

# Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence Recipients 2009

## Academic Staff – Individual Awards

### **Kerrie Mengersen**

Professor  
School of Mathematical Sciences, Faculty of Science and  
Technology  
Research, partnerships and engagement, leadership



Kerrie is a highly dedicated researcher and leader in the Statistics Discipline. She has demonstrated sustained focus through application-motivated research conducted in collaboration with inter-disciplinary researchers and practitioners in industry, government and academia. In the past 5 years, Kerrie has secured more than \$6M in national competitive grant funding and has sustained a research endeavour resulting in 80 externally reviewed publications. She has a constant record of active PhD supervision and recently secured a number of new scholarships. Kerrie has also delivered many short courses across Australia as well as internationally.

### **Andy Arthurs**

Professor  
Music and Sound, Creative Industries Faculty  
Innovative and creative practice



Andy, along with an industry partner, is the initiator of the music performance group Deep Blue. He has shepherded Deep Blue's progress and has been a significant driver of the innovative and creative practice of this world-first immersive multimedia orchestra, described as "part orchestra, part band, part movie." It has achieved cultural change in an area suffering from decades of stasis, serving as an excellent new model for many arts organisations (especially orchestras) around the world.

Deep Blue has unleashed the full power of a traditional orchestra with amplification, performance, lighting, large screen and interactive technology and a broad repertoire – from classical orchestral music to film scores, from pop and rock revisited to original compositions.

Deep Blue has received grants, including ARC linkage grants, totalling around \$1.7M, employed over 30 QUT staff and students, and spawned 14 new musical copyrights, 58 performances across Australia, produced 3 CDs and its YouTube videos have been rated 5 stars. It also won "Best Overall Business Plan 2007 for Industries" from the Queensland Government.

## **Barbara Kent**

Sessional Academic

Law School, Faculty of Law

Learning and teaching, partnerships and engagement, leadership



Barbara has been a long-standing and outstanding sessional staff member, one of a handful who are in effect part of the regular Faculty teaching team. She has a commitment to, and passion for, teaching and learning, receiving consistently excellent SET, SEU and LEX results over her 17 years at QUT. She is widely engaged in the life of the Faculty with service on various Faculty and University Committees. Barbara brings the “real world” to her teaching through her active membership of the Mental Health Review Tribunal, the Social Security Appeals Tribunal and her various board appointments.

Barbara has played a pivotal role in the Law Faculty and is highly regarded by other areas of the University.

## **Joanne Fuller**

Lecturer

School of Economics and Finance, Faculty of Business

Learning and teaching



Joanne is a highly effective lecturer who integrates information and communications technology to develop scholarly and innovative approaches to teaching and learning. She has been a pioneer in the Faculty of Business in the use of Elluminate technology, which allows the delivery of on-line workshops to her students at times which are best calculated to improve their learning and engagement.

Joanne receives exceedingly high student evaluations which demonstrate her ability to provide sustained outcomes in support of the University’s vision.

## **Wilhelmina Huston**

Peter Doherty Fellow,

School of Life Sciences, Faculty of Science and Technology, IHBI

Research, learning and teaching



Willa is an exceptional Early Career researcher, whose position is supported by a prestigious NHMRC Peter Doherty Postdoctoral Fellowship and has attained \$500,000 worth of additional grants. Willa’s work focuses on applied research into new diagnostic tests for female infertility which has the potential to radically alleviate the impact of this devastating illness. Her research aligns with the established Infectious Diseases Research program at IHBI and she has established highly productive research collaborations in Australia and overseas, in hospitals and community health facilities.

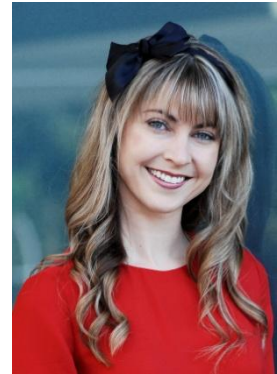
Willa has been placed on the national Shortlist for the Fulbright Commission Postdoctoral Travel Award and was also a State Finalist for the Women in Technology Biotech Rising Star Award.

## **Michelle Cunningham**

Sessional Tutor, Lecturer  
Art and Design, Creative Industries Faculty  
Learning and teaching

Michelle is a very high performing sessional academic. She teaches first year students across a range of learning contexts within Creative Industries, at both the Caboolture Campus and International College. Dedication and passion underpin her interest and enthusiasm and her teaching approach is based on the tenet that students need to embrace a deep approach to their learning.

Michelle has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the role of head tutor in several units where she has inspired and motivated her peers, and has acted in the complex role of on-ground liaison with International College and Caboolture Campus.



