



**QLD**FUTURES  
SUMMIT **AUGUST 24**  
**TWENTY 16**



SUMMARY REPORT

## OVERVIEW

The QLD Futures Summit 2016 discussed issues from four dominant areas of importance for Queensland:

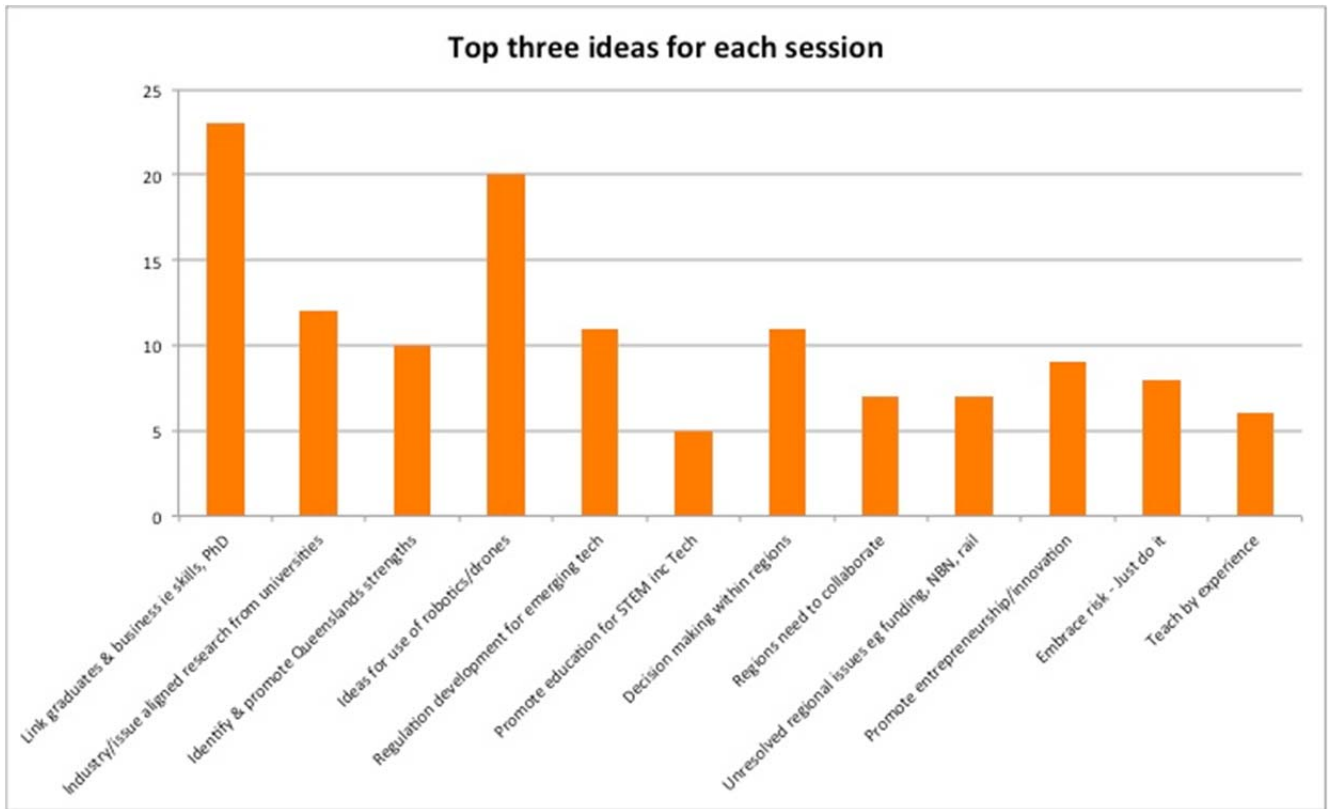
- **Positioning Queensland as a Research and Education Powerhouse;**
- **Robotic Revolution;**
- **Growing Regional Queensland; and**
- **Secrets of Innovation Success;**

The salient theme from the day was the need to work together to develop areas of innovation and entrepreneurship thereby promoting a sustainable Queensland economy. The Summit panellists emphasised: the need for greater alignment between industry and societal issues and the research and education provided by universities; the need for innovation spaces to facilitate the transfer of ideas across disciplines; the potential opportunities for the state from the robotic revolution; and, the challenges to creating vibrant thriving regional areas.

