

# Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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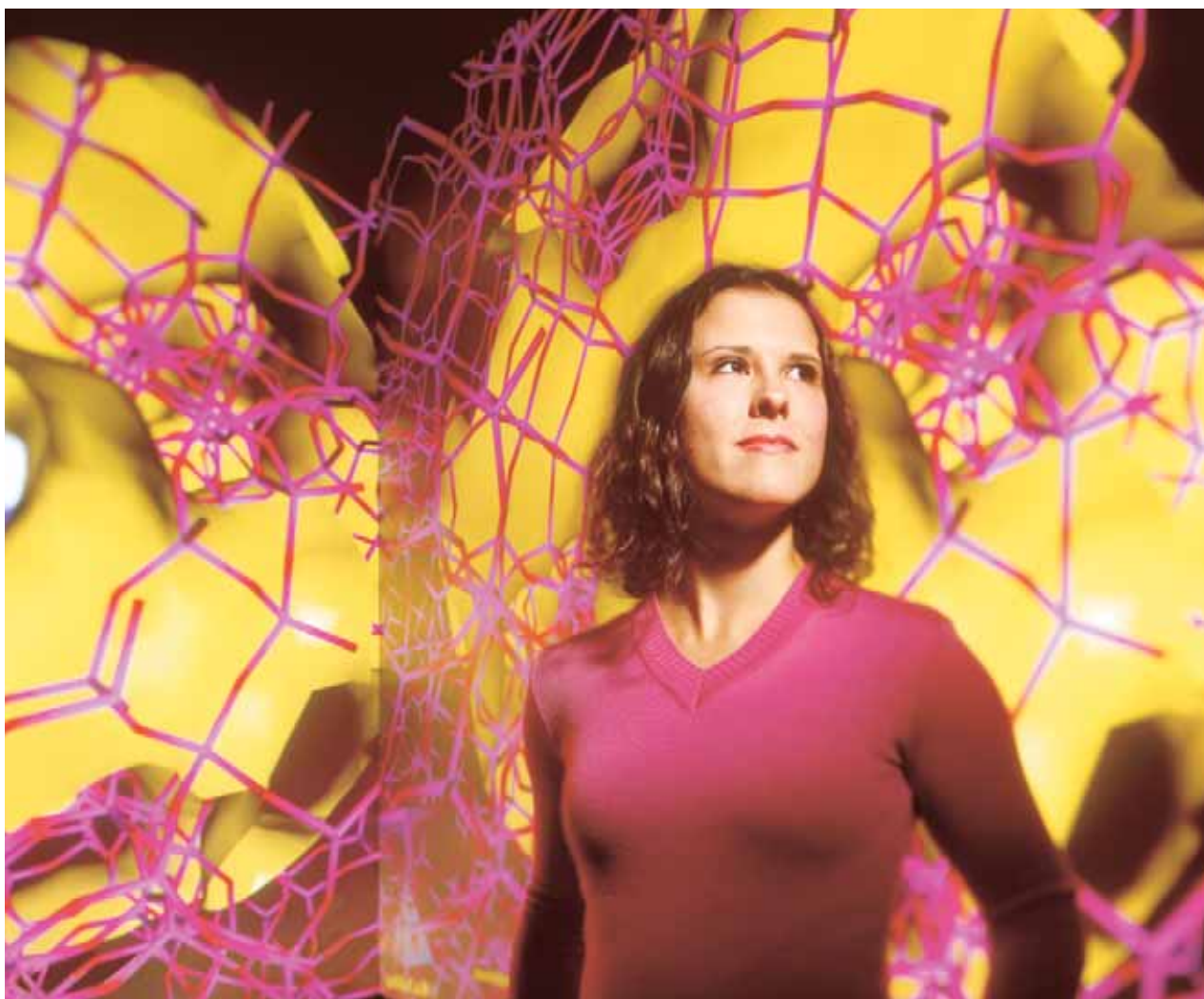
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## Nanosize does matter



Your life is about to change  
– and you won't see it coming.

PhD student Julia Lock  
Photo by Randy Larcombe

New technology promises to make a big impact on nearly every aspect of our lives – from sophisticated “smart” drugs to healthier food – but on the tiniest level imaginable.

The field is nanotechnology: working with some of the smallest matter known, molecules, to do some amazing things.

The University of Adelaide is at the forefront of education and research in nanotechnology.

For her PhD, Chemistry student Julia Lock conducted groundbreaking research, developing a special kind of “molecular switch”.

These switches are very small – approximately 0.000000001m in

size – which means she can't see what she's receiving her PhD for. Literally.

“Nanotechnology can be described as a new approach to miniaturising our technologies,” Julia said.

“Instead of trying to make increasingly smaller versions of current technologies, the idea is to work ‘from the bottom up’ and begin with the smallest components available to us: molecules.”

The type of switch Julia has been working on can be activated by heat or light, and has enormous implications for many industries, including those of medicine, pharmaceuticals and food.

For example, researchers could use Julia's technology to develop drugs which are sent into targeted areas of the human body and, when activated by light, switch “on”.

story continued on page 4

Are you interested in studying nanotechnology?

The University of Adelaide is offering a new named degree in 2005, the Bachelor of Science (Nanoscience & Materials).

To find out more about this and other new Science degrees, turn to page 8 – and be sure to attend Open Day on Sunday, August 15.

### Life Impact



www.adelaide.edu.au



## McWha's Words

### Open days

As you may know, August is the month of Open Day. In fact, there are two open days: the all-encompassing Open Day at the North Terrace Campus (Sunday, August 15), and the Roseworthy Campus Information Day (Friday, August 13).

Both events give us a chance to show prospective students, their families and friends what the University of Adelaide is all about. More importantly, both days are about communicating with the general public – not just talking to people, but also listening to what they have to say.

It is, of course, my belief, that every day should be an open day.

Since joining the University of Adelaide, I have been committed to the principles of effective communication – not just with the external community but also within the university. What I have seen occurring over my time here is an improvement in lines of communication within the university. The environmental scan workshop, the staff values study, my regular visits to schools, departments and faculties, and the open forums have all added to my understanding of issues and concerns right

across the university and have, I hope, given students and staff greater opportunities for input.

A strong level of communication is always important, but perhaps even more so in the environment of change that universities find themselves in today. As a result, this month our open lines of communication are about to widen even further.

A new "Heads Forum" for senior academic and administrative staff will be held on Friday, August 6 at the National Wine Centre. The forum will discuss what it means to be a "research-intensive" university. I hope we also have time to consider the implications for Australia of a UK-style Research Assessment Exercise whereby research funding would become increasingly performance-based. A local version, which DEST is calling a "Quality and Accessibility Framework" is presently the subject of high-level evaluation.

In addition, I have commissioned an online staff survey, which I hope will enable all of us at the University of Adelaide to be open and honest about key issues. To be offered for three weeks starting August 16, this is an opportunity for

staff to provide opinions, highlight key issues facing the university, identify areas where we can deliver more benefits to staff, and to provoke actions and outcomes.

Privacy will be ensured; an external consulting company will collect the survey results to protect privacy and give staff the confidence to answer the survey honestly and frankly, but also to contribute constructive feedback. This commitment to wanting honest feedback will be matched by my commitment to personally report to staff the actions and outcomes arising from the survey. The summary results will also be published for the university community by the end of the year, showing both good and bad news.

It is important for us to talk as well as to listen, and that is why I encourage the input of all staff in this new survey.

JAMES A. McWHA  
Vice-Chancellor

### Adelaidean

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#### Coming Events:

Please send all coming events to the editor at the address below. There is no charge for coming events, but they must be university related.

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# Open Day '04

It's big, it's colourful, it's loud – it's the University of Adelaide's Open Day 2004!

Held on Sunday August 15, Open Day is your chance to experience the university in full swing – from explosive experiments like those conducted by Dr Lou Rendina last year, to live music performances and food and drink.

You'll see first hand why the university has had such a big impact on this State and the nation, and also get information about which courses you can study and where they will lead for your intended career.

To find out what's on and where, visit the website:  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)





# Human rights chief is new Chancellor

The President of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, The Hon. John von Doussa QC, is the University of Adelaide's new Chancellor.

Mr von Doussa succeeds Mr Robert Champion de Crespigny AC, becoming the 14th Chancellor in the university's 130-year history. He assumed his new role on July 26.

"The University Council is delighted that Mr Von Doussa has accepted the position," Deputy Chancellor Mr Brian Croser said.

"He is highly regarded in the broader community given his current position and he joins an impressive list who have served in this role."

A University of Adelaide graduate, Mr von Doussa has served for 17 years as a judge, including the Supreme Court of South Australia (1986-1988) and the Federal Court of Australia (1988-2002). He is currently a judge on a part-time basis to the Supreme Court of Fiji and the Court of Appeal of Vanuatu.

Well known in business circles, he is a past president of the Australian Competition Tribunal and a Judge in the Industrial Relations Court of Australia.

The Adelaide-based Mr von Doussa, whose family has been a part of the Adelaide community since 1847, said he was looking forward not only to returning to his alma mater, but to

servicing one of the finest universities in Australia.

"This is a great honour and I am truly humbled by this appointment," Mr von Doussa said.

Mr de Crespigny announced in June this year his intention to hand over the reins after four years as Chancellor.

Mr Croser praised and thanked Mr de Crespigny for his outstanding contributions.

"We were extremely fortunate to have had Mr de Crespigny as our Chancellor. His outstanding business experience, his strong leadership and unique position within the community have been invaluable over the past four years.

