



Dr Cheryl

Research Fellow in mechatronic engineering



I am a Research Fellow in mechatronic engineering working in the area of applied engineering research for agricultural industries. I specialise in automation, robotics and machine vision (ARM).

I am located in Toowoomba at a major university. My research projects are usually around three years long and include three stages of development: proof of concept; extensive field evaluations and commercialisation.

Currently we are working on remotely piloted aircraft (drones) to be used in agricultural applications. We are taking previous development technology (ground level robotic sensing systems) and adapting it for an aerial platform (drones).

I work with various groups of people including research and engineering teams, students, industry representatives and farmers. Our projects normally have steering committees to ensure we address the highest priorities for industry.

I often travel, attending conferences and visiting other research institutions and companies. I also spend a lot of time outside with the drones with a few days compiling reports and administration.

The best part of my job is being able to contribute to agriculture through technology. I am always excited by new opportunities to apply mechatronic engineering technology to new agricultural applications.

USEFUL SCHOOL SUBJECTS:

- Mathematics B
- English
- Physics
- Chemistry and Graphics

WHAT YOU COULD STUDY:

- Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Mechatronic Engineering)

OTHER CAREERS TO CONSIDER:

- Automation engineer
- Robotics engineer

PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Communication skills
- Writing skills
- Research skills
- Design skills
- Problem solving skills





EXPERIENCE AGRICULTURE

TASTE: The Agricultural Skills & Technology Experience

- Initiative of Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges
- Four-day school holiday program for students aged 15+
- For more information freecall 1800 888 710 or email enquiries@qatc.edu.au

FEAST: Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science & Technology

- Initiative of the University of Queensland
- Five-day school holiday program for students in years 10, 11 and 12
- For more information email feast@uq.edu.au

USEFUL CAREER GUIDES

www.ruralcareers.net.au

Rural Skills Australia's careers and employment guide provides comprehensive advice, information and reference material about education, training, careers and employment pathways in rural and related industries.

www.careerharvest.com.au

Career Harvest is a hub for cutting-edge careers within the food and fibre industries. Whether you're interested in feeding the world, adapting to climate change, developing the environment or managing future energy sources, this site helps create clearer pathways for you to harvest your agricultural career.

SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

Horizon Scholarship

(<http://bit.ly/HorizonScholarship>)

- Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation initiative
- supports students studying ag-related degrees at university
- \$5000 per year for duration of degree

GROWCOM COMMUNICATIONS

Primary Producers House
Level 3, 183 North Quay
Brisbane, Qld 4000

PO Box 202,
Fortitude Valley, Qld 4006

P: 07 3620 3844
E: communications@growcom.com.au
www.growcom.com.au