Specific discussions explored the changing educational demands of preparing students for a career in a rapidly changing market environment; the development of robotics through bio-mimicry and the world leading innovation in robotics delivered from Queensland; the challenges experienced by regional centres in developing industries and jobs; and, moves within Queensland to facilitate innovation including the announcement of Mark Sowerby as Queensland's first Chief Entrepreneur.

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## AUDIENCE TOP 3 SUGGESTIONS PER SESSION



## SESSIONS AND AUDIENCE TOP 3 POLICY IDEAS

### Session One: Positioning Queensland as a Research and Education Powerhouse

**MODERATOR – Dr Cherrell Hirst AO**

#### PANELLISTS

**Professor Peter Coaldrake AO**, Vice-Chancellor, Queensland University of Technology

**Dr Stefan Hajkowicz**, Principal Scientist in Strategic Foresight, CSIRO

**Professor Sandra Harding**, Vice-Chancellor and President, James Cook University

**Professor Peter Høj**, Vice Chancellor and President, The University of Queensland

**Professor Ian O'Connor**, Vice-Chancellor and President, Griffith University

**Professor Jan Thomas**, Vice-Chancellor and President, University of Southern Queensland

- **Link graduates & business through skill development, adaptability & PhD research**
- **Industry/issue aligned research from universities**
- **Identify & promotion of Queensland's strengths**

### Session Two: Robotic Revolution

**KEYNOTE AND MODERATOR – Dr Catherine Ball**, Managing Director, Elemental Strategy

#### PANELLISTS

**Professor Jonathan Roberts**, Professor in Robotics, Queensland University of Technology

**Professor Mandyam V Srinivasan AM**, Professor of Visual and Sensory Neuroscience and Electrical Engineering Queensland Brain Institute and The University of Queensland

**Ivan Storr**, CEO & Co-Founder, Blue Ocean Robotics Australia

- **Ideas for use of robotics/drone technology eg disaster response, personal assistance**
- **Regulation development for emerging technologies**
- **Promote education for STEM including technology development**

### **Session Three: Growing Regional Queensland**

**MODERATOR – Professor Jim Cavaye**, Program Director, University of Southern Queensland

#### **PANELLISTS**

**Councillor Matt Burnett**, Mayor of Gladstone

**Kevin Byrne**, Chief Executive Officer, Advance Cairns

**Shane Charles**, Chairman, Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise

**Councillor Margaret Strelow**, Mayor of Rockhampton

- **Decision making within regions – need for decentralisation**
- **Regions need to collaborate – working together**
- **Unresolved regional issues eg funding, NBN, rail, infrastructure**

### **Session Four: Secrets of Innovation Success**

**KEYNOTE AND MODERATOR - Steve Baxter**, Entrepreneur, investor, and 'Shark' on Shark Tank Australia

#### **PANELLISTS**

**Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP**, Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business

**Nicholas Marchesi and Lucas Patchett**, Co-Founders, Orange Sky Laundry

**Sarina Russo**, Founder and Managing Director, Sarina Russo Group

**Mark Sowerby**, Founder and Managing Director, Blue Sky Alternative Investments

- **Promote entrepreneurship/innovation**
- **Embrace risk - Just do it**
- **Teach by experience.**

The Queensland Futures Institute acknowledges the support of the UQ Business School and PhD students Cristyn Meath and Belinda Wade for their exceptional recording and analysis of the Summit proceedings.

## PARTNERS AND MEMBERS



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COMMITTED TO IMPROVING THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND

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Please see our website [www.qldfutures.com.au](http://www.qldfutures.com.au)