



## 2007 B-HERT Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Collaboration in Research & Development and Education & Training



Applications were sought earlier this year and were judged by an experienced panel of judges comprising:



- ❖ Professor Leon Mann, Director, Centre for R&D Leadership, The University of Melbourne (*Chairman*)
- ❖ Dr Peter Binks, CEO Nanotechnology Victoria Ltd
- ❖ Ms Sharon Coates, CEO, Innovation Business Skills Australia
- ❖ Dr Annabelle Duncan, Associate Director and Chief Operating Officer, Bio21 Institute
- ❖ Mr Peter Laver AM, Vice-President, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering
- ❖ Dr Peter Scaife, The University of Newcastle



The criteria for evaluation included:



1. Innovativeness
2. Strength of the relationship between collaborating partners
3. Outreach inclusion (e.g. overseas - to other groups, companies)
4. Wider outcomes achieved
5. Cultural impact on the partner/organisation.



Ms Lisa Paul, Secretary, Dept of Education, Science and Training, presented the Awards at a gala dinner at the Sheraton on the Park, in **Sydney** on **Wednesday, 21 November 2007**.



### Major Sponsor



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education, Science and Training**



### Sponsors



**The University of Sydney**



Winning entries are:

### Best Research & Development Collaboration

**Winner:** The University of Sydney and Peregrine Semiconductor Australia Pty Ltd

**Title:** **Surface Integrity Characterization of Sapphire Wafers for Wireless and Fibre Optic Semiconductor Industry**

The silicon-on-sapphire technology uses a thin layer of silicon on sapphire substrate to replace a silicon wafer to produce integrated circuits (IC) of much enhanced performance. Because of the special properties of monocrystalline sapphire wafers, uncertain wafer cracking during IC processing has hindered the quality and rate of mass production. This collaborative research has established an innovative anisotropic theory and has delivered a world-leading predictive model to the industry partner, Peregrine Semiconductor Australia Pty Ltd (PSA), to guide their product development on sapphire substrate. The application has made a significant impact, leading to an annual turnover of \$15 million for PSA in the short term and creating the basis for 200mm sapphire substrate development which will carry the technology forward into deep sub-micron regime in the long term.

### Best Education & Training Collaboration

**Winner:** Monash University (Faculty of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences, Community Partnerships Program), Wesley Mission Melbourne, Eastern Access Community Health, City of Casey, Glen Waverley Secondary College, Anglicare, Ashburton Support Services, Best Chance, Billings LIFE, Brotherhood of St Laurence, First Step Program, Health Works, Jewish Care, Living Room Primary Health Care, Knox Community Volunteers, Melbourne Citymission, Monash Volunteer Resource Centre, Salvation Army, Access Care Southern, Caulfield Community Health Service, Inner South Community Health, Knox Community Health Service, Southern Health, Whitehorse Community Health Service, Berengarra School, Dandenong High School, Karingal Park Secondary College, Mt Eliza Secondary College, Wellington Secondary College, City of Casey, City of Monash, City of Port Phillip

**Title:** **Community Partnerships Program**

The program is part of the Monash University Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery degree course. It requires students to take part in a placement with a community based organisation for twelve placement days across a semester. The placements are with program partners, which include welfare agencies, local government, schools and community health centres. The placements are not clinical placements but focus in the students gaining experience working with partners' clients, typically from backgrounds and contexts that make them in some way marginalised, including clients who are disabled, homeless, from low socio-economic background etc. . Evaluations demonstrate a great deal of learning on the part of the students about social justice, communication and personal understanding. The contributory goals have included some very impressive projects, such as the setting up of a food cooperative for refugees in a high rise housing commission block.

#### HONOURABLE MENTIONS:

University of South Australia (School of Communication), World Police & Fire Games 2007, TAFESA, Channel 31 (Adelaide) and Podmo Podcasting Service

**Title:** **World Police & Fire Games: Games TV**

Games TV set out to be a collaborative effort between the School of Communication and the organisers of the 2007 World Police and Fire Games (WPFG). The very minimum, the aim to produce a daily TV news bulletin, utilising journalism students and film & video students, and the resources of the School of Communication and TAFESA, was achieved. But the project included many innovations:

- it *narrowcast* the bulletin to a wide screen in the athlete's village
- *broadcast* a TV service to Channel 31; and
- *podcast* a separate version to mobile phones via Bluetooth hotspots around the city.

It was also about convergence and collaboration between industry and students, and between two groups of media workers who, in industry, work under separate awards: journalists and camera crew.