"Mr de Crespigny not only strengthened the university's position in the city and state, but he added a new global dimension.

"In addition, he guided the university through the modernization of its Act, paved the way for the purchase of the National Wine Centre and the creation of the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics at the Waite Campus."

Story by Howard Salkow

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# Who will be our next Rhodes Scholar?

Applications are now being accepted for Rhodes Scholarships to study at Oxford University in 2005.

The Rhodes Trust offers 11 postgraduate scholarships in Australia each year, one in each State and five for Australia at large.

A recent event at the University of Adelaide celebrated the achievements of Adelaide's 96 Rhodes Scholars over the past century.

Those who attended the ceremony were presented with a gift by Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha. Each gift was embossed with a number representing where the recipient is placed within the university's rich history of Rhodes Scholarship winners.

Among those attending were Phil Killocoat and Rachel Swift (pictured), the 95th and 96th University of Adelaide students respectively to receive Rhodes Scholarships. Phil won the South Australian Rhodes Scholarship, while Rachel was the winner of an Australia at large scholarship. Both begin their studies at Oxford this year.

The Rhodes Scholarships are among the world's most prestigious.

They are awarded to students of very high academic achievement, who show concern for others through community work, who have leadership qualities and who undertake personal development activities, such as sporting or cultural pursuits.

Applicants must be Australian citizens and be under the age of 25 on October 1, 2004. Applications close on September 1. Application forms are available from:

Hugh McClelland  
Honorary Secretary  
Rhodes Scholarship Selection  
Committee for South Australia  
Hawker Building (Room 127)  
Waite Campus, Waite Road  
Urrbrae SA 5064

**For more information phone Hugh McClelland on 8303 6780 or email: [hugh.mcclelland@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:hugh.mcclelland@adelaide.edu.au)**

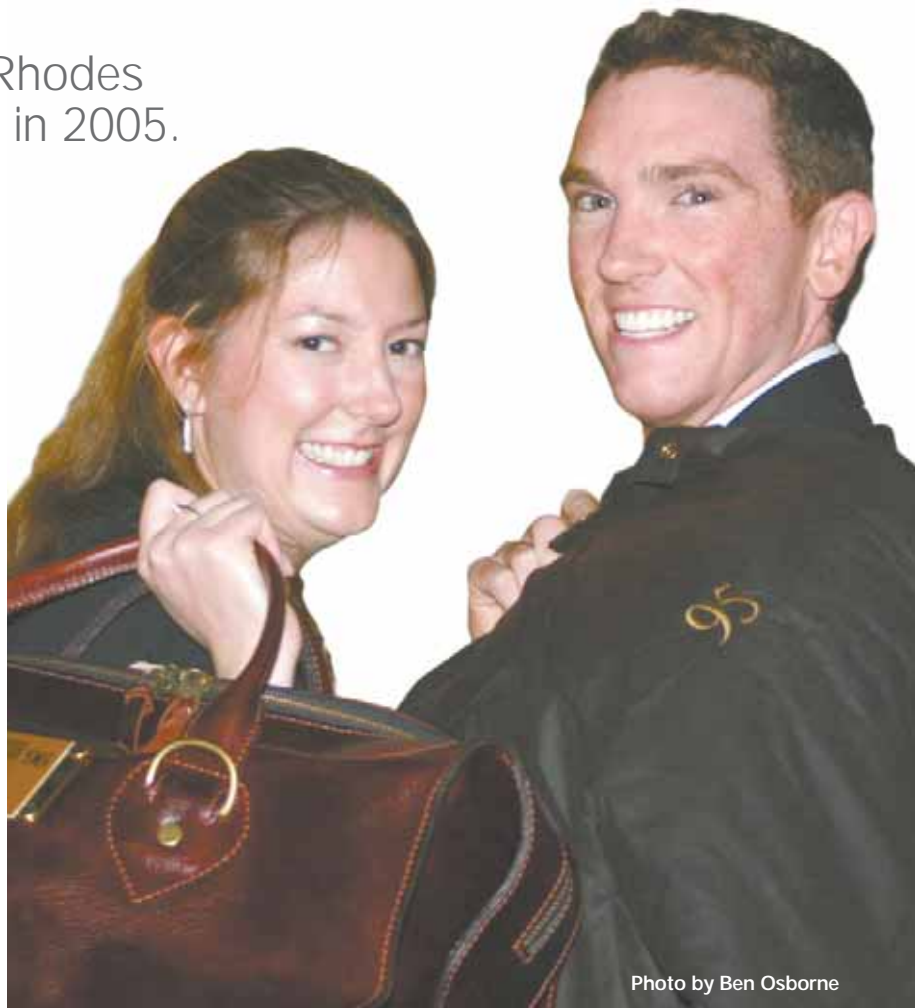


Photo by Ben Osborne

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## Nanosize does matter

continued from page 1

Another potential use could be protecting certain additives in food, which would then increase the food's storage life.

One of the most important parts of Julia's research was to make her molecular switches "self-assemble".

"Obviously, because the molecules are so small, it was impossible for me for to assemble the switches myself," she said.

For her molecular switch, Julia had to get a relatively small and straight-shaped molecule known as a stilbene to sit inside a tube-shaped molecule known as a cyclodextrin. Two cyclodextrin molecules – joined together by a "linker" molecule – are used to host one stilbene.

This is done by using water as a solvent: both the stilbene and the inside of the cyclodextrin are "water-hating", so the stilbene "seeks refuge" or becomes the "guest" inside the "host" of the larger cyclodextrin.

Having assembled itself, the new molecule can now be switched "on" with a burst of UV light.

"Switching the new molecule on causes a change in the shape of the stilbene molecule – it goes from being relatively straight to a bent shape, almost a V-shape," Julia said.

"So instead of fitting snugly inside its host, now half of it is hanging outside of one end of one of the cyclodextrins. This is important, because the other end of the cyclodextrin is now free and could be used as a host for a second guest molecule."

Having just finished her PhD, Julia has now started a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland to further her research into nanotechnology. Julia has also been chosen as one of the new faces in the University of Adelaide's Life Impact campaign.

Story by Ben Osborne



# The new art of surveillance

In the movies, supposedly the best way to avoid detection is to stand still.

But a new surveillance system developed at the University of Adelaide turns that idea on its head.

Designed for crowded public areas, the system is based around “non-motion” detection: identifying stationary items amidst the movement of hundreds of people.

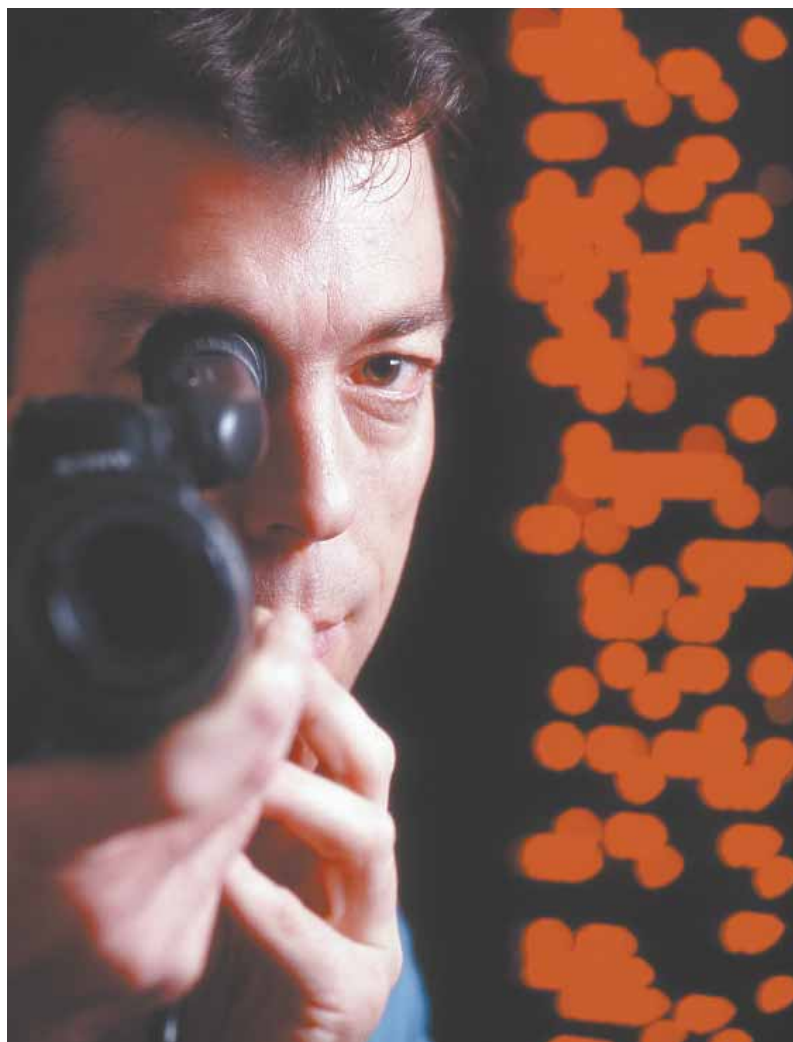
Such technology has many applications – for example, detecting suspicious packages placed at venues such as airports or major sporting events, blockages in tunnels, or preventing the theft of valuable paintings or artefacts at galleries or museums.

One of the developers of the system, Professor Mike Brooks from the University of Adelaide’s School of Computer Science, said it has the potential to considerably benefit the surveillance industry.

“For other surveillance systems, movement is crucial. Human operators, and even computers, are trained to detect motion and try and look for something unusual,” Professor Brooks said.

