



## Award for Best Entrepreneurial Educator of the Year 2007

### Purpose

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

### WINNER

**Professor Archie Johnston**

Dean, Faculty of Engineering, University of Technology, Sydney

Professor Johnston commenced at UTS in 1999 as **Dean of Engineering** and his entrepreneurial approach has been applied in a range of areas including, teaching and learning, research and development, fundraising as well as industry engagement and global collaborations, and through these activities UTS:Engineering has thus become one of the most progressive and innovative in the world.

UTS:Engineering has developed many areas of innovative activity. At a strategic level the Faculty is sustained by its **Industry Advisory Network** – a group of leading Industry CEOs who **strengthen its industry engagement**. An example of their unique industry involvement is the multi-dimensional **Partnership with Alcatel (Australia)** that was launched in 2000 and provided critical postgraduate educational programs, corporate sponsorships, scholarships and internships, staff exchanges and workplace R&D. They were then invited by **Alcatel (France)** to enter their **Global Research Partnership** that currently involves nine leading Universities in the world. In another example, the **Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA)** supports **40 Rural Scholarships** each valued at \$54,000 and this \$2.2m investment in UTS:Engineering is one of the largest made to undergraduate education in Australia.

Its award winning Bachelor of Engineering, Diploma in Engineering Practice program has students undertaking **two six-month fully paid internships in industry**. To supplement and enhance their learning the Faculty has established groundbreaking **Remotely Accessible Laboratories** that deliver web based real-time interactive laboratory experiences.

In **Research and Development** a stimulating environment has been established to deliver the successful commercialisation of Sensor Network, Timber Bridge Testing, and, Location of Mobile Phone technologies. The heart pump, VentrAssist™, won the Engineers Australia Award for Excellence in Engineering Design. The device has now been successfully placed in 125 patients. Other UTS:Engineering research was spun out to AiMedics and it received a \$2.7 million Government grant to develop HypoMon – a unique non-invasive hypoglycaemia monitor.

Their **Global enterprises** required entrepreneurial thinking to establish and successfully deliver transnational education in English (8 years) and Chinese (4 years) with the **Hong Kong Management Association**. These programs are delivered in Hong Kong and China and highlight the value of **Australian innovative and entrepreneurial approaches** to technical and management matters.

This year Professor Johnston was appointed to **Chair the Board of the Centre for Leadership and Management (CELM)**. CELM was formed by Engineers Australia in 2002 as a strategic response to the complex and changing business environment in which engineers work.

Attracting women into Engineering is a major challenge for Universities. UTS:Engineering has made a major contribution in this area where their **Women in Engineering Program** is the longest running initiative of its kind in Australia. The program celebrated 25 years of existence in 2006.