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## **W89 - BUILDING RESEARCH AND EDUCATION**



The exceptionally mild "winter" in Brisbane, Australia was not the only pleasant and rewarding experience which awaited the near 100 delegates from 15 countries who attended BEAR '98 - Building Education and Research, the W89 International Conference held from 8th to 10th July last.

The venue was the Brisbane Hilton International Hotel and the Conference Chairman was Professor Weilin Chang, Dean Faculty of the Built Environment and Engineering at Queensland University of Technology.

Weilin, who is a member of CIB's Board, features elsewhere in this issue as the moving force behind other CIB events also.

Chairman of the Organising Committee was Dr. Jay Yang, School of Construction Management and Property at QUT. Participants were full of praise at the results of the intense efforts put in by himself and his colleagues.

The Conference was formally opened by Professor Denis Gibson Vice Chancellor of QUT and there were two notable keynote addresses from a distinguished building professional and an academic.

Dr. Toshikazu Takeda, Managing Director of the Technical Research Institute, Obayashi Corporation, Japan spoke on Research, Development and Education for the Future of the Japanese Construction Industry.

Professor Peter Lansley, Acting Pro-Vice Chancellor at the University of Reading discussed Strategic Challenges for the Organisation of Building Research. This keynote paper has lessons for all engaged in the management of building research and you can read it in full on pages of this issue.

But what of the other 60 odd presentations that made up the programme ?

At the end of the day these are what determine the success or failures of the event concerned.

The near unanimous verdict at BEAR '89 was that the majority of the presentations turned out to be well above expectations. They originated from all around the world and were an unique pooling of experiences and ideas, a synthesis of best approaches and an analysis of future challenges. But what set many aside was the innovativeness of the contents.

E & FN Spon has published the Proceedings which divides the papers up into four principal categories.

These are:

- Plans and Strategies for the Future
- Internationalization
- Innovative Teaching
- Continuing Education and Re-Education

More information on these Proceedings can be found [here](#) and participants gave high marks for the fact that all the contents had been refereed and that the Proceedings were available before the Conference actually opened.

As exceptionally high powered delegation from the Chinese Ministry of Construction was also present.

This comprised eight Chinese University Presidents and two high ranking officials from the Ministry.

A pictorial record accompanies this report.

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