“But humans can miss things – they might get tired, or lose concentration just for a split second, and that could be enough to miss a vital piece of footage.”

The new system, developed in cooperation with Australian start-up company iOmniscient Pty Ltd, uses artificial intelligence to check video sequences coming from multiple cameras. It can automatically identify any object that has come to rest for a pre-determined amount of time, say 5 seconds or 2 minutes.



Professor Mike Brooks

“Our system works by scanning and re-scanning the ‘background’ of a scene, say, for example, at an airport,” Professor Brooks said.

“Even though there may be hundreds or thousands of people continually moving in front of the

background, it gathers snapshots of what’s behind them and is able to formulate a view of the entire scene.

“Then, if something is introduced into that scene and left there, it is quickly able to recognise the

change and alert the operators of the system that this has occurred.”

It has taken more than 10 years for Professor Brooks and his team, at the Cooperative Research Centre for Sensor Signal and Information Processing, to develop the system to commercialisation, as they have made constant refinements to how it operates and tackled problems that at first glance seemed insignificant.

“Our system is able to avoid false detections that can be generated by many unexpected factors. For example, in an indoor area, the shadow cast by a pot plant can alter simply because illumination through a window changes as a result of a cloud passing across the sun,” said key system implementer Dr Danny Gibbins.

“It’s also clever enough to deal with issues like trees swaying in the wind, and perspective – how an object appears bigger or smaller depending on how far away it is from the camera.”

The iOmniscient system recently won a major international prize for Best Product in Intelligent Surveillance, and worldwide sales are beginning to flow.

Story by Ben Osborne

For more information about Computer Science courses, visit the University of Adelaide’s Open Day – Sunday, August 15.

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# Start your uni education – before you finish school!

Want to get a head start on uni, even though you're still at school?

A unique scholarship program offered by the University of Adelaide gives secondary students a chance to begin their learning at university while completing Year 12.

Called Headstart, the program gives young people the opportunity to experience university life and even earn early credits towards their degree.

To be accepted into Headstart, students must have completed at least one Year 12 subject prior to officially starting Year 12. This will give them the time and flexibility in their study schedule to undertake first-year subjects at the University of Adelaide.

The scholarship pays university tuition fees for up to half a year's workload, and while Headstart participation doesn't mean automatic entry into their chosen degree, students can count Headstart study towards their degree if they get in.

Seven students are undertaking the Headstart program this year: Paul Avina (studying Year 12 at Eynesbury College, and studying Physics and Maths at uni); Kassondra Favaro (St Michael's College, Japanese); Louise Hutchinson (Marryatville High School, German); Katie Keene (Walford, Maths); Matthew Lorenzon (Brighton Secondary School, English); Cassie Ostle (Scotch College, Economics); and Meng Wang (doing the IB at Glenunga International High School; Biology and History).



Headstart students (from left) Paul Avina, Kassondra Favaro, Katie Keene, Meng Wang and Cassie Ostle  
Photo by Ben Osborne

For Kassondra, studying at the University of Adelaide through Headstart has a dual purpose: not only is it helping prepare her for life after Year 12, but it is helping her now!

"I'm doing Japanese both at university and for Year 12, so it's obviously beneficial to be exposed to the higher level," she said. "It's a bit daunting doing two workloads for the same subject, but at the same time, by being immersed in it I find it easier to understand and keep up with things."

Headstart has already proven successful for past scholars such as Cadence Hart, who took Accounting subjects while doing Year 12 at Woodville High School last year.

She is now studying for her Bachelor of Commerce at Adelaide, and said her Headstart experience has been invaluable.

"I'm going really well – going to uni full-time is a lot different to doing Year 12, but doing Headstart helps," she said.

Story by Ben Osborne

To find out more about Headstart, visit:  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/headstart](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/headstart) or  
attend Open Day on Sunday, August 15.

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# Could Australia be powered by hot rocks?



Hot rocks deep beneath the earth's surface may be the key to a clean, "green" source of energy for Australia.

That's the view of University of Adelaide scientists who are working to help tap into this unused and highly valuable resource – one that could potentially revolutionise Australia's power industry as we know it.

"South Australia has uniquely hot rocks. In fact, this State has some of the hottest rocks in the world," said University of Adelaide geoscientist Professor Richard Hillis.

Based in the Australian School of Petroleum, Professor Hillis is one of several scientists from the university working on this project.

He is also a non-executive director of the company behind the proposal, Petratherm, which has successfully raised \$4 million in a float and was listed on the Australian Stock Exchange last month.

Rocks at hundreds of degrees Celsius can be found just a few kilometres beneath the earth's surface. Large granite bodies found in and around the Flinders Ranges are up to 25 times hotter than "normal" granites, and subsurface temperatures are unusually high in the area.

"The deeper you go down into the earth, the hotter it gets. On average the temperature increases by about 30 degrees Celsius per kilometre," Professor Hillis said, "but because of our hot rocks, in some

areas in South Australia we're looking at increases of more than double that average value."

But how can we use those rocks to create electricity?

"There's really three stages to the whole process: 1) discover hot rocks, 2) circulate water through them, and 3) use that recovered hot water to generate electricity," he said.

Geological models are being used to determine exactly where the hottest rocks might be, in much the same way that science can predict the best locations for major mineral deposits, such as Olympic Dam.

The most likely place for hot rock exploration is in and around the northern Flinders Ranges, which is where Petratherm has taken a number of exploration licences. The company will begin drilling a series of shallow wells – again, the same as drilling for minerals – down to about 750 metres.

"At about 750 metres it will start to warm up significantly. You don't have to go all the way down to know you're on the right track," Professor Hillis said. "We will deepen the most promising of these shallow wells to a depth of about 3.5kms to find the hottest temperatures."

The second stage requires pumping cold water down the well, sending it through the super-heated rocks under the earth, and then recovering the now hot water from another well nearby. The hot water is then used to heat a fluid that boils at low temperatures, which vaporises and drives the turbines at a power plant to generate electricity.

After a while, the hot rocks being used will start to cool down. But the solution is simple: just relocate

Interest in hot rocks is being focused on the Flinders Ranges  
Photo by John Tonkin

to a different set of wells, start all over again, and keep moving from one location to the next. Within a few years, the previous locations will heat up again and be ready for use.

There have been several government-sponsored tests in Japan, Germany and the United States, but so far no-one has successfully commercialised the hot rock approach to electricity generation. South Australia is now the world focus for attempts to commercially exploit hot rock technology.

"There has been a rush of recent geothermal exploration licence applications in South Australia," Professor Hillis said. "Petratherm is the second company floated to investigate this opportunity, with Geodynamics having drilled a deep well in the Cooper Basin of the State's far north and now commencing drilling of the recovery well.

"It's a high-risk, high-return venture, but it's a simple concept and simple concepts are good concepts," he said.

"One of the big factors in all of this is that we're looking for green, non-CO<sub>2</sub> producing, renewable energy. That's philosophically important to us.

"If it's successful it could be an enormous revolution. There's enough heat stored in South Australia's hot rocks that you could potentially produce all of Australia's electricity from this source alone. That's still a long way off, but there is a vast amount of energy resource there that we will try to turn into electricity."

Story by David Ellis



# New science degrees to back Australia's ability

Four new science degrees are being offered at the University of Adelaide in 2005.

The new degrees are aimed at equipping graduates with the knowledge and skills to contribute to key areas of future need, as highlighted by the Federal Government.

Among the key areas identified by the government's "Backing Australia's Ability" initiative are: an Environmentally Sustainable Australia; Frontier Technologies in Building & Transforming Australian Industries; and Safeguarding Australia.

The four new degrees that will support these areas are:

- **Bachelor of Science (EcoChemistry)**
- **Bachelor of Science (Evolutionary Biology)**
- **Bachelor of Science (Nanoscience and Materials)**
- **Bachelor of Science (Sustainable Environments)**

"The University of Adelaide's Faculty of Sciences has a strong research focus, which results in teaching programs informed by cutting-edge knowledge and use of state-of-the-art technology," said the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Sciences, Professor Peter Rathjen.

"Each of our new degrees has been carefully structured to incorporate the research expertise in Sciences here at the University, and have been established to respond to the demand for graduates in these areas.

"For many years the University of Adelaide has had talented and internationally recognised scientists in the field of nanoscience, who have delivered courses in Chemistry through our Bachelor of Science. In the new degree, Bachelor of Science (Nanoscience and Materials), students will be able to choose a study option that is directly tailored to their interests in this exciting new field.

"Likewise, our other degrees in EcoChemistry, Evolutionary Biology and Sustainable Environments build on years of excellence in teaching and research, as well as a perceived need for more graduates in these fields.

"Students who enrol in these degrees will benefit from the combination of world-class research expertise and innovative teaching practices, resulting in high-quality educational outcomes," Professor Rathjen said.

More information about study options in Sciences will be available at the University of Adelaide's Open Day – Sunday, August 15.



The environment is an integral part of three of the four new Science degrees

## **Bachelor of Science (Nanoscience and Materials)**

This exciting field will help shape the future of technology in almost all aspects of our lives, and will revolutionise current manufacturing practices in areas such as the food industry, human and animal health, and communications.

The focus of this degree is the design and manipulation of materials at a molecular level. Students will develop an understanding of the design requirements for a range of advanced materials such as polymers, catalysts, molecular wires and optical switches and sensors.

