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**Biography**

Ross McAree is Head of the School of Mechanical and Mining Engineering at the University of Queensland and a Professor of Mechanical Engineering. His research interests are focused on automation and robotics with a current emphasis on mining equipment automation. He leads a research group comprising 15 researchers and research students. His research group have made breakthroughs leading to several commercial technologies for mining automation systems. He was the foundation Program Director for Mechatronic Engineering (2002-2011)

at the University of Queensland and has served as Chair of the School Teaching and Learning Committee (2007-2008, 2014-2016) and Director of Research for (2009-2014). He held the position of VP Automation (2009-2015) in the Cooperative Research Centre for Mining. He is

a fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering.