



# ATN in PROFILE

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## ATN partnerships take out Awards

The ATN group of universities has dominated in the 2009 Business/Higher Education Round Table Awards, announced at a dinner attended by Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard on 5 November in Melbourne.

ATN universities received awards or honourable mentions in six of the eight categories, including the prestigious Ashley Goldsworthy Award for Sustained Collaboration between Business and Higher Education, awarded to Queensland University of Technology.

ATN Executive Director Vicki Thomson said the results highlighted the ATN's sustained reputation of building partnerships with industry and undertaking high impact research which was relevant to the needs of our community and underpinned the national innovation agenda.

In conjunction with industry partners, the ATN honour roll included University of SA – Best Community Engagement and RMIT – Best Vocational Education and Training Collaboration, as well as honourable mentions in a further three categories in addition to the Ashley Goldsworthy Award.

The ATN has long supported BHERT, this year



**ATN Chair, Professor Ross Milbourne congratulates the winners of the ATN sponsored Best Research and Development Award, which went to the University of Wollongong and Railcorp, NSW.**

sponsoring the award for Best Research and Development Collaboration. In presenting this award, ATN Chair, Ross Milbourne cited the significant contribution industry and higher education collaboration makes to the national innovation agenda.

The Business/Higher Education Round Table is a not-for-profit organisation that was established in 1990 to strengthen the relationship between business and higher education. Highlighting the benefits of that collaboration, B-HERT Awards recognise outstanding achievements in collaboration between business and higher education in the fields of research and development, and education and training.

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### member universities

University of South Australia  
 Curtin University of Technology  
 RMIT University  
 University of Technology, Sydney  
 Queensland University of Technology



**AUSTRALIAN  
 TECHNOLOGY  
 NETWORK**  
 OF UNIVERSITIES

# Top award for Curtin Vice-Chancellor

Curtin University Vice-Chancellor and ATN Deputy Chair, Professor Jeanette Hackett, has been recognised for her outstanding contribution to international education.

She was named the winner of the 2009 Excellence in Leadership in International Education Award at a special ceremony in Sydney in October.

In accepting the award, Professor Hackett said: "I am honoured to receive this award because I firmly believe in the enormous value of international education."

Professor Hackett became Head of the International Student Services at Curtin in 1991 and Dean of International Programs five years later. In 2002, she was appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor International and Enterprise then Vice-Chancellor in 2006. Having long championed international education she believes

passionately in its value – not just in economic terms but for its capacity to promote cross-cultural experiences for students.

One in four international students choose to study at an ATN university, making the ATN the largest provider of international education, both onshore and offshore.

As a member of the network, Curtin contributes significantly to that profile boasting Australia's third largest international student population.

Offshore, Curtin has long-term relationships with over 30 education providers in the Asia Pacific region delivering degree programs in Singapore, Vietnam, Mauritius, China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan.

Its Sarawak campus is enjoying its 10th anniversary year, having been established in 1999.



Vice-Chancellor Jeanette Hackett was named the winner of the 2009 Excellence in Leadership in International Education Award.

## Building capacity with quality theme of 2010 ATN conference

Building Capacity with Quality is the theme of the 12th annual ATN Conference to be held 3-5 February 2010 at RMIT University.

As the major strategic event for the year involving senior administrative staff and academics from Curtin University, UniSA, RMIT, UTS and QUT universities, the ATN makes every effort to focus the conference on the most relevant issues in higher education of the day.

In commenting on the 2010 theme, Executive Director Vicki Thomson says, "If 2008 was the 'year of reviews', then 2010 sees the sector facing an environment shaped by the Federal Government's response to those reviews, particularly as it relates to quality.

"Compacts, equity targets, transparent costing of research, academic standards and national regulation are all top of mind for the ATN in a market-driven environment that marks a new era for Australian higher education."

Conference delegates can expect to hear from experts – local and international – on these topics and more during the three-day event including Professor Christine Ewan Head of Learning

Networks, ALTC.

Standards have been an ALTC focus since its establishment in 2004. Notably Professor Ewan is credited with advancing the focus of Learning Networks in line with the Federal government's commitment to introduce new quality assurance arrangements, including the development of meaningful academic standards.

Also invited to speak is Pierre M Espinasse, Head Research Services (Science Area) & Associate Director Knowledge Exchange University of Oxford.

The University of Oxford was a pilot institution for the development and implementation of the UK's full economic costing policy where Pierre project-managed its introduction at Oxford.

He is highly regarded as an authority in the UK and Europe on developing FEC from an institutional, strategic perspective as well as an operational one.

Further details on the conference can be found at [2010 ATN Conference](http://2010.atn.edu.au).

## Upcoming events

### Green Universities Conference

22-23 February, 2010

Rendezvous Hotel, Melbourne

Carbon emissions, climate change and going green represents a significant component of the broader strategic shift taking place in the Australian corporate landscape.

The university sector in particular faces some unique and diverse set of challenges across a number of issues ranging from:

- Campus infrastructure
- University planning and design
- Policy and program implementation
- Collaboration and benchmarking
- Innovation
- Funding, financing and investment

Hear case studies from across Australia and benefit from the opportunity to explore the different strategies and initiatives universities are implementing to reduce their carbon footprint and maximise sustainability.

Download the [registration form](#) with 10 per cent discount for ATN members.

### 8th Annual Higher Education Summit

29-30 April, 2010

The National Wine Centre of Australia, Adelaide

In 2010, Australia's original and most established higher education policy and planning conference will be about "Questioning Australian higher education policy and planning in the 21st century". We believe it is essential to question how well the Bradley Review has gone and how policy and planning is addressing other important issues, such as the big ticket issue of the century - climate change. Some of the key questions that will be asked across the Summit are:

- How "green" are we?
- Has the Australian higher education review achieved what it has set out to achieve?
- What is the political agenda for 2010 and onward?
- Increasing participation – what are institutions doing to achieve higher attainment levels of degrees in higher education?
- The idea of funding the third stream (or knowledge engagement activities) was dismissed in the Bradley Review as a potential area for funding - was this the right thing to do?
- Excellence on the world stage – do we have what it takes?