## **Bachelor of Science (Sustainable Environments)**

Environmental sustainability is at the core of all modern management practices of our national parks and reserves, Aboriginal lands, agricultural areas, and mining regions. The University of Adelaide is recognised both nationally and internationally for its research strength in the environmental sciences.

Students will gain an appreciation for the underlying principles of the sustainable use of the environment, including an understanding of the social, ethical and economic aspects of natural resources and management. There are three major areas of study in the program: Conservation and Wildlife Ecology; Land and Water Management; and Deep Earth Resources.

## **Bachelor of Science (EcoChemistry)**

This new degree highlights the importance of chemical principles in understanding our environment. The program will cover a wide range of contemporary environmental issues including the greenhouse effect, variations in the ozone layer, the use of pesticides and air, water and soil pollution.

Students will develop an understanding of the ways in which chemists propose to solve environmental problems, including the development of alternative technologies resulting in more environmentally friendly solutions than those currently available.

## **Bachelor of Science (Evolutionary Biology)**

Evolutionary Biology involves the study of the fossil record and information contained in living plants and animals to determine how they evolved. This knowledge assists in understanding biodiversity and planning for its conservation.

This program, which provides access to South Australian Museum staff and collections, is unique in South Australia, and is designed to deliver internationally competitive training.

For more information about any of these new degrees contact the Faculty of Sciences: phone (08) 8303 5673, email: [faculty.sciences@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:faculty.sciences@adelaide.edu.au) [www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au)



# Adelaide's Thinker in Residence

*In the last issue of the Adelaidean, we introduced Oxford University-based Baroness Professor Susan Greenfield, her science and her contribution to the Adelaide Thinkers in Residence program.*

*In this issue, Howard Salkow speaks with the world-leader in neuroscience to find out more about the person behind the science.*

**Q:** *Growing up in London, did you have childhood aspirations?*

**A:** It was different to nowadays. Unless you wanted to be a doctor or a lawyer, there wasn't the pressure to have a career or a CV. I don't think I knew what a CV was. We also did not know about recessions or inflation. No, I did not really worry about what I was going to do.

**Q:** *Were you ambitious?*

**A:** Not really. I wanted to be a horse-riding instructor as I loved horses. My mother was a dancer and assumed I would go on stage, but that disappeared early. I was an average dancer, and knew I could not make a profession of it.

**Q:** *Of your awards, does the Life Peerage stand out?*

**A:** Certainly. But two others stand out. The Legion d'Honneur (2003) from the French Government. I was pleased and flattered to have been recognised by a foreign government. It also came out of the blue. The other is the Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (2000), again because of its august makeup.

**Q:** *How do people address you?*

**A:** It depends where I am. But I don't have a hang up about titles. People call me Susan. Generally, I ask them to call me whatever is appropriate for the culture or the moment. I certainly don't like it if someone who has never met me calls me by my first name because they're trying it on and they want to look as though they know me. Baroness is an interesting title to have, although usually you don't think about it on a daily basis.



Photo by Howard Salkow

Queen Nora of Jordan said a marvellous thing about her title: "Queen is something I do, not what I am." I think that's very good. I think for me, Baroness is something that enables me to do certain things that others might find harder to do, or don't have that privilege.

**Q:** *How do you define the time devoted to thinking?*

**A:** It's not compartmentalised. The whole scheme (Thinkers in Residence program) sounds as if I just go off to the beach. But that's not the case. You only have to look at my schedule to see it's an interactive and

demanding series of nine weeks. But I think the sentiment behind it is appropriate. This means taking a broad view and standing back from a situation, and instead of doing a job, being someone who can comment on the big picture. I think the Premier is committed to acting on at least some of the suggestions that the Thinkers make in a process that is continuous and homogenous.

**Q:** *What do you hope to achieve in Adelaide?*

**A:** I'd like it to be the first place in the world where science or the scientist is central to people's

lives. But I will be happy if in a year's time, Adelaide is acknowledged as the first city or community where science had been taken so seriously that it is plugged into many sectors where it is not traditionally associated. I will be working on this as I meet with people from various sectors.

**Q:** *What drives you?*

**A:** I still feel I am struggling as much as was in my 20s to achieve certain things. I don't feel that I've made it and can sit back and be complacent. For example, I want to do research that combines humanities with science and I have grant from an American foundation at the moment. I'd like to create the first place in England that actually combined theology and philosophy with cognitive sciences and neuroscience. I would like to make a very serious and definite contribution to alleviating neurodegenerative disorders, which is my main work, and I would like to be seen as making a serious contribution to the debate on how the brain generates consciousness.

**Q:** *Do you have a role model?*

**A:** Elizabeth I. She was a wonderful, clever, daring woman in a man's world.

**Q:** *What's the other side to Susan Greenfield?*

**A:** I love shopping. I'm afraid this sounds terribly low level but my most favourite is hanging out with friends with a good bottle of wine in the evening. I just love it, because a lot of what I have to do in the evening is formal, where there is a particular agenda or I'm expected to perform in a particular way. I therefore love to be with friends, let the gossip flow and have fun.

# Local link to Saturn probe



At least one person in Adelaide is paying very close attention to the current, spectacular spacecraft mission to Saturn.

Miguel Perez Ayucar from Spain is attending the International Space University (ISU) program here in Adelaide with a scholarship from the European Space Agency. He's studying the nine-week course along with more than 100 other students from around Australia and the rest of the world.

While attending lectures and working on team projects in Adelaide, Miguel's mind is not just thinking about space in the classroom – he's also thinking about the real-life Cassini-Huygens mission to Saturn and its moons, of which he's playing an important part.

Miguel is a 27-year-old engineer who has been working on the telecommunications for the Huygens probe, which is the European Space Agency part of the mission.

Cassini-Huygens entered Saturn's orbit on July 1 and has been sending some incredible images of the planet, its rings and moons back to Earth.

"Where was I when Cassini-Huygens entered into Saturn's orbit? I was in Adelaide, Australia!" Miguel said.

"[My] nerves were impossible to control, in fact I had to leave one of the lectures to follow online the events happening," he said.

Connected via email and phone to his colleagues in the northern hemisphere, Miguel was able to stay in touch with the distant mission.

"In one of the lectures I made a small status report to the rest of the ISU students, although no data had returned yet – it was travelling through the solar system from Cassini.

"After knowing that everything had developed nominally and we were in orbit around Saturn, I was so excited!

"When [the] first images of Cassini arrived I was astonished by the beauty of the rings and the complex structure. But I was already thinking [of] the first images that were to be taken next day during the first Titan fly-by. Those observations are crucial for our team to validate the current models of Titan's atmosphere and refine some of the mission parameters, mainly for the fierce entry into Titan's world."

The reason why this is so important is that Titan – Saturn's largest moon – is the destination of the Huygens probe, an "atmospheric robotic laboratory that will plunge into the murky atmosphere of Titan".

"I am currently working on the telecommunications part of the mission, so it is my job to ensure that all the data gathered from the instruments on-board Huygens are successfully transmitted back to Earth. In normal missions, the Science Operations team is responsible for the day-to-day planning of the scientific observations. However, Huygens is a very special mission, because there is only one observation slot, the descent into Titan, which lasts only two and a half hours," Miguel said.

"For the last 18 months, we have been refining the telecommunications so that we can be sure the data will be successfully transmitted. One of our problems is the 'Doppler' effect (the same effect which causes the sound of a police car siren to change as it speeds past). Many things could be done to help us minimise the Doppler effect if we had the spacecraft here with us, but since it is already in space, it is very difficult to make adjustments. All we can really do is change the trajectory or change the software."

An artist's impression of the Cassini-Huygens probe near Saturn  
Image by JPL

"We will be refining our analyses of Huygens right up until the last minute."

Working on this aspect of space exploration had long been a dream for Miguel. The realisation of all his – and the team's – hard work is getting nearer, with the Huygens probe due to separate from Cassini on Christmas Day. The probe's entry into Titan's atmosphere is scheduled for January 14, 2005.

"When I was a child, I was fascinated by the stars, and when I got my first telescope, I remember seeing Saturn's rings, which was incredible," Miguel said.

"Huygens, the first probe to land on a world in the outer solar system, will be doing unique observations of the moon Titan, and could even find the basic building blocks of life there. For me, that is the most fascinating thing about the mission."

The ISU summer session program is being jointly hosted by the three South Australian universities – Adelaide, UniSA and Flinders – until August 27.

[www.ssp04adelaide.com](http://www.ssp04adelaide.com)  
[www.isunet.edu](http://www.isunet.edu)



# Public urged to reach for the stars

Want to meet an astronaut?  
Well, here's another chance!

Two astronauts – Dr Reinhold Ewald from the European Space Agency and Dr Bob Thirsk from the Canadian Space Agency – were recently in town giving a free public lecture as part of the International Space University (ISU) visit to Adelaide.

Now, during National Science Week in Adelaide (August 9-22), one of the world's most prominent female astronauts will speak about her unique career in space.

In her nine years with NASA, Dr Sally Ride worked in mission control on two shuttle missions, flew on the space shuttle Challenger twice, and headed a study of NASA's mission options and future.

Dr Ride will give a free public lecture titled "Reach For The Stars". In this presentation, Dr Ride will discuss her rise through the NASA program as well as her efforts to overcome the image of space flight as being a male-dominated field.

The event will be held in the University of Adelaide's Union Hall at 6pm on Monday, August 16.

Dr Ride's public talk is a major event during National Science Week in Adelaide, with many other events focused on bringing an understanding of science to the people of South Australia.

