Award for the
Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year 2005

WINNER:
Associate Professor Chris Collet
Course Co-ordinator, Bachelor of Biotechnology Innovation
Senior Lecturer, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Queensland University of Technology

Dr Collet has nearly 30 years of research experience in laboratories in Australia and overseas including leading research groups on projects in molecular biology and biotechnology. Since 1984, he has initiated and managed research projects related to the discovery and utilisation of natural resource products in biotechnological application from insects, plants and animals. Recent projects on the molecular biology of marsupial lactation provided opportunities for novel constructs in mammary gland bioreactor systems while projects on the peptide growth factors and neurotransmitters in fish have provided growth stimulant peptides for aquaculture. Lately, Dr Collet has explored systems for the low-cost production of diagnostic, industrial and research proteins through the use of crops such as microalgae, banana and sugarcane as bioreactors.

Since joining QUT in 1995, Dr Collet has played a major role in innovative curriculum development, course design and implementation related to the Bachelor of Applied Science course and the new Bachelor of Biotechnology Innovation. The latter course is a unique and innovative approach to educating students in the business and science of biotechnology aimed at producing the next generation of biotechnology entrepreneurs.

The Hon Dr Brendan Nelson MP, Minister for Education, Science and Training,
presented the Award at a gala dinner at the Shangri-la Hotel, Sydney
on Tuesday, 22 November 2005

Purpose
To recognise the importance of education in the process of developing and nurturing entrepreneurs; and to showcase best practice in entrepreneurial education.

Criteria for Assessment
1. Effective involvement of industry in the design, implementation and evaluation of entrepreneurial educational activities.
2. Encouragement of students in the practice of entrepreneurship.
3. Is the educator’s work a model for others?
4. Demonstrable outcomes of the educator’s work – development by students of new products, processes or services.
5. Has the educator’s work made a difference to the attitudes, self esteem, behaviour, life chances, values and employment outcomes of their students?