## **Marilyn Campbell**

Associate Professor  
School of Learning and Professional Studies, Faculty of Education  
Research

Marilyn has supported the University's mission and goals through her high impact research on children's anxiety and cyberbullying, with an applied emphasis on practical outcomes. She is consistently one of the highest publishers in the Education Faculty (for much of this time as an Early Career Academic) and is in the top 50 authors across the University in e-print downloads. Her research has attracted more than \$596,000 in funding from competitive grants, including two ARC grants.

Marilyn's reputation is truly international and she has multiple invitations to deliver keynote addresses at state, national and international conferences. She works successfully across the University, collaborating particularly with the Health and Law faculties, and actively mentors her students into writing. Marilyn was awarded a CLI research fellowship for 2009.



## **John McAuliffe**

Adjunct Professor, Sessional academic  
School of Urban Development, Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering  
Partnerships and engagement

John has made a significant contribution to QUT for over 20 years as a sessional staff member and has served as an Adjunct Professor since 2003. In his capacity as a sessional staff member and recognised industry leader, John was instrumental in establishing the property economics discipline at QUT and the first property economics degree course in 1990.

His profile in the industry has continued to grow with roles such as the Australian and Queensland President and Life Fellow of the Australian Property Institute; Chair of the Mater Hospital and the Brisbane Housing Company and he was awarded an Order of Australia in 2007. John's industry profile is a reflection of his true energy and enthusiasm.



## Christy Collis

Senior Lecturer

Media & Communication, Creative Industries Faculty

Learning and teaching, partnerships and engagement, client focus, innovative and creative practice

In the five years Christy has been at QUT she has proven herself to be a star academic. She overhauled the faculty's Workplace Learning program, incorporating other work-integrated learning units to form the Creative Industries Transitions Program – a program which has substantially augmented the Faculty's real-world teaching and learning profile, as well as its engagement with the wider community.



Christy has demonstrated a capacity for sustained and high-level research, in terms of her scholarship of teaching and learning publications and grants, her \$333,000 ARC grant, her CRC work and her numerous publications.

She is an inspirational teacher who has taught over 1600 students across a dozen units and according to one student evaluation, Christy is said to be a “rocking teacher”.

## Edwina Luck

Lecturer

School of Advertising, Marketing and Public Relations, Faculty of Business

Learning and teaching, innovative and creative practice

Edwina is a dynamic, selfless and innovative lecturer. Her approach to teaching and learning is to facilitate curiosity, and to mentor, support and motivate students using innovative, authentic teaching techniques. These include real life clients, virtual social network spaces, current case studies, guest lecturers, client/student networking functions and interactive classes. Her teaching innovation has previously been recognised through the granting of two Faculty of Business Teaching Awards.



Edwina's teaching portfolio is characterised by its overall diversity with experience spanning across undergraduate and postgraduate coursework, higher degree supervision, MBA and Executive Education within QUT and industry.

## Greg Hearn

Co-ordinator, Research Intensive Staff

Faculty Research Office, Creative Industries Faculty

Research

Greg leads by example and by empowering others. As a career researcher his achievements include ARC grants of over \$9M and the impact of his research is demonstrated by international academic publications of the highest order as well as demand from end users. Greg led the development of competitive grants in the Creative Industries Faculty from 2002 to 2004 and then he continued this role as foundation Director of the Institute of Creative Industries from 2005 – 2007.



His work has been recognised nationally with an invitation in 2005 to the Prime Minister's Science Engineering and Innovation Council working party. Greg is an unselfish and outstanding mentor of new talent.

## Professional Staff – Individual Award

### Maree Izatt

Senior Research Assistant  
School of Engineering Systems, Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering  
Research, partnerships and engagement

Maree has brought the highest level of dedication and commitment to her role as Senior Research Assistant within the QUT/Mater Hospital Paediatric Spine Research Group. She has been an invaluable resource over the past 6.5 years for numerous patients, doctors, researchers, administrators and postgraduate students seeking information and advice.

Maree is directly responsible for the implementation of the spine surgery databases and planning aids which have been used to improve treatment of scoliosis patients in the Mater Children's Hospital spinal clinic. As a QUT staff member operating off campus in the hospital environment, she is a credit to QUT.



### Lizzie Grist

Administrative Assistant  
Faculty of Law  
Learning and teaching, partnerships and engagement, client focus, innovative and creative practice, leadership

Lizzie has made an extraordinary contribution within the Faculty of Law over the past 3 years. She is the key point of contact for the Teaching and Learning area and plays a vital role which goes well beyond her formal position as a Personal Assistant. Lizzie has played a major leadership role in encouraging Law students to complete the LEX survey and as a result of her innovative and creative approach the Faculty results have shown a substantial improvement in recent years.

Lizzie is professional, helpful, reliable and resourceful and she has proved to be a true asset who makes a strong contribution to staff morale and community spirit.



