



Julius Kruttschnitt
Mineral Research Centre

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P9 project wins international collaboration award

The University of Queensland's Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre has received the 'Outstanding Achievement in International Collaborative R & D' award at the recent Business and Higher Education Round Table tenth anniversary celebration at Sheraton Towers Southgate in Melbourne.

The BHERT awards are recognised as Australia's premier forum to acknowledge successful collaboration between the business and higher education sectors.

The JKMRC accepted the award for the P9 Project on behalf of its collaborating partners the Mineral Processing Research Unit at The University of Cape Town, McGill University in Canada and AMIRA International.

In accepting the award from Australian Federal Treasurer The Hon Peter Costello MP, JKMRC Centre Director Professor Tim Napier-Munn said that the award recognised the good work that had been done by the project over many years and the value placed on it by the mineral industry.

He paid tribute to the many people involved in its success - the postgraduate students, research staff, AMIRA and the JKMRC's research collaborators, the University of Cape Town in South Africa and McGill University in Canada.

Professor Napier-Munn especially thanked the many companies who had sponsored the project.

"Their support over many years has allowed a critical mass of expertise to be developed, which has made a major contribution to the efficiency and profitability of mineral processing projects and continued to do so," he said.

"The vision of the first project leader Professor Alban Lynch and the industrial work ethic which he established remains core values for the project today."

The P9 project was presented at the event as the ultimate example of an international collaboration between industry and universities, continuing to break new ground both in technology and in the process of collaboration itself.

It was also recognised as the largest and longest running university-based mineral processing research project in the world.

This is the second consecutive year a research centre from within the University of Queensland's Faculty of Engineering, Physical Science and Architecture has won a BHERT award. In 1999, the Faculty's Centre for Magnetic Resonance also won in the international collaboration category.

P9 commenced in 1962 supported by 13 Australian mining companies. It is now supported by 38 mining and service companies in five countries and is expected to generate AUD\$8million of direct and indirect funding over the four years 2000 to 2003.

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