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## **High tech Spatial Sciences Studio targets new generation students**

Expectations for increasing the number of cartography, surveying and geographic information science graduates are high with the launch of Curtin University of Technology's new state-of-the-art Spatial Sciences Studios.

In a key alliance, Landgate has committed \$430,000 over five years for Curtin to refurbish and develop this new Studio that combines high tech computer systems with cutting-edge teaching resources specifically targeted at today's new generation of technology savvy students.

The new facilities comprise three multi-purpose studios in addition to an internet café and common areas specially designed to encourage student interaction.

This Studio will be a focal point for geographic information science, surveying and cartography in WA and serve as an industry resource to support education and research initiatives.

The Hon Michelle Roberts MLA, Minister for Land Information officiated at the launch of the Studios recently where over 60 industry and university representatives gathered to view the new facilities and learn more about how Curtin and Landgate plan to create opportunities to attract Indigenous and international students to spatial science education programs in WA.

Professor Jane den Hollander, Acting Vice Chancellor, commented on the partnership with Landgate and how it benefits the student learning environment.

“Our association with Landgate is extremely significant to us as it demonstrates the essential connections between the learners (our students), their teachers and the industries and business within the community. This alliance is increasingly important in our complex world and most particularly in the sciences where a combination of technology and business sense is required,”

Mr Grahame Searle, Chief Executive of Landgate, reinforced the critical role spatial sciences plays in the lives of every Western Australian.

“Spatial Science is used in environmental monitoring, management of natural resources, assets, land and emergencies,” Mr Searle said.

Curtin University is the only Western Australian university to offer courses in spatial sciences. It is hoped that the alliance between Curtin and Landgate will not only attract students to the course, but also add to the resources available to high school geography students and teachers in WA.

**Attention Editor/COS:** Photos of the event are available on request.

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