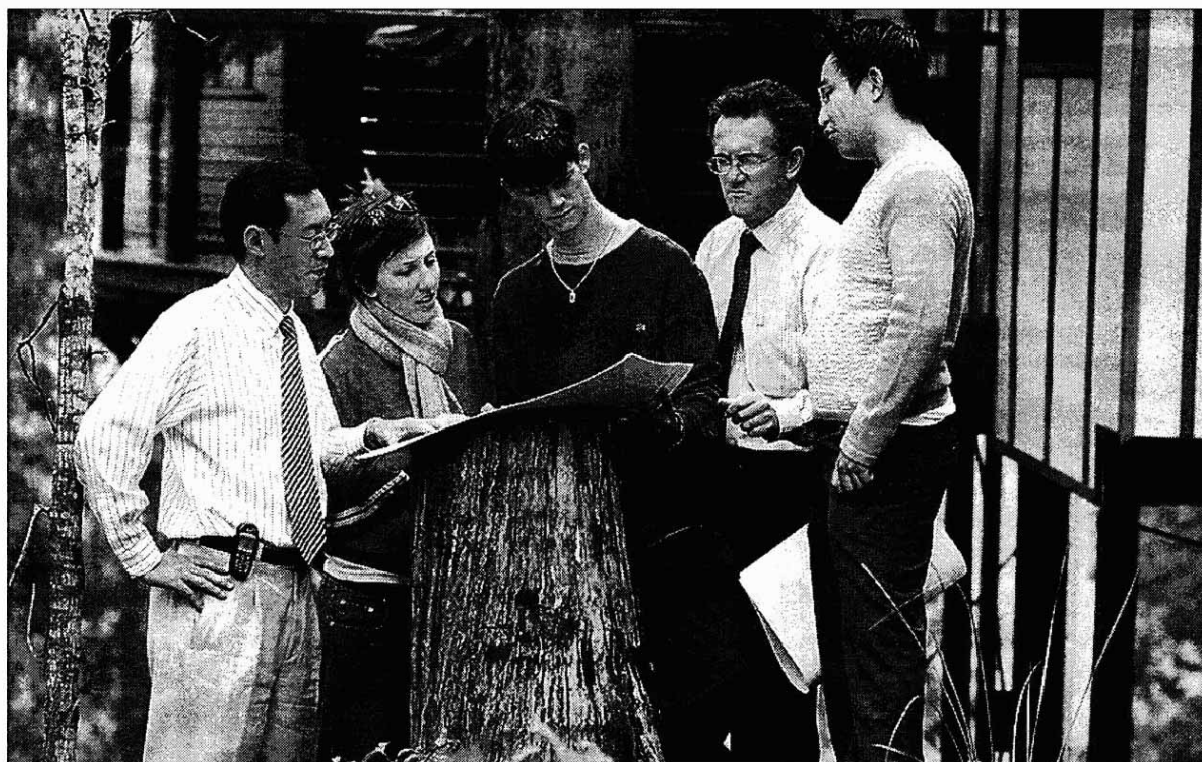




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Dr Jay Yang, with QUT students (from left) Katie O'Brien, Andrew East and Shy Tan (right), check out the Brookwater "Discover" site with Springfield Land Corporation director David Henry. Photo: submitted

Students discover design first

By Yvonne Gardiner

WHAT is claimed as Queensland's first sustainable housing development is taking shape at Brookwater, in the greater Springfield region.

Third and fourth year students from QUT (Queensland University of Technology) studying engineering and architecture are working on designs for the first two homes to be built in the development.

The students will also monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of building techniques after the homes are finished in the Brook-

water "Discover" project, collecting details on elements like air flow and temperature control.

Project leader Dr Jay Yang said individual architects, builders or homeowners had experimented with one or several "sustainable features" in the past, like the use of solar energy or installing water tanks.

"These features have not been linked to the overall scheme of sustainable construction," he said.

"The Discover project was hoped to bring everything together in a live setting."

The project is supported by QUT's Co-operative Research Centre for Construction Innovation.

Homebuyers will be looking at an asking price of about \$350,000 for a "sustainable house" at Brookwater.

Houses will initially be built and tested on two blocks of land set aside by joint venture partners Medallist Golf Developments and Springfield Land Corporation.

Corporation director David Henry said the students' input would give them invaluable experience.