ATN members are entitled to a 10 per cent discount on registration.



■ ATN Chair, Professor Ross Milbourne has won the 2009 EOWA award for Leading CEO for the Advancement of Women.

# Advancing women everyday business for ATN Chair

The ATN congratulates Professor Ross Milbourne, Vice Chancellor of UTS and Chair ATN, on winning the 2009 EOWA award for Leading CEO for the Advancement of Women. EOWA Business Achievement Awards are given in recognition of excellence in Equal Employment Opportunity. In taking out the Leading CEO for the Advancement of Women award Professor Milbourne has demonstrated to be a chief executive who:

- Leads by example through personal commitment;
- Drives management accountability for action;
- Creates an inclusive workplace culture;
- Goes the extra mile for the advancement of women; and
- Delivers improved outcomes for women and the business.

In accepting the award, Professor Milbourne said he supported equity initiatives because they were "the right thing to do" and because they delivered a highly productive and diverse workplace.

Initiatives such as the "Women@UTS program" and the "Women in Engineering Program" are typical of his continued commitment to broad-ranging and diverse professional development designed to build

organisational capability and an inclusive culture for all women employed at UTS.

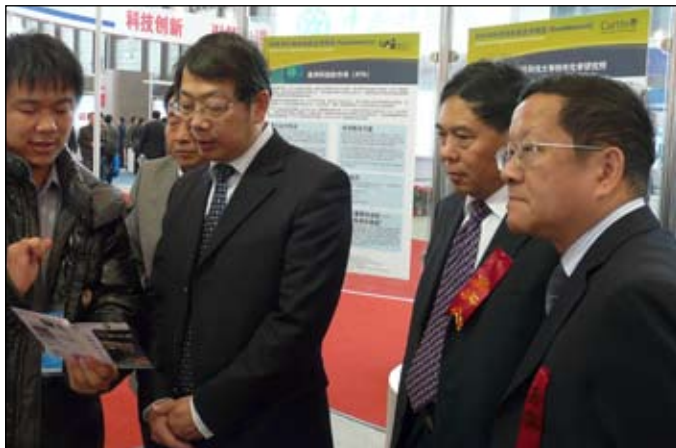
As part of his ongoing commitment to women gaining top-level roles, Professor Milbourne supports the ATN Women's Executive Development Program. He also supports Universities Australia Executive Women, which brings together Australian female Vice-Chancellors and senior executives.

In commenting on the award, ATN Executive Director Vicki Thomson cited the accolade as an exemplar for not just higher education but for Australian business.

"Universities are large employers and Vice Chancellors are responsible for managing large budgets," she said.

"We have long recognised the valuable contribution women make to organisations and their capacity to take on leadership roles at all levels. It makes good business sense to 'grow your own'."

All ATN universities have status as Employer of Choice for Women, often for initiatives that are outside the square such as Curtin University's practice of ensuring that women have roles as deputies on any Committee where a male has the Chair and the initiative is proving to be highly successful.



■ Mr Xi Chen, Vice Minister of Education of the PRC, and other dignitaries visit the ATN booth in Shanghai.

## NanoNetwork research begins to bear fruit

Building on the formal launch of the Australia-China NanoNetwork in October, researchers involved in the network are showing that their commitment in building the venture is beginning to bear fruit.

In the last round of ARC Discovery Projects, researchers from the University of South Australia, in partnership with Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, are to be congratulated for their success in being awarded \$380,000 for a three-year project to study new nanoscience techniques for the separation of biomolecules.

This project is just one of many currently in development for the network, which is currently working on a range of initiatives designed to strengthen and broaden collaborative links between ATN and ISTA universities.

The recent success of the Nanomedicine workshop has given rise to a number of projects which we anticipate will drive further ARC

applications going forward. Partners on both sides are embracing the spirit of collaboration and building valuable relationships, with Southeast University, seeking support from Chinese funding sources to enable UniSA researchers to undertake research in China, and ATN partners seeking adjunct appointments for researchers from Nanjing University and Southeast University to further consolidate such links.

A recent partnership and profile building visit to the ISTA Annual Meeting and eight Chinese universities, as well as a NanoNetwork presence at the recent Shanghai Technology and Innovation Expo, were also highly successful and bode well for partnerships in the future.

For more detailed information about the Australia-China NanoNetwork's activities, please visit its [website](http://www.atn.edu.au).

## BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

## FINDING SOLUTIONS



THE Australian Technology Network brings together five of the most innovative and enterprising universities in the nation.

We are committed to forging partnerships with industry and government to deliver practical results through focused research.

We educate graduates who are ready to enter their chosen profession, dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and eager to claim a stake in building sustainable societies of the future.

ATN universities teach around 180,000 students, or almost 20 % of Australia's student population. With 1 in 4 international students choosing to study at an ATN university, we are also the largest provider of international education, both with our onshore and offshore students.

The ATN's aim is to help secure Australia's reputation as the clever country, and contribute to its social and economic wealth, while championing the principles of access and equity that have ensured its members are the universities of first choice for more students.

■ For more information about the ATN, our organisation and activities, please visit our web site at [www.atn.edu.au](http://www.atn.edu.au)

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## member universities

University of South Australia

Curtin University of Technology

RMIT University

University of Technology, Sydney

Queensland University of Technology

[www.atn.edu.au](http://www.atn.edu.au)