Other National Science Week events being held at the University of Adelaide include the Great Big Science Gig 2 (7.30pm Wednesday, August 11) and the AIP Women in Physics Public Lecture by Dr Mahananda Dasgupta (7.30pm Thursday, August 12). Both events are free and open to the public, and both will be held in Union Hall.

National Science Week is Australia's annual celebration of science and innovation. Each year schools, universities, science organisations, industry and community groups participate in National Science Week to put fresh ideas in science, engineering and innovation into the public arena.

Among the many aims of National Science Week is to help young Australians make connections between the study of science or engineering and the jobs and careers available to them.

**More information about National Science Week events can be found at: [www.scienceweek.info.au](http://www.scienceweek.info.au)**

The University of Adelaide has a wide range of study options in Sciences and Engineering. To learn more, visit our Open Day – Sunday, August 15



NASA astronaut Dr Sally Ride

## Space Uni: here's your chance to get involved

[www.ssp04adelaide.com](http://www.ssp04adelaide.com)

It's been a busy time for the staff and students of the International Space University (ISU) summer session program here in Adelaide – and for the public!

August is no different, with a number of free public events on offer at the University of Adelaide (one of the three host universities of the ISU program, along with UniSA and Flinders).

This month, the ISU students embark on their major field trip to Woomera in South Australia's far north. There, the students will be launching experiments on board several sounding rockets at the Woomera test range.

A lucky handful of delegates from the ISU will also travel to Arkaroola to see how the outback area is being used as an analogue for Mars.

Wrapping up the month, the ISU students will present the results of their team projects to the public. This is the last major public event for the ISU's nine-week stay in Adelaide.

Friday, August 6

7.30pm International Space University free public event: Gerald Soffen memorial panel: "Astrobiology: search for the origins of life."

Panelists include David Southwood (Director of Scientific Programs, European Space Agency). Union Hall, University of Adelaide, North Terrace Campus.

Monday, August 9

8.45am International Space University free public event: reviews of student team projects - "Water cycle studies using space technology and applications

with an Australian case study", "The role of satellite communications in the development of rural and remote regions", and "Lunar missions in the framework of current space exploration initiatives for Mars."

Room MG:08, Maths & Engineering Building, University of Adelaide, North Terrace Campus.

Thursday, August 26

9.00am International Space University free public event: final presentations of student team projects.

Venue to be confirmed.  
[www.ssp04adelaide.com](http://www.ssp04adelaide.com)

# Space uni: the student perspective

Dr Matthew Tetlow is experiencing space – without leaving Adelaide!

He's among the handful Australians and more than 100 international students currently studying as part of the International Space University (ISU) visit to South Australia.

Dr Tetlow is a recent PhD graduate and is now Research Associate with the University of Adelaide's School of Mechanical Engineering. He took time out of his studies to speak with the *Adelaidean* about the "Space Uni experience".

**Q:** *What is the basis for your interest in space, and how have you developed that interest?*

**A:** I have always been interested in aircraft in general, and when I was given the opportunity to go to Stuttgart University (Space Systems Institute) for my Honours project, I took it as it seemed quite interesting. The more I got into space, the more I liked it. I decided to do a PhD in the aerospace field as I knew it would interest me.

The German contact was also really good as they work on "serious" space projects, i.e. those that actually fly. I researched launch vehicle system design and also developed a new guidance system for launch vehicles. I have presented a number of papers at conferences in the US and Australia. This is an important networking tool and I have managed to meet some interesting people.

I was also a founding member of the Adelaide University student branch of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and run the Aerospace research group at Adelaide Uni. I now work on trajectory analysis to support the HYSHOT scramjet program, so there is some potential for me to stay in the aerospace field.

**Q:** *What did you hope to achieve from attendance at the Space Uni and how has that matched up to your expectations so far?*

**A:** I sort of expected it to be a broad introduction into space in general so I was not expecting it to be too specific. It has exceeded my expectations as the material is very interesting and extremely well presented.

**Q:** *Some of the ISU students like to concentrate on studies outside their realm of expertise. Have you done this, and if so, what have you concentrated on and why?*

**A:** Yes, I am in the Business and Management faculty. With a PhD, I have plenty of experience in the technical aspects of my job, and I have good analytical skills and all the other stuff you pick up from a PhD. I don't, however, have much experience in the business or project management side of things.



I was considering doing a project management diploma or something like that to broaden my skills base. The ISU has therefore been very useful to me as I have had a series of courses and workshops in both project management and business.

**Q:** *Any other comments you wish to make?*

**A:** I am very happy with ISU and am glad I took the opportunity to attend.

## Interested in studies in space?

The University of Adelaide offers degrees suited to careers in the space industry, including the Bachelor of Science (Space Science & Astrophysics) and the Bachelor of Engineering (Aerospace Engineering), among others.

For more information visit the University of Adelaide's Open Day – Sunday, August 15.

## August graduations

More than 850 students will take part in this month's graduation ceremonies.

Held in the stately surrounds of Bonython Hall, the ceremonies are one of the annual highlights on the university calendar.

Four ceremonies will be held across two days, with more than 1200 students graduating in total.

### Ceremony details:

#### **Ceremony Four** – 10am, Monday August 2

Humanities and Social Sciences, Music, Wilto Yerlo, Education  
Speaker: Mr Keith Conlon, South Australian media personality

#### **Ceremony Five** – 2.30pm, Monday August 2

Engineering, Mathematics, Economics, Architecture  
Speaker: The Hon. Greg Crafter, Chair, Alumni Association

#### **Ceremony Six** – 10am, Tuesday August 3

Sciences (including Agricultural Science), Commerce  
Speaker: Dr Maire Smith, Adelaide Thinker in Residence

#### **Ceremony Seven** – 2.30pm, Tuesday August 3

Dentistry, Medicine, Business, Law  
Speaker: Mr Ross Adler AO, Chairman, Amtrade International

The university's last series of graduation ceremonies for 2004 will be held in December. For more information about graduations, visit: [www.adelaide.edu.au/student/graduations](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/graduations)







# What makes Adelaide so good?

Cath Kenneally may have lived in Adelaide most of her life, but she's still learning about what it has to offer.

The radio presenter is hosting a new series on Radio Adelaide that delves into the positive side of living and studying in her home town.

Called *What's So Good About Adelaide?*, the program is aimed at learning about the international students who study at the University of Adelaide, what their cultures and customs are, and providing potential students with a better understanding of the city of Adelaide and Australian culture.

"The show has an international audience in mind, so part of that is aimed at demystifying Australian culture. But it's also about understanding the many people and cultures we have here in Adelaide, which has proven to be fascinating," Kenneally said.

Kenneally is best known for her work as the Arts Producer of Radio Adelaide, as a published author, with a number of poetry collections and a novel to her name, and as a book reviewer for

*The Weekend Australian*. She's also finishing her PhD in Creative Writing at the University of Adelaide, so you would expect she knows a thing or two about culture and Adelaide.

"I'm finding that *What's So Good About Adelaide?* is something completely different to what I've done in the past, and that is because it takes a fairly uncritical view of what Adelaide is all about," she said.

"That's actually very liberating, because I'm discovering some amazing things about this city and its people. You begin to appreciate all the initiatives going on in this city – and for a small city, there's a lot going on.

"Adelaide is certainly more diverse than I thought it was – the international students themselves say they're surprised at how multicultural we are."

To give you some idea of the diversity of topics covered in *What's So Good About Adelaide?*, the weekly program has so far looked at: cabaret, the refugee issue, soil science, coffee, water resource management, Nobel Prize-winner Lord Florey, public art, women in the workforce, the media, comedy, the International Space University, wine marketing and viticulture, Australian indigenous communities, Don Dunstan, and gastronomy, among many others.

Students interviewed so far have hailed from Colombia, Canada, Germany, India, the UK, Jordan and Burma.

And that's all just within the first two months!

"Adelaide is a perfect place to live, study, and to bring up children. There are great opportunities here, and it's a much more accommodating place to live – life is harsher in Sydney and Melbourne, where competition is much more fierce," Kenneally said.

"Having said that, there are many people – myself included – who think they know what Adelaide is.

"Now that I've been working on this show for a while, I'm not sure I have a handle on Adelaide any more.

"I'm discovering new things all the time, and it's delightful to have a program that allows me to do it."

**To hear more of *What's So Good About Adelaide?*, tune in on Thursdays at midnight Australian Central Standard Time (GMT +0930) – from anywhere in the world on [www.radio.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.radio.adelaide.edu.au) or on 101.5FM in Adelaide.**



August 2004

101.5fm

[radio.adelaide.edu.au](http://radio.adelaide.edu.au)

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# Weed control effort is world first

A new approach to tackling a major weed problem in our own backyard may have worldwide benefits.

South Australia's weed problem in the Murray Mallee has made headlines and garnered political support both locally and nationally. But the parasitic weed *Orobancha ramosa* (Branched broomrape) is hard to control.

Broomrape tends to show up wherever host plants (such as some crops) are found, causing major problems for farmers and the economy. The discovery in South Australia's Mallee region in 1992 hurt many farmers and restricted internal trade and exports. As a result, some farms have been in quarantine for more than a decade.

In 2001, the Grains Research & Development Corporation (GRDC) and the CRC Australian Weed Management funded a research effort to find new ways to tackle the weed and minimise harm to the environment.

Three years later, Dr John Matthews from the University of Adelaide's School of Earth & Environmental Sciences, Roseworthy Campus, has developed new strategies and methods of control for this very troublesome weed.

"The survival capacity of this weed lies in the seed reserve," Dr Matthews said. "It relies on seed numbers and seed longevity for persistence, and our new strategy is directly targeted at destroying the seed reserves."

