



eNews September 2019

## Monash Department of Civil Engineering

CIVIL, RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

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Dear friends,

Much has happened since our last newsletter.

I recently travelled with colleagues to our Sunway and Suzhou Campuses in Malaysia. It was a fantastic opportunity to meet with students and staff on those campuses and to strengthen our research collaborations. I visited a number of our long-standing partner universities, including Central South University in China which has 90 students in the first year of our International Program. Approximately half of these students will travel to Clayton to complete a 2+2 degree. We also recently accepted our first batch of 2+2 degree students from the University of Indonesia.

Last year saw our first intake of students into the Faculty of Engineering Co-Op Program which provides students with a structured industry placement for periods of 3-12 months. Feedback from both students and industry hosts has been phenomenal and they want to do more. If you would like to participate in this opportunity as an industry host please contact me.

I am also pleased to report that we have made a number of new hires through our major recruitment campaign, particularly in Environmental Engineering. We are however, continuing to recruit particularly in the areas of Resources Engineering, Structural Engineering and Transport Engineering.

In June, we hosted our annual Awards Dinner with over 200

people attending to celebrate achievements of staff, student and alumni. Congratulations to all our award winners.

We will also celebrate 50 years of the Monash Transport Group at the Melbourne Museum on 24 September. Please save the date and I look forward to seeing you there.

Best wishes,  
Professor Jeffrey Walker, Head of Department



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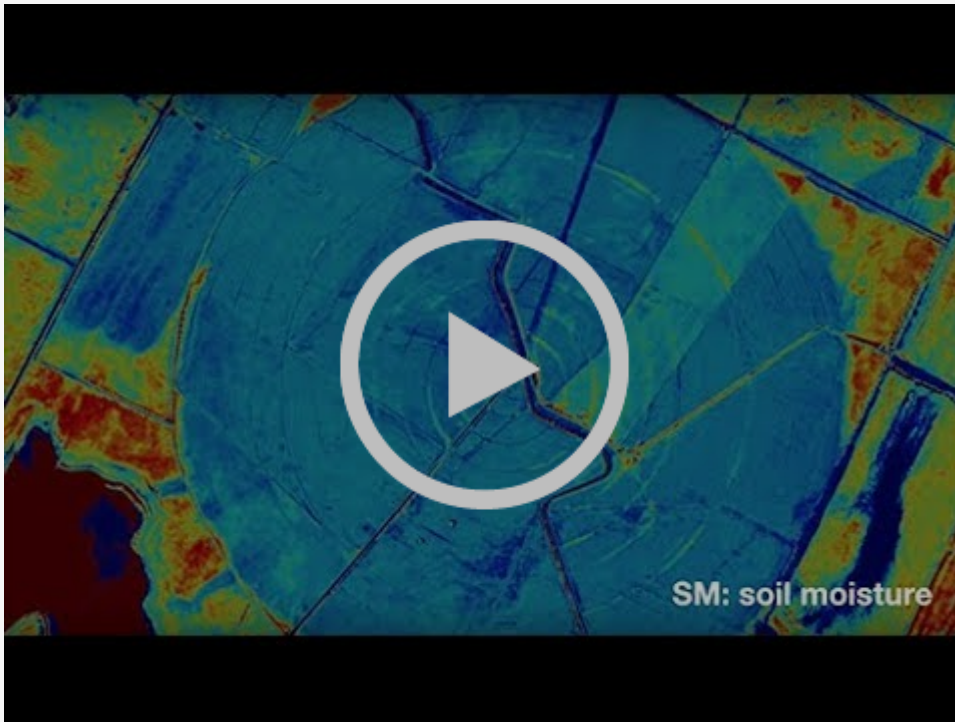
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### Autonomous Drones for Soil Moisture Mapping

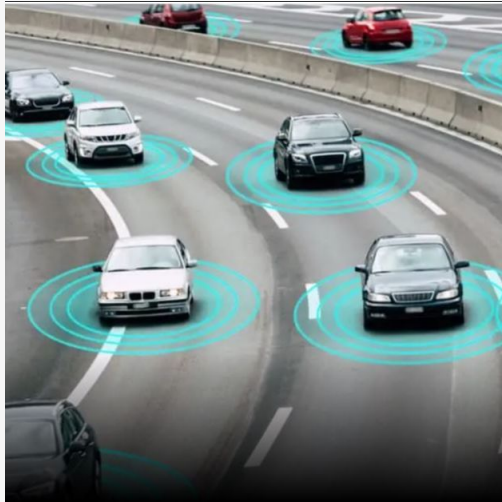
Monash University engineers are working with Australian farmers to help them improve irrigation practices by using autonomous drone technology.

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Combing expertise across multiple disciplines the 'River of Sustainability' project aims to rehabilitate the Bandar Sunway canal to improve quality of life as well as the economic value of surrounding properties.

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Autonomous cars are the future of transport? Don't believe the hype

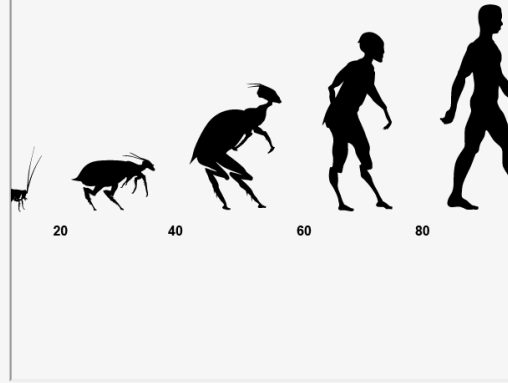
More than half the world's population are now city dwellers. More cars and more roads are not the answer to our large and congested cities.

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How robots are transforming the construction industry

Advances in new construction materials and robotic technology offer significant benefits to



A vicious cycle: the dangerous dehumanisation of cyclists

A new study suggests that this deconstruction of cyclists could be contributing to acts of deliberate aggression on the road.

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Urgent action needed on cladding to prevent future disasters

The construction industry must upgrade building products and processes to the needs of the 21st century.

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### Alumni Profile - Lachlan Hawthorn

From an early age Lachlan was fascinated by how we push the limits of man-made structures. Find out what make this civil engineer tick. You can also read more of our Alumni stories [here](#).

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### Should Australia be investing in nuclear energy?

As the Australian government launches an inquiry into the possibility of building a nuclear power industry in Australia we ask whether this is the right technology for our energy market and consider the alternatives.

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### Department of Civil Engineering Annual Awards and Dinner

A guest list of over 200 joined us to recognise and celebrate the achievements of staff, students and [Alumnus of the Year](#) at the 2019 Annual Awards Night and Dinner.

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Tuesday 24 September 2019  
4.30pm - 7pm  
Melbourne Museum

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