

Professor Rod Wissler
Dean, Graduate Studies
Queensland University of Technology



Rod Wissler is Dean of Graduate Studies at QUT. Following completion of his PhD in German Drama, he built a distinguished career as an award-winning actor, director, translator and producer, culminating in a seven year stint as CEO and Artistic Director of the Twelfth Night Theatre (Inc).

Relocating to academia in 1988, he founded the multi-disciplinary Centre for Innovation in the Arts at QUT to focus on arts and technology research. He directed Australia's first live performance event on the internet and built a further strand of research in Asian-Australian live events. He also founded Catalyst Youth Arts (Inc) in 1997 to undertake community-based youth development work using visual and performing arts methods in the outer-northern Brisbane region. His professional and research work has been supported by the Australia Council, State Government departments and the Australian Research Council, for which he has recently completed two Linkage projects in arts festival management and regional arts delivery.

His report on the groundbreaking ATN LEAP project was published by DEST in 2003 as "Postgraduate Research Students and Generic Capabilities: Online Directions". As a result he was commissioned by the Council of Deans and Directors of Graduate Studies to write national guidelines for the development of research graduate generic capabilities.

His latest publication on this topic will appear mid-year in Denholm C & Evans T 2007 *Supervising doctorates downunder: Keys to effective supervision in Australia and New Zealand* ACER Press, Melbourne.

He is the project director for the CASR-funded e-Grad School project.