Existing methods of control include frequent herbicide use on emerging plants or the use of a toxic chemical, methyl bromide, to fumigate contaminated areas.

The new method – which sees areas affected by Branched broomrape treated with an organic compound developed by Dr Matthews and his colleagues – will replace the latter and reduce the reliance on herbicides.

Dr Matthews said developing an alternative to methyl bromide use was very heartening.

"We were hopeful that we could replace methyl bromide with an environmentally safer product. Our treatment is registered as an organic product and does not require disturbing the landscape, so I am hopeful we have an acceptable solution," he said.

Three years of hard work on that solution has yielded some positive results, with areas of the Murray region near Mannum recently treated with Dr Matthews's new compound.

Research will continue to monitor the success of the treatment, but Dr Matthews remains confident. "The solutions to this problem are a world first, the soil treatment and methods of application are unique. We believe this will prove to be a significant step forward in the control of the weed," he said.

The weed exists in other parts of the world, including areas of southern Europe, and in most cases it is increasing in range and intensity. If the South Australian trials of this new approach are ultimately successful, it will have global implications.



A helicopter applies treatment to an otherwise inaccessible area affected by Branched broomrape  
Photo by Dr John Matthews

## Coming Events

### Wednesday, August 4

**12.10pm Environmental Biology seminar:** "Intrigue in an endangered, sexually deceptive orchid" by Dr Topa Petit (UniSA). Benham Lecture Theatre, North Terrace Campus.

**1pm Cultural Conversations:** "Research: The Pivotal Element of Art" by Dr Catherine Speck (Coordinator, Art History Program, University of Adelaide and the Art Gallery of South Australia) and Angela Valamanesh (artist). Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library, North Terrace Campus.

A free exhibition by Angela Valamanesh, part of the South Australian Living Artists Festival, is on display until August 27 at the Barr Smith Library during opening hours.

### Thursday, August 5

**12.15pm Psychology seminar:** "Workplace bullying: Moving forward to a focus on intervention" by Vikki Knott (UniSA). Departmental Library, Room 526, Hughes Building, North Terrace Campus.

### Friday, August 6

**1.10pm Elder Hall Lunch Hour Concert Series:** solo recital by John Chen, winner of the 2004 Sydney International Piano Competition. Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus. Tickets \$5 available at door from 12.30pm.

**4pm Obstetrics & Gynaecology seminar:** "Emerging themes in the epidemiology of fetal growth and chronic disease" by Dr Michael Davies (Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Medical School). O&G Seminar Room, N229, 2nd Floor, Medical School North, Frome Road.

**7.30pm International Space University free public event:** Gerald Soffen memorial panel: "Astrobiological search for the origins of life." Panelists include David Southwood (Director of Scientific Programs, European Space Agency). Union Hall, University of Adelaide, North Terrace Campus.

### Monday, August 9

**8.45am International Space University free public event:** reviews of student team projects - "Water cycle studies

using space technology and applications with an Australian case study", "The role of satellite communications in the development of rural and remote regions", and "Lunar missions in the framework of current space exploration initiatives for Mars." Room MG:08, Maths & Engineering Building, University of Adelaide, North Terrace Campus.

**1pm School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urban Design seminars:** "Some applications of the Multiple-criteria Decision Making approach as a design evaluation tool" by Bruce Beauchamp. The Forum, North Terrace Campus.

### Wednesday, August 11

**12.10pm Environmental Biology seminar:** "Western myall (*Acacia papyrocarpa*) and the hydraulic limitation hypothesis" by Martin Escoto-Rodrigues (Environmental Biology). Benham Lecture Theatre, North Terrace Campus.

**7.30pm National Science Week free public event:** Great Big Science Gig 2. After sell-out shows last year, a brand new "Great Big Science Gig" will feature

more bizarre and amazing science, more music and more laughs. Great science cabaret for everyone! Union Hall, North Terrace Campus. For more information phone (03) 9252 6264 or email: Chris.Krishna-Pillay@csiro.au

### Thursday, August 12

**12.15pm Psychology seminar:** "IQ and sleep" by Dr Kurt Lushington (UniSA). Departmental Library, Room 526, Hughes Building, North Terrace Campus.

**7.30pm National Science Week free public event:** AIP Women in Physics Public Lecture: "Speeding Nuclei: exploring the nucleus and the natural environment" by Dr Mahananda Dasgupta. Union Hall, North Terrace Campus. For more information visit: [www.physics.adelaide.edu.au/aip-sa/](http://www.physics.adelaide.edu.au/aip-sa/) or email: [peter.veitch@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:peter.veitch@adelaide.edu.au)

### Friday, August 13

**10am Roseworthy Campus Information Day:** Your career in agriculture and natural resource management starts here. Find out more about the Bachelor



# Backstage roles no act for students

There's a lot more to do at Adelaide than just study – ask Jo Nield and Laura Gransbury!

The two engineering students are part of the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild's forthcoming production of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*.

However, you won't see them delivering soliloquies or treading the boards – they're part of the essential backstage crew who help make any Guild production possible.

Jo already has a Bachelor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and is studying for her PhD in Coastal Engineering.

She has the role of Lighting Operator for *Twelfth Night*, which is her second show for the Guild, after she had a similar role in *Spring Awakening* earlier this year.

"I thought lighting sounded interesting, so I gave it a go and I have really enjoyed it," Jo said.

"In many ways, doing lighting for a stage show is like engineering: there's a lot of problem-solving to do, and you have to be able to work in small groups."

Jo Nield (left) and Laura Gransbury  
Story and photo by Ben Osborne



Laura is in her first year of a combined Chemical and Petroleum Engineering double degree, and joined the Guild after signing up in O Week.

Like Jo, this is Laura's second show with the Guild as Assistant Costume Designer, after also beginning with *Spring Awakening*.

"I had been a performer in a lot of shows when I was at school, but now I enjoy being backstage just as much," Laura said.

*Twelfth Night* is Shakespeare's great comedy of bewitched, bothered and bewildered love, set in the magical resort of Illyria.

Directed by Michael Baldwin, the cast includes David Adams, Chris Asimos, Wendy Bos, Peter Davies, John Edge, Adoni Fotopoulos, Gary George, Maxine Harding, Rod Idle, Tamara Lee, Aldo Longobardi, Keith Manson, Tim Ross and Petra Schulenberg. Students Matt Gilbertson (Music), Shelley Broadbent (Law) and Jessica

Sabatini (Creative Writing) contribute some additional song and dance to the show.

***Twelfth Night* will be held at the Little Theatre at 7.30pm on Saturday August 7, Tuesday August 10-Saturday August 14, and Tuesday August 17-Saturday August 21. Tickets are \$20/\$15 and are available from BASS on 131 246 or the Theatre Guild on (08) 8303 5999.**

of Science (Animal Science) and other science programs. Tour the facilities, including student accommodation. Listen to program talks and meet staff and students. For more information call: (08) 8303 7812 or email: judy.tucker@adelaide.edu.au Free entry, all welcome. [www.adelaide.edu.au/openday/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday/)  
**1.10pm Elder Hall Lunch Hour Concert Series:** Elder Conservatorium Cello Ensemble, led by Janis Laurs, conducted by Keith Crellin. Rosalind Martin (soprano), Pei-Sian Ng (cello soloist). Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus. Tickets \$5 available at door from 12.30pm.

## Sunday, August 15

**10am University of Adelaide Open Day:** Free entry, all welcome, from 10am-4pm, North Terrace Campus. For more information contact the Student Centre: (08) 8303 5208, or 1800 061 459 for country and interstate callers. [www.adelaide.edu.au/openday/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday/)  
**6.30pm Memorial Concert for Jiri Tancibudek (1921-2004):** Performers include: Australian String Quartet, Alumni

Chamber Orchestra, Jeffrey Crellin, Principal Oboe, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus. Book at BASS or tickets at the door: \$15 or \$10 concession. For more information call (08) 8303 5925.

## Monday, August 16

**12.30pm Colgate Australian Clinical Dental Research Centre seminar:** "Students' Experience in PBL" by Dr Tracey Winning (Dental School). Board Room, Colgate Australian Clinical Dental Research Centre, 2nd Floor, Adelaide Dental Hospital.  
**1pm School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urban Design seminars:** "A tool for depicting the embodied energy of the Adelaide built environment" by Stephen Pullen. The Forum, North Terrace Campus.  
**7pm History of Science, Ideas & Technology Group seminar:** "How could Thales of Miletus have predicted the solar eclipse of 585 BC?" by Dr Patricia O'Grady (Flinders University). Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, Barr Smith Library, North Terrace Campus.

**6pm National Science Week free public event:** "Reach For The Stars" by Dr Sally Ride (NASA astronaut). Union Hall, North Terrace Campus.

## Wednesday, August 18

**12.10pm Environmental Biology seminar:** "What can remote sensing do for vegetation ecology?" by Dr Megan Lewis (Soil & Land Systems). Benham Lecture Theatre, North Terrace Campus.

## Thursday, August 19

**12.15pm Psychology seminar:** "The role of clinical psychology in mental health" by Dr Jonathan Philips (Director, Mental Health Services). Departmental Library, Room 526, Hughes Building, North Terrace Campus.

## Friday, August 20

**1.10pm Elder Hall Lunch Hour Concert Series:** an all Bach program with Peter Duggan (oboe and oboe d'amore, courtesy of Adelaide Symphony Orchestra), Keith Hempton (bass), Anthony Hunt (organ and harpsichord),

Sonia Baldock (violin), Sarah McCarthy (violin), Caleb Wright (viola), Paul Zabrowarny (cello). Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus. Tickets \$5 available at door from 12.30pm.

