



## COVER SHEET

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# **Surveying News from QUT: Industry Report Oct 1998** **for Qld Surveyor Journal**

**October 1998**

**Compiled by Robert Webb**

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Queensland University of Technology**

First year students recently attended an interesting and stimulating field practical with the aim of improving their angle/direction determinant skills, problem solving skills, and to gain more real-world practical skills in utilizing a total station to solve for 2-D position from a four point resection challenge. This year the practical moved to the top of Mt Gravatt (about seven kilometres south of the Brisbane CBD) with students individually undertaking several sets of angular observations. Fortunately the practical day was a very crisp and clear day with views and Prominent Feature Targets observed to Bribie Island, Glass House Mountains, Flinders Peak and the numerous closer features from Mt Cootha TV towers, CBD points and prominent radio towers and stacks around the Port of Brisbane and Manly districts.

Recently John Broadbent from Department of Transport, provided an informative guest lecture to the third year students on the national and state perspectives of hydrographic surveying and charting. John emphasized the importance of the professional surveyors' knowledge of hydrographic datums and discussed many issues relating to the management of hydrographic information. This also extended to the *Seafarer* software for use in Electronic Chart Systems that is produced by the Australian Hydrographic Office. *Seafarer* is a fully electronic chart service providing high quality digital reproductions of official Australian paper charts.

In addition to the theory and management component of the hydrographic surveying module, third year students recently undertook a hydrographic practical exercise at Lake Moogerah (South of Ipswich) in which spatially related Bathymetry and Environmental data was collected using a variety of positioning techniques. Just after dark on the Wednesday evening students were given an illuminating exposure to the "track-light" module adapted to a tracking Geodimeter total station for use in near-shore marine vessel navigation. One of the objectives of this practical was to determine the position of the original Reynolds Creek now submerged by the Lake and investigate a hypothetical alignment for a possible fibre-optic cabling route. The lake was at a mere fourteen percent of total storage capacity.

Survey Practice Course students have just concluded the intensive contact mode at QUT. Students are currently involved in self-directed assignment and research work until the end of the year on topics of cadastral re-instatement, management of GPS data acquisition projects, GIS/LIS project life cycles and the processes involved in medium to large size mapping projects.

In mid-September staff from the School of Planning, Landscape Architecture, and Surveying attended an informal guided tour through the nearly completed new 'D' building. The majority of the school will be moving into this purpose-built building during December and January. The telephone contact numbers for the school should remain un-changed. The project manager who conducted the tour advised that the scheduled fifteen month construction for this new six-story building was slightly ahead of schedule despite recent periods of rain. The schools main office will be located on the fourth level along with surveying and mapping staff offices. Many of the new student computer laboratories (equipped with floor to ceiling glass windows) overlook the old Parliament House building. It

was somewhat different to observe on a construction site the administrative and support staff dressed in steel- capped boots and hard hats!

Final Year Surveying and Mapping students and double-degree surveying/info technology students will be giving formal presentations of their year-long project topics. The presentations are to be made at the O.J.Wordsworth rooms in 'S' building on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October commencing at 2pm. Students are required to give an approximately ten minute professional presentation about their research and investigative topic as part of the Final Year Project subject. An afternoon tea will also be provided. Surveying and Mapping professionals from industry are more than welcome to attend this presentation and make contact with the soon to graduate students.