DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR
PETER CORKE

AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2017
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

DISCIPLINE

Artificial Intelligence
and Image Processing;
Electrical and Electronic
Engineering

RESEARCH AREAS

Robotics
Computer Vision
Mapping and Navigation
Spatial Cognition

▶ staff.qut.edu.au/staff/peter.corke

CURRENT ROLE

Professor of Robotic Vision
Science and Engineering Faculty,
Electrical Engineering, Computer Science,
Robotics and Autonomous Systems

WHAT THE AWARD HAS MEANT

Stoked | Unexpected | Leverage

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

2013   Director of ARC Centre of
          Excellence for Robotic Vision;

2009-   Editor-in-chief of the IEEE Robotics
2013   & Automation magazine;

          Founding and associate editor
          of the Journal of Field Robotics;

          Founding multi-media editor and editorial
          board member of the International
          Journal of Robotics Research.

NETWORKS

Fellow of the Australian Academy of
Technology and Engineering (FTSE) |
Fellow of the IEEE (FIEEE) | Senior Fellow of
the Higher Education Academy, UK (SFHEA)
| Member of IEEE Robotics and Automation
Society. | Officer of the International Federation
of Robotics Research (IFRR)

BACKGROUND

Distinguished Professor Peter Corke received his Bachelor of Engineering
and Master of Engineering Science degrees, both in Electrical
Engineering, and a PhD in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, all
from the University of Melbourne. Prior to QUT he was a senior principal
research scientist at CSIRO where he founded the Autonomous Systems
laboratory, a 50-person team undertaking research in mining, ground,
aerial and underwater robotics, as well as sensor networks. Subsequently
he led a major cross-organizational '*capability platform*' in wireless sensor
networks. Distinguished Professor Peter Corke has spent much of the
last 15 years developing field robotic systems and sensor networks. Field
robots are robots applied to applications such as mining, agriculture,
construction, environmental and infrastructure monitoring. This includes
robots that fly (also known as unmanned aerial vehicles, UAVs) and
operate underwater (also known as autonomous underwater vehicles or
AUVs). Professor Corke wrote the textbook Robotics, Vision & Control,
authored the MATLAB toolboxes for Robotics and Machine Vision, and
created the online educational resource: QUT Robot Academy

IMPACT ON LEARNING & TEACHING

The award has given Professor Corke a sense of legitimacy. It has given
him permission to think of himself as a teacher, as well as a researcher and
allowed him to focus on further developing his technological approach to
teaching at scale. Professor Corke says he now has the time to develop his
teaching through an even wider range of modalities. He is passionate about
using technology to reach people who otherwise might not have access to
robotics education, in particular those internationally or in remote locations.
The development of his teaching had previously been done in-between
research projects so to have it recognised has allowed him to focus on it
more fully and develop it in new and exciting ways.

IMPACT ON CAREER

The award has increased Professor Corke's ability to focus on teaching
and learning. It has allowed him to consider and start planning for a
move towards a career with greater focus on teaching and learning and
he is keen to continue sharing his deep domain knowledge with future
generations from around the world. As a research active academic,
the award has brought recognition for teaching that is informed by his
research practice. He has received invitations to present on his teaching at
universities across the state, and more recently has acted as an assessor
for the Australian Awards for University Teaching.