## 2pm National Science Week public event:

AIP Super Science Quiz, organised by AIP-SA for high school students. Teams of six students will compete for prizes, certificates and the Perpetual Shield. Eclipse Room, Union Building, North Terrace Campus. Entry Cost \$2/student. Bookings essential, phone 0409 648 853. For more information visit: [www.physics.adelaide.edu.au/aip-sa/](http://www.physics.adelaide.edu.au/aip-sa/) or email: [olivia.samardzic@dsto.defence.gov.au](mailto:olivia.samardzic@dsto.defence.gov.au)

**4pm Obstetrics & Gynaecology seminar:** "How the sperm turns on the egg: intracellular calcium spikes transduced into meiotic cell cycle resumption" by Dr Keith Jones (Cell and Molecular Biosciences, University of Newcastle). O&G Seminar Room, N229, 2nd Floor, Medical School North, Frome Road.

continued on page 16

# Start uni life - on the web!

New students can now find the daunting experience of starting university a little easier thanks to a website designed "by students for students".

The website, titled 'Starting at University', is one of the best ways for prospective and first-year students to understand what university life is like, by reading some of the experiences of those who have already completed their first year at the University of Adelaide.

The site also includes helpful information and links to sites that will be useful for new students.

The development of the site evolved from an idea by the university's Learning and Teaching Development Unit, and was designed by a team of students with the assistance of the unit and the Prospective Students Office.

James Geddes, who is in his final year of a combined Law and Arts degree, was one of the students employed on the project. He said a lot of research

went into the development of the website.

"We made the website from scratch - from the original structure and content to getting it online. We looked at other uni sites to get a feel of what a site like this should include, and we tried to make ours even better," James said.

James said the website project was rewarding and hopes that new students will find it very helpful.

"I can remember that the move from high school to university was challenging for me, as it is for a lot of students. You have to learn pretty quick that you are completely responsible for your own education at uni," he said.

"Our main aim was to make the transition to university a bit easier. We tried to include student stories



so that you could see what it really is like from a student's perspective, and you know other people have been through it before."

**For more information, visit:**  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/starting/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/starting/)

Story by Natalie De Nadai

Important information about student life on campus can be found at the University of Adelaide's Open Day - Sunday, August 15.

## GOETHE SOCIETY

**Thursday August 12**

**Time: 19.30**

~ presenter ~

**Dr. Peter Poiana**

Lecturer Dept. European Studies  
University of Adelaide

**Marcel Proust  
and the modern Novel  
'Exploration of  
Life and Art in early  
20th Century France'**

**Thursday September 9**

**Time: 19.30**

~ presenter ~

**Dr. George Couvalis**

Snr Lecturer, Dept of Philosophy  
Flinders University

**'The work of David Hume'**  
*Hume is one of the most important  
English Philosophers*

~ location ~

**163A Greenhill Road  
AEU Building  
Conference Room**

*(entrance off Porter Street)  
there is ample parking behind the building  
Coffee/Tea : contribution by  
non-members \$10 (concession \$5)*

*to view our monthly programme:  
<http://oac.schools.sa.edu.au/goethe/gg.htm>*



## Coming Events

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**Saturday, August 21**

**11am Urrbrae House event:** "Against the Grain at Urrbrae", an exhibition of woodcraft presented by Woodgroup SA. Open daily 11am-4pm until September 4. Ballroom, Urrbrae House, Waite Campus (enter from Fullarton Road). Admission free. Enquiries to Peggy Rowe: (08) 8303 7497.

**Monday, August 23**

**1pm School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urban Design seminars:** "Hermeneutics of Ottoman Texts On Architecture: Experience And Meaning" by Selen Morkoc. The Forum, North Terrace Campus.

**8pm Classical Association seminar:** "Orpheus, Theseus, Heracles: shamans or just plain heroes?" by Ron Newbold (Classics). Council Room, 7th floor, Wills Building, North Terrace Campus.

**Tuesday, August 24**

**7.30pm Musicological Society of Australia, SA Chapter seminar and AGM:** "E. Harold Davies (Elder Professor of Music) 1919-1947: A Conservative/Progressive at the Helm" by Doreen Bridges. Room 1107, Level 11, Schulz Building, North Terrace Campus (use lifts at rear of building, off Scott Theatre foyer). Entry by gold coin donation.

**Wednesday, August 25**

**12.30pm Clinical Nursing seminar:** "Constructing Powerpoint Presentations", by Department of Clinical Nursing staff. Room 36, Level 3, Eleanor Harnald Building, Frome Road.

**Thursday, August 26**

**9.00am International Space University free public event:** final presentations of student team projects - "Water cycle studies using space technology and applications with an Australian case study", "The role of satellite communications in the development of rural and remote regions", and "Lunar missions in the framework of current space exploration initiatives for Mars." Venue to be confirmed. [www.ssp04adelaide.com](http://www.ssp04adelaide.com)

**12.15pm Psychology seminar:** "Petrol sniffing among indigenous people: Implications for intervention" by Dr Jack White (private practice). Departmental Library, Room 526, Hughes Building, North Terrace Campus.

**Friday, August 27**

**1.10pm Elder Hall Lunch Hour Concert Series:** Lance Coburn (winner of the Tomassoni International Piano Competition in Cologne). Elder Hall, North

Terrace Campus. Tickets \$5 available at door from 12.30pm.

**Saturday, August 28**

**8.00pm Elder Evening Concert Series:** "Music of the Masses." Elder Conservatorium Chorale, Adelaide Voices and Bella Voce (conducted by Carl Crossin and Christie Anderson) and the Elder Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra (conducted by Keith Crellin). Britten's Missa brevis in D for treble voices and organ, Haydn's Missa Sancti Johannes de Deo (Little Organ Mass) and Duruflé's Requiem. Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus. Tickets \$25adult/\$17concession/\$10student available from BASS outlets or dial'n'charge on 131 246. University of Adelaide staff at concession prices.

**Monday, August 30**

**12.30pm Colgate Australian Clinical Dental Research Centre seminar:** "Update on Professional Wine Taster's Erosion" by Dr Di Hunt (Dental School). Board Room, Colgate Australian Clinical Dental Research Centre, 2nd Floor, Adelaide Dental Hospital.  
**1pm School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urban Design seminars:** Brett Grimm. The Forum, North Terrace Campus.



# Joanne's wine scholarship success

Joanne Brady gave up her career in the IT industry to further her interest in plants.



More information about scholarships available to University of Adelaide students can be found at our Open Day – Sunday, August 15.

Joanne has already put part of the scholarship fund to use, attending the Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference in Melbourne late last month.

Applications for the Ian Cocks Memorial Wine Research Scholarship for 2004 close on August 30. The value of the scholarship is \$5000, of which the student receives \$4000, with the remainder going to the discipline of Wine and Horticulture as a contribution to the maintenance costs of the research project.

Applications for the Ian Cocks Memorial Trust Tourism Scholarship for 2004 also close on August 31. The tourism scholarship is valued at \$10,000 and is awarded to a full-time student enrolled in an undergraduate or postgraduate program, with the successful applicant chosen on academic achievement.

**For more information, visit:**  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/scholarships/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/scholarships/)

Story by Natalie De Nadai and Ben Osborne

Now the fourth-year Bachelor of Science (Viticulture) student is also the recipient of the \$5000 Ian Cocks Memorial Wine Research Scholarship.

The scholarship – named in honour of Ian Cocks (1938-1997), who contributed greatly to South Australian tourism, the wine and commerce industries – is awarded to a student enrolled in Honours in

the Bachelor degrees of Agriculture, Science or Wine Marketing. It is based on academic achievement, technical knowledge and communication skills.

Born in New Zealand, Joanne had a successful IT career and had worked throughout the United States and Australia before deciding to come to Adelaide to begin her new life in 2001.

“Working in the wine industry is something I can see myself doing in the future – unlike the IT industry,” Joanne said.

“After I have completed my course, I would like to get some industry experience and get a job at a well-established winery.”

“Adelaide had such a good reputation to study here, that’s why I couldn’t resist.”

## Year 12 results pay off for Roseworthy scholar



A first-year University of Adelaide student is poised for a career in the livestock industry with help from an agricultural scholarship.

Dominic Meaney, from Gawler, was awarded the Lois Harris Agricultural Bureau Scholarship for his Year 12 success in 2003.

The scholarship is given to a first-year Bachelor of Agriculture student at the university based on their academic excellence in Year 12.

The former Trinity College student is now studying the degree at the university’s Roseworthy campus, and said he was very happy to be the recipient of this year’s scholarship.

Lois Harris scholar Dominic Meaney  
Photo by Ryan Leaver

“I was extremely surprised and honoured to receive such a opportunity,” Dominic said. “There is no doubt that the scholarship money will help out with the general expenses of uni life.”

“I am very thankful to the Advisory Board of Agriculture for donating the money and am grateful to be at university studying an area that I have a passion for.”

The scholarship – which is named after Lois Harris, who was a representative on the Advisory Board of Agriculture – encourages high school students to study agriculture at university.

# Masses of music this month

August is a month of music at the University of Adelaide.

The highly popular Lunch Hour Concert Series returns to Elder Hall, with another incredible line-up that just can't be found anywhere else in Adelaide – especially for only \$5 a ticket!

