

## Editorial



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Welcome to the first issue of *The Australian Journal of Construction Economics and Building* for 2003. It's encouraging to see the quality of papers submitted. I believe this is testimonial to the willingness and enthusiasm of our members to undertake and share research that makes value contributions to the development and enhancement of the industry.

This edition holds a series of papers on topics ranging from procurement methods to education. The first paper sees Jackson examining the need to apply cost control techniques for capital works projects, finding that budget performance relies on the implementation of formal cost control processes. Griffith, Knight and King then examine the benefits of novating design and build projects. This approach has grown in popularity, however, they find the process can be disadvantageous for construction contractors. Rameezdeen and Gunarathna then explore the development and nature of organisational culture in design and construction groups, raising a number of interesting issues and finding significant cultural differences between the two groups. In the following paper, Haupt examines differences in student experience and proposes a number of approaches that can improve this experience. While the data is drawn from experiences in South Africa, he provides a discussion on work-based learning that will be of particular interest to construction professionals in Australia. The final paper, presented by Lam, Chan and Chan, discusses the advantages of the design and build procurement system when used in the Hong Kong public sector.

Our thanks go to all members of the Editorial Board who provided their valuable time and expertise in reviewing the submissions and to our contributors. I'd also like to personally thank the production staff from RMIT.

I hope that you find this edition interesting and are encouraged to share your research and knowledge in future editions of the journal.

Assoc. Prof. Peter Stewart  
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