exceptional leadership. Your gift will directly honour and empower our emerging student leaders. More details will follow next semester.

Our 2025 UQ Giving Day Ambassadors are:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| • Caitlin Brittain (President) | • Vanessa Karabetsos (RA) |
| • Emily Brown (RA) | • Tara Lavery (Vice President) |
| • Chloe Evans (Senior RA) | • Hattie Lloyd-Jones (RA) |
| • Ainhua Fernandez Santalla (Cultural Convenor) | • Natalie Mabiza (Treasurer) |
| • Aurelia Furey (Second Year Representative) | • Katelyn McManus (RA) |
| • Jasmine Harris (RA) | • Ella Reddaway (Deputy Senior RA) |

Get ready for Family Night on Friday 5 September

We're excited to welcome you to one of the biggest community events of the year: Family Night 2025! Save the date – invitations will be emailed soon!

Together, We Make a Difference

Thank you for being part of the Women's College journey with your daughter. Whether through your generosity or presence at events, your involvement strengthens our community and transforms lives.





Left: Caitlin Brittain (Student Club President), Tara Lavery (Student Club Vice President), Sophie Posselt (ICC President), Claire Asquith (Community Convenor), Natalie Mabiza (Treasurer) and Chloe Evans (Senior Resident Assistant) say thank you to our donors and supporters.

Below (left): Our 2025 Multi-Generational Families, who were acknowledged at the Mother & Daughter Dinner in May.

Below (right): Some of our Mother & Daughter Dinner major raffle winners, including Joelle Brittain (Parent of our Student Club President), Maddy Cook (Second-Year Resident), and Georgia White (First-Year Resident) who collected the prize on behalf of her mother, Pam White.



Left and below: photos from last year's Family Night.



Mother & Daughter Dinner





Long Lunch

At The Women's College



Reignite Connections. Empower Women's Futures.

Gather your friends and College supporters for an elegant afternoon of conversation, celebration and connection – all in support of the next generation of Woozas.

Hosted within the College grounds, the Long Lunch will feature gourmet seasonal fare, fine wine, meaningful storytelling, and a shared sense of purpose.

All proceeds will support the Alumnae Awards and Mary Wooza Scholarships, providing life-changing opportunities for Women's students to thrive academically and personally.

Saturday 23 August 2025, 1:00pm – 5:00pm

Early Bird Tickets: \$129pp | Standard: \$149pp

Includes a glass of French champagne on arrival and two-course shared platters.

One afternoon. One community. A lifetime of impact.

Register now

For more information, visit
womens.uq.edu.au/events

With thanks to our event partner

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Finance Matters

Fiona Bryant, Director of Finance

After a busy but very successful and rewarding first Semester here at Women's, we look forward with excitement to what Semester 2 will bring.

Key dates

The following are some important keys dates for the diary, which we hope will help families plan for the rest of the year.

- Term 4 invoices will be issued at the beginning of August and are payable by Friday 15 August 2025. The 2025 deposit payment will be deducted from the Term 4 invoice.
- Vacation fees: students who wish to stay at College during the mid-year break are welcome to do so and will be charged a reduced rate of \$80 per day, including all meals. These charges will be added to their account. It is essential that students follow the communicated process to confirm availability before making plans to stay at College during the mid-year break.
- 2026 deposits: invoices will be issued at the start of October and are payable by Friday 10 October 2025 to confirm residency in 2026. Please note that the deposit is non-refundable, so it is important to consider plans for your daughter for next year.

Term 3	Term 4	2026 Deposit	Vacation fees
Friday 6 June	Friday 15 August	Friday 10 October	Per day
\$6,870	\$5,370	\$1,500	\$80

Applications for 2026

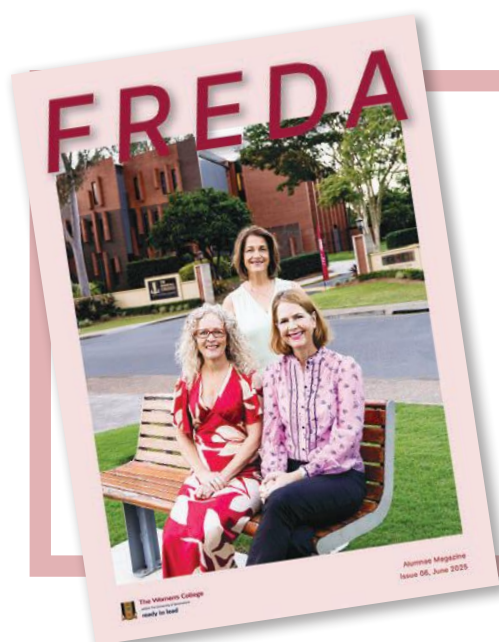
Applications for 2026 are now open. Interviews are being conducted with future residents and offers are being made to early applicants in four rounds.