*and*

Monash University, Amcor, Australian Paper, Carter Holt Harvey, Kimberly-Clark Australia, Norske-Skog Australasia, SCA Hygiene Australasia and Visy Pulp & Paper Pty Ltd

**Title: Advanced Training for the Pulp and Paper Industry**

This program is the most significant partnership between a manufacturing industry and a tertiary institute in Australia for the delivery of Education. The APPI Training Program provides the qualified manpower required by the Pulp and Paper industry to remain competitive by improving productivity, reducing costs and developing new products. APPI's training program has three aspects. The first is a modular Masters in Engineering Science in Pulp and Paper Technology for Engineers/Scientists already in industry. The second is a comprehensive series of short courses, part of a continuous education program, for technologists, sales & marketing and new comers to the industry. The last is an undergraduate course to attract chemical engineers to the Pulp and Paper Industry. Over 210 engineers from industry have passed through the APPI M. Eng; and nearly 90% of them remain active in the pulp and paper industry, in Australasia. 600 staff have participated in the short courses (100 in 2006). Nearly 50% of the Monash 4<sup>th</sup> year Chemical Engineering students are training in Pulp and Paper Technology (CHE4142).

**Best Collaboration involving a CRC –  
Research & Development or Education & Training**

**Winner:** ICAN Pty Ltd, CRC for Australian Weed Management, Tocal Agricultural College and the Grains Research and Development Corporation

**Title: Integrated Weed Management – Research, Documentation and Training**

Modern farming systems have reduced soil erosion and increased crop yield, but are threatened by changes to weed management brought about by weeds that have developed resistance to one of the more commonly used herbicides.

Based on a new technical manual developed by the Weeds CRC, this program trains farm advisers to assist growers to better manage weeds, in an environment where weeds are becoming more difficult to manage due to increasing levels of resistance to commonly used herbicides.

Since 2005 some 350 farm advisers have been trained in integrated weed management (IWM) tactics.



As observed in one testimonial, the 'IWM program has arrived just in time'. Many farmers were facing a bleak choice between using increasingly ineffective herbicides, or abandoning conservation farming with the risk of returning to old unsustainable techniques that damage the soil. No with the IWM manual as guide, they are assembling a mix of weed control practices tailor-made for their properties that will also conserve their soil and nutrients.

### **Best International Collaboration – Research & Development or Education & Training**

**Winner:** International Centre of Excellence in Water Resources Management (ICEWaRM), SA Water Centre for Water Science and Systems (University of South Australia), Yellow River Conservancy Commission, Centre for English Language (University of South Australia), The University of Adelaide, Flinders University, Central Queensland University and Deakin University

**Title: Yellow River Conservancy Commission (China) – Professional Development Programme**

The YRCC Professional Development Programme is an innovative 47-week course which trains the YRCC's outstanding professionals to become leaders in sustainable water resources management. It has been developed by ICE WaRM in collaboration with the YRCC, the participating universities and other stakeholders. It includes English Language and cultural awareness training; postgraduate studies leading to a Graduate Diploma in Water Resources Management, an industry placement and a technical study tour. The programme is funded by the YRCC and supported by the Australian Federal Government and the Australian Leadership Awards. It is significantly increasing the YRCC's sustainable water resources management skills, has helped Australia earn recognition as a world leader in the field, has boosted exports and has further cemented the increasing economic and political links between Australia and China.

### **Best Collaboration with a Regional Focus – Research & Development or Education & Training**

**Winner:** Cotton Catchment Communities CRC, Australian Cotton Growers Research Association, Cotton Australia, Cotton Research & Development Corporation, The University of Sydney, The University of New England, The University of Queensland (Gatton), CSIRO (Plant Industries, Entomology Narrabri and Textiles Geelong), NSW DPI an Qld DPI&F

**Title: Summer Scholarships – Providing Opportunities for Undergraduate Students**

The aim of the Cotton CRC Summer Scholarship program is to provide an opportunity for undergraduate students studying agriculture or related sciences at University to undertake an eight week research project in collaboration with a "real" researcher and cotton businesses during the university summer vacation in regional Australia. The scholarship provides eight weeks of salary stipend for the student (currently \$500/week) and small operating budget for project consumables (about \$1000). The scholarship program encourages students to consider a research career when they leave university and also aims to attract students to undertake a PhD. It also provides career opportunities and changes attitudes to cotton businesses and rural Australia by demonstrating country life in a small town with internationally know scientists.



## Best Community Engagement Collaboration

**Winner:** Victoria University, Horn of Africa Community Network Inc., Centacare Catholic Family Services, Western English Language School, The Western Bulldogs, Victorian Multicultural Commission and the Sunshine Magistrates Court..

**Title:** **Victoria University Engagement with Newly Arrived Refugee Communities from the Horn of Africa**

Victoria University brings together community and government partners to support the growing numbers of newly arrived refugees from the Horn of Africa to the West of Melbourne. This program has brought together communities who are traditional enemies. Starting in 2000 with the delivery of four community driven, educational support programs to young refugees and their parents delivered by Higher Education students (pre-service teachers). Weekly programs for the Eritrean, Ethiopian, Sudanese and Somali community groups ran for two years. The program continues today for all Horn of African communities and there have been extensive 'spin-off' programs that have been developed and implemented in partnership with a range of community, philanthropic and government organisations. These programs include customised educational bridging programs, a youth centre, scholarship programs and culturally appropriate dispute resolution processes.

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**21 November 2007**

**Note your diary** – applications for next year's Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Collaboration in Research & Development and Education & Training, Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year and Outstanding Philanthropic Support of Higher Education will be called in **May 2008**.

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