



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Awards celebrating women and biotech brilliance

Winners of the 2007 WIT Awards were recently announced

The WIT Awards Gala Dinner was held on Saturday 15 September 2007 at Chifley at Lennox. Queensland Clinical Trials Network Inc. (QCTN) was again the proud sponsor of the Biotech Rising Star Award. Through sponsorship of the Award QCTN encourages the advancement of women in the biotechnology and technological industries.

The QCTN Biotech Rising Star Award is intended to celebrate, recognise and reward a candidate regarded as having the potential to make significant contributions to the future of the biotechnology industry or research sector – Queensland's Rising Star.

QCTN Chief Executive Officer, Mario Pennisi, said it is important to acknowledge the achievements of Queensland's women in technology through the presentation of scholarships and awards.

"As the Queensland biotech industry is advancing, it is important to celebrate, recognise and reward candidates for their ability to make significant contributions to the future of the biotechnology industry or research sector in Queensland.

"WIT is one of the leading technology industry associations for women in Australia and these awards are just an example of how they continue to promote the industry and the interests of women working in it," Mr Pennisi said.

The finalists were Dr Paige Maguire, Dr Willa Huston and Dr Amanda Mabbett - all of whom were worthy candidates according to Mr Pennisi.

"The calibre of entrants this year shows how much talent we really do have in the industry in Queensland," Mr Pennisi said.

Dr Maguire not only congratulated the other finalists and thanked the organisers but also stated that QCTN did a great job in promoting the Queensland based life sciences and biotechnology industry.

QCTN not only continue to support WIT and WIB – the Biotech Chapter of Women in Technology, but also endeavours to showcase the growth, regulatory issues and opportunities in clinical trials in Queensland.

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Together with this, QCTN remains steadfast in highlighting its members and their affiliates and the importance of clinical trials industry related careers in Queensland and the difficulties involved when recruiting staff.

QCTN is based in Queensland, Australia and was established in 2005 by the Queensland Government as part of its Smart State Initiative. It is an incorporated association of Queensland based, life sciences research organisations and related entities. QCTN itself does not conduct any form of clinical research; rather, QCTN is an 'umbrella organisation'.

As a visible point of contact for domestic and international organisations seeking to undertake preclinical and clinical research in Australia, QCTN helps identify and connect organisations (sponsors) with appropriate research institutions, hospitals, CROs and other life sciences service providers. QCTN now has more than 55 entities as members.

For further information on QCTN, please visit their website – www.qctn.com.au or if you would like more information on the 2007 WIT Gala Awards Dinner, please visit www.wit.org.au

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<<Photos from the evening and a copy of Dr Paige Maguire's bio are available on request.>>

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