

23 November 2005

MEDIA RELEASE

ATN RESEARCHERS AT THE FOREFRONT OF INDUSTRY COLLABORATION

High impact research undertaken by ATN researchers in partnership with industry and business has been recognised in an award ceremony in Sydney last night.

**Curtin University
of Technology**

Researchers from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) and RMIT took out the Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year and the Best International Collaboration Research Awards in the annual Business/Higher Education Round Table (B-HERT) awards.

**University of
South Australia**

The awards recognise outstanding achievements in collaboration between business and higher education in the fields of Research & Development and Education & Training.

RMIT University

In addition, each year B-HERT makes an award to the **Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year**, to recognise the importance of education in the process of developing and nurturing entrepreneurs; and to showcase best practice in entrepreneurial education. The ATN has sponsored the Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year Award for the last five years.

**University of
Technology
Sydney**

**Queensland
University
of Technology**

Associate Professor Chris Collet from the QUT Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation took out the Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year Award, whilst RMIT University, along with partners from the CRC for Advanced Composite Structures and **Airbus Deutschland GmbH** received the award for Best International Collaboration for their "Composite Defect Modeling Project".

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A/Professor Collet has played a significant driving role in developing and implementing course offerings in the QUT School of Life Sciences. In particular, he has shaped their Bachelor of Biotechnology Innovation into the forefront of innovative courses and teaching practices, incorporating a focus on research commercialisation and technology transfer. The Student BioEnterprise Scheme included in the course is a proactive project-based learning exercise promoting the integration of theory and practice in business and science.

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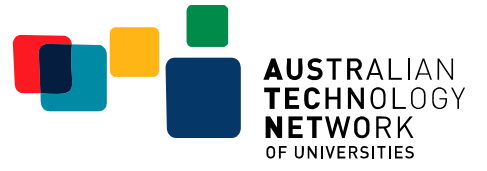
Students form companies and operate in the company environment over the entire duration of their course. Companies invent biotechnology-oriented products or processes and formulate strategies to bring them from laboratory to the marketplace under the guidance of industry and academic mentors. Students have many opportunities to network with industry through the Student BioEnterprise Scheme and numerous Ausbiotech

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functions, events and conferences. Companies can also undertake industry-based or consultancy projects with an industry partner in the final year of the course.

Professor Murray Scott, Adjunct Professor in the RMIT School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering and current CEO of the CRC for Advanced Composite Systems has driven the Composite Defect Modelling Project (CDMP), a four-year project that developed a suite of “next generation” design tools for composite aircraft structures in collaboration with the Composites CRC and Airbus. These tools give Airbus the capability to improve safety, cost and weight by more accurately accounting for the special characteristics of composite materials in design and during the full life cycle of aircraft. User-friendly, fast and accurate tools were provided to simulate a multitude of effects that have allowed Airbus to greatly enhance their business efficiency.

The work of Professors Collet and Mouritz highlights the critical importance of high impact research, which underpins our national innovation agenda.



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