Bursaries and Scholarships

A range of bursaries and scholarships for 2026 are available to residents, and our application process will open in August 2025. Please [visit our website for more information](#) and make sure we receive your daughter's application before the closing dates:

- Bursary applications for 2026 residency will close on Friday 26 September 2025.
- Scholarship applications for 2026 residency will close on Friday 12 December 2025.

Our bursaries are designed to support students from financially disadvantaged families who may not otherwise have access to the unique experience of living and learning at Women's. Our scholarships recognise excellence in academic achievement, sport, cultural pursuits, and leadership.



We are excited to share with you our next edition of *FRED A*, our award-winning digital magazine. This edition brings our students closer to the College's extensive global alumnae network.

We hope this issue of *FRED A* leaves your daughter feeling inspired, connected, and ready to embrace opportunities.

[Read *FRED A* issue 6 now](#)

Operations Update

Luiz Gomes, Director of Operations

A productive semester of progress

Semester 1 has been a dynamic and productive period for the College, with several operational initiatives delivered to enhance the experience of students, staff and the wider community. From infrastructure improvements to updates in safety protocols and service delivery, the first half of the year has seen steady progress aligned with the College's strategic goals. This report provides a summary of key developments and highlights the collaborative efforts that have supported the smooth functioning of our College.

Infrastructure enhancements

- Bathroom renovations: 17 bathrooms in Piddington Wing were fully renovated during the Christmas break, significantly improving the amenity and comfort for residents.
- Ducted air conditioning: a ducted air conditioning system has been installed in all accommodation rooms and the common area on the top level of Third Wing. Further investigations are underway to explore expanding the system to other wings of the College.

Wellbeing Precinct

We're thrilled to announce that construction of our much-anticipated Wellbeing Precinct began in early May.

Thanks to the incredible generosity and support of our alumnae, parents, friends, students and staff, this transformative project is now becoming a reality. Scheduled for completion before Semester 2 commences, the Wellbeing Precinct is set to be a hub of health and connection for all students.

Your contributions, including through naming opportunities, have been instrumental in shaping this vibrant space. Together, we're creating an inclusive environment that promotes physical wellbeing for generations to come.

The Wellbeing Precinct site was marked out at the beginning of May, and the concrete foundations were poured shortly after. By early June, the framework for the pavilion was installed along with the first bricks for the gathering circle.



- Common area furniture: to improve comfort, visual appeal, and consistency across shared spaces, new sofas, chairs, side tables, coffee tables and dining sets were installed in all common areas. Additional furniture is expected to arrive soon to complete these upgrades.

Safety and security upgrades

- Fire panel upgrade: all remaining outdated fire panels across the College have been replaced, ensuring that our fire safety systems meet current compliance and performance standards.
- Door lock system: a new digital door lock system has been installed on over 315 doors across the College. This system offers greater flexibility and control, including the option to use a mobile app in place of a traditional fob. Overall, it enhances security and convenience for residents and staff.
- CCTV system: as a part of our ongoing focus on campus security, a modern CCTV system has been implemented. Existing cameras were upgraded and additional cameras installed in strategic locations to improve coverage.
- Licence plate recognition: integration between the new lock and CCTV systems has enabled licence plate recognition (LPR) technology to control access to the College's four car parks. This upgrade enhances parking security while offering a more convenient access method for authorised users.

Operational services

- Events and conferences: Our conferences and events program continues to be a strong and successful part of College operations, generating revenue to reinvest into campus improvements and facilitating valuable community engagement.
- Kitchen: as the only college with an in-house kitchen team, we continue to take pride in the quality and consistency of our food. Feedback from residents remains overwhelmingly positive, and the team's commitment to excellence is a key strength of our operations.

Looking ahead

The operational projects completed in Semester 1 reflect the College's ongoing commitment to providing a safe, comfortable and high-quality living and learning environment for our residents. These improvements not only enhance day-to-day life on campus, but also position us well for future growth and development. We extend our thanks to all staff and contractors involved for their hard work and dedication, and we look forward to continuing this momentum into Semester 2.

Because You Gave ... she can stay, strive and succeed

At The Women's College, philanthropy doesn't just make a difference – it changes lives.

Because you gave, a student found the courage to lead. Because you gave, another stayed to finish her degree. Because you gave, she dared to dream bigger.

Financial support through bursaries and scholarships provides immediate relief for students facing hardship, allowing them to focus on their studies, contribute to College life, and chase bold aspirations. You can help make Women's a reality for the next generation. Give generously to the 2025 Annual Giving Appeal. Every gift – no matter the size – makes a lasting impact.

Make your gift now: visit womens.uq.edu.au/support-womens.
All donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible.

"Because you gave, I could return for a third year to Women's. It's taken so much pressure off financially and allowed me to keep focusing on my studies and enjoy all the opportunities College offers."

– Ainhoa Fernandez Santalla,
2025 Cultural Convenor (pictured middle)





The Women's College
within The University of Queensland
ready to lead

Connect

Parent Communiqué

Issue 13, June 2025