### Greg Palmer

Technical Leader, Enterprise Services and Storage  
Information Technology Services Department, Division of Technology, Information and Learning Support  
Partnerships and engagement, innovative and creative practice, leadership

Greg has demonstrated an exceptional level of dedication and commitment to QUT. He is as engaged with his work and committed to QUT today as when he first commenced with the University in 1988. Greg is responsible for the implementation of a myriad of items that support QUT's business activities and has provided input into hundreds of projects overall. He has been a major contributor to the University's technical architecture and instrumental in the successful delivery of the large and complex IT systems.

Greg is engaging and his unique interpersonal skills ensure the best outcomes for QUT. He is driven to help others and believes strongly in mentoring and nurturing new recruits.



## **Elizabeth Stein**

Senior Administration Officer and Pharmacy Placements Officer  
School of Life Sciences, Faculty of Science and Technology  
Partnerships and engagement, client focus

Elizabeth has been a valued member of staff over her entire 29 year career at QUT. She has played a pivotal role in the development of the Bachelor of Pharmacy courses during the last four years.

Elizabeth has established and maintained linkages with over 350 external pharmacists from community, hospital and rural backgrounds to host QUT's pharmacy students. In 2009 she negotiated 330 individual student placements in each semester in a very competitive environment.

Elizabeth's dedication and expertise in this demanding position is displayed in the efficient and effective organisation of these placements and her exemplary communication skills in liaising with both external pharmacists and students.

Her nomination has been supported by a large number of staff and pharmacy students, a clear indication of Elizabeth's excellent level of service and support.



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## **Senior Staff – Individual Award**

### **Colin Melvin**

Director, Office of Commercial Services  
Division of International and Development  
Leadership

Over the last four years as Director, Colin has modelled exemplary leadership, not only within the Office of Commercial Services, but also across the faculties of QUT and his clients. Colin has demonstrated exemplary leadership through his collaborative approach in working with clients across all areas of the University. In doing so he has inspired a shared vision, enabled others to act and has taken great interest in his staff's personal development to constantly improve their skills and service levels.

Colin has led a significant change process in OCS and has successfully transformed the working culture into one that puts high quality client service as a paramount performance parameter, and one that values partnerships and engagement with internal and external clients.

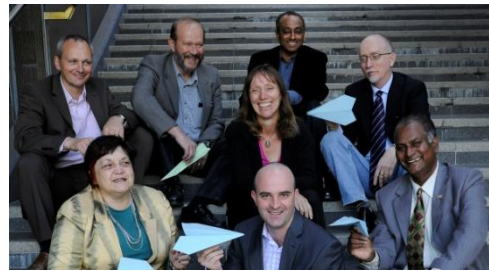
Colin is proactive, hands-on, sincere and empowering.



## Academic Team Award

### Airports of the Future Project Team

**Professor Robin Drogemuller**  
**Dr Clinton Fookes**  
**Professor Ashantha Goonetilleke**  
**Professor Vesna Popovic**  
**Professor Sridha Sridharan**  
**Professor Prasad Yarlagadda**  
Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering  
**Emeritus Professor Ed Dawson**  
**Professor Kerrie Mengersen**  
**Professor Michael Rosemann**  
Faculty of Science and Technology  
**Dr Paul Barnes**  
Faculty of Business.  
Research, partnerships and engagement



The Airports of the Future Project Team is a cross-faculty, multi-disciplinary team from the Faculties of Built Environment and Engineering, Science and Technology and Business. They have worked to secure the largest ARC Linkage grant received by QUT, totalling \$8 million. The team members have built a strong industry-government-university partnership across 33 partners spanning airports, airlines, government, policing and border-control agencies.

The project aims to enhance the capabilities of Australian airport operators to design and manage complex airport systems. Outcomes will improve productivity and airport effectiveness, enhance capabilities for critical infrastructure protection, and will cultivate the flexibility for the sustained growth of airport operations.

## Senior /Professional Staff Team Award

### SBS Admissions and QUT International Team

**Irene Koh**  
**June Ho**  
Student Business Services  
Division of Administrative Services  
**Sharon Tickle**  
International Marketing and Recruitment  
Division of International and Development  
Client focus



In this cross-divisional team, representatives of senior management within Student Business Services and QUT International formed a fresh collaborative partnership with a focus on effective cross-divisional communication. Their objective was to deliver quality efficient client service for prospective international students.

The example set by these managers has evidently flowed through to their respective teams whose professional and diligent efforts contributed to a significant increase in international applications and new enrolments in Semester 1, 2009. As a consequence of this fine example of cross-divisional cooperation, international student enrolments at QUT will contribute approximately \$100 million in discretionary income in 2009.