And with a program guaranteed to lift your spirits, the Evening Concert Series also continues this month, featuring three beautiful masses.

For full program details visit the website:  
[www.music.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.music.adelaide.edu.au)

## Elder Hall Lunch Hour Concert Series

John Chen, winner of the 2004 Sydney International Piano Competition, will launch the new series of Lunch Hour Concerts in Elder Hall with a recital on Friday, August 6 at 1.10pm.

At just 18 years of age, the Malaysian-born pianist was one of the youngest competitors in this prestigious competition. In addition to his first prize he was awarded five special prizes and recording contracts with Naxos Records and ABC Classics.

John's performance will feature works by Beethoven, Ravel, Gordon Kerry and Balakirev.



Other highlights in the lunch-hour series include performances by some outstanding former students of the Elder School of Music. Lance Coburn, winner of the Tomassoni International Piano Competition, will return to Australia and give a solo piano recital on August 27. Pei-Sian Ng, Elder Overseas Scholar, and his brother, Pei-Jee Ng, also a scholarship holder, will

give a combined cello recital on September 10.

The Lunch Hour Concerts are held at Elder Hall every Friday at 1.10pm, from August 6 to November 19. Tickets are \$5, available at the door from 12.30pm on the day of each concert. Special subscription passes are also available for \$60. For more information contact the Concert Office on (08) 8303 5925.

## Elder School of Music Evening Concert Series

Music of the Masses, the fourth concert in the series, will be held at 8pm on Saturday, August 28 in Elder Hall.

Three beautiful masses make up the program. The first is Benjamin Britten's *Missa brevis in D* for treble voices and organ performed by Bella Voce, conducted by Christie Anderson.

The second mass in the program is Haydn's well-known *Missa Sancti Johannes de Deo*, which was written in honour of the founder of the Brothers of Charity, and also features the Elder Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra conducted by Keith Crellin. Named *The Little Organ Mass* because of its short, beautiful solo in the benedictus for soprano and organ obligato, it features organist Joshua van Konkelenberg who is currently enrolled in the Honours program in Composition at the Elder School of Music.

The final mass in the program, Duruflé's *Requiem*, is performed by the Elder Conservatorium Chorale and Adelaide Voices conducted by Carl Crossin, with organ soloist Anthony Hunt. A hauntingly beautiful piece, this is Maurice Duruflé's best known and most widely performed work.

Tickets: \$25 adult, \$17 concession, \$10 student from all BASS outlets or dial'n'charge on 131 246. (University of Adelaide staff at concession prices.)

## Concerts for a cause

A number of other concerts involving the University of Adelaide aim to raise funds for – and awareness of – various causes.

### Justice for Refugees SA Benefit Concert

Voice for Refugees, an afternoon of light classical song featuring Guila Tiver (mezzo-soprano), Monica Laczofy (piano) and Ladislav Jasek (violin), will be held at Elder Hall on Sunday, August 8 at 2.30pm.

Tickets are \$15/\$12, with bookings at BASS.

### A Musical Afternoon with Janis Laurs

Jane Wilson is celebrating her 70th Birthday and is raising funds for the Soroptimist Project Independence: Women Survivors of War.

Adelaide Symphony Orchestra cellist Janis Laurs will be accompanied by Jane, at St Philip's Anglican Church Hall, Broadview, 2.30pm on Sunday, August 15.

Donation: \$20 adults, \$15 concession, or \$40 family (2 adults 2 children). For more information call Jane on (08) 8344 7925 or email: [tjwilson@senet.com.au](mailto:tjwilson@senet.com.au)

### Memorial Concert for Jiri Tancibudek (1921-2004)

A tribute to one of our greats, this concert aims to raise money for a scholarship in his name.

Featured artists include the Australian String Quartet, Alumni Chamber Orchestra and Jeffrey Crellin (Principal Oboe, Melbourne Symphony Orchestra).

Held in Elder Hall at 6.30pm on Sunday, August 15, tickets are \$15 or \$10 concession, available from BASS or at the door. For more information call (08) 8303 5925.





# What's it like writing in the wasteland?

Best-selling author Sean Williams has already fulfilled his dream of reaching the stars, so he has no real interest in leaving home for good.

The Adelaide-based science fiction and fantasy author has 16 published novels, including the *Books of the Change* and *The Resurrected Man*, and 60 short stories. With collaborator Shane Dix he produced the *Evergence* and *Orphans* trilogies and co-wrote three books in the *Star Wars: New Jedi Order* series.

A multiple recipient of both the Ditmar & Aurealis Awards, Williams has even made the *New York Times* best-seller list – qualifying him as a national and international success. But that won't tempt him to move away from Adelaide.

"Adelaide is the perfect place to be a writer: it's cheap; the food and wine are great; and the pace is easy," Williams told the *Adelaidean*.

"We were the first state with a Writers' Centre (of which Williams has been a past Chair), which is still going strong. And with cheap plane fares

and the internet, we're not missing out on much, professionally.

"What I save in rent more than covers the odd trip to Sydney (or even NY) to talk to my editors," he said.

This month, Williams will give a public talk on fantasy landscapes and Adelaide, and why Adelaide seems to have spawned so many fantasy writers. The talk, to be given at the Barr Smith Library on Thursday, August 26, is part of the Author and Scholar events series for the Friends of the University of Adelaide Library chapter.

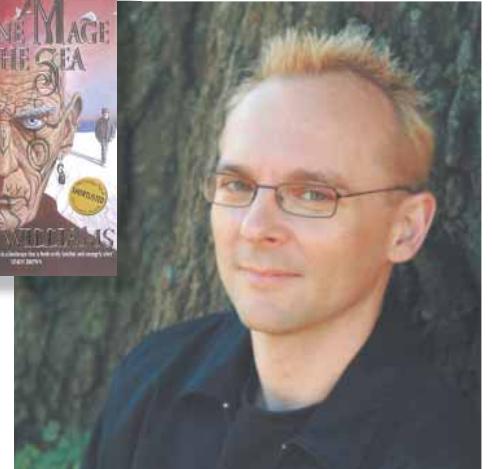
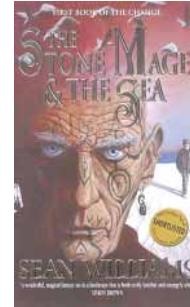
Williams has a long association with the University of Adelaide. He began studying economics at Adelaide but eventually realised it was not for him, instead turning to writing. He's now considering studies in creative writing.

Despite not finishing his first degree, Williams said he loved the culture of the university, "and my memories of those times are good".

"I did a lot of growing up on the university grounds (and I don't mean the obvious: sex and drugs). I made some great friends and learned lots of lessons. That's what it's all about, isn't it?"

Williams is currently working on a new fantasy series, the *Books of the Cataclysm*, and *Geodesica*, a space opera diptych.

[www.seanwilliams.com.au](http://www.seanwilliams.com.au)



## Friends of the University of Adelaide Library Chapter

Author and Scholar events series

"Writing in the Waste Land" – Sean Williams (*New York Times* best-selling South Australian speculative fiction author)

Date: Thursday, August 26

Time: 6 for 6.30pm

Venue: Ira Raymond Exhibition Room  
Barr Smith Library

RSVP: by Monday, August 23

to Patricia Hawke

phone 8303 4064 or email:

[patricia.hawke@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:patricia.hawke@adelaide.edu.au)

## 04 Alumni Events

### Malaysian Alumni Celebrate 10th Anniversary

More than 200 people attended a dinner last month to celebrate the 10-Year Anniversary of the University of Adelaide Alumni Malaysia Bhd.

The anniversary dinner, held at the Royal Selangor Club, Kuala Lumpur, attracted alumni and friends from around the region.

Attendees included the Deputy High Commissioner of Australia, Mr Simon Merrifield, the President of the Adelaide University Alumni Association Singapore, Mr David Goh, distinguished alumnus Colonel (Retired) Dr Richard H Yung and Mrs May Yung from Singapore, Mr Geoffrey Sauer and family.

Dr Harry Medlin, who was the Guest of Honour and key speaker at the event, represented the University of Adelaide in his capacity as the University Alumni Envoy to South East Asia. Dr Medlin reflected on his involvement with alumni in the region and acknowledged the magnitude of achievements by alumni from the university.

A framed parchment from the university was presented to the Malaysian Chapter to congratulate them on this occasion. A special gift of University pins was also presented to Mr Lee Chee Meng, President of the Chapter, from Dr Medlin.

A commemorative booklet was prepared for the event with messages from the High Commissioner of Australia to Malaysia, the Vice-Chancellor and the Chair of the Alumni Association.

It was a very successful event and all who attended had an immensely good time!

### 20 Year Reunion for Graduates of 1984

Join your fellow Alumni and celebrate 20 years as a graduate of one of Australia's finest universities.

Date: Saturday, August 14

Time: 7pm pre-dinner drinks

Venue: The Eclipse, Level 4, Union House, North Terrace Campus

Cost: \$45 per ticket

(includes pre-dinner drinks and hors-d'oeuvres, main meal, dessert, coffee/tea/chocolates and entertainment). Drinks available for purchase throughout the evening

RSVP: Alison Wood, phone +61 8 8303 5800, fax +61 8 8303 5808

or email: [alison.wood@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:alison.wood@adelaide.edu.au)

### Golden Jubilee 2004

We invite graduates from 1954 to attend the commemoration ceremony followed by the luncheon on Friday, October 1.

#### Commemoration Ceremony

Time: 10:30am–11:30am

Venue: Bonython Hall, North Terrace Campus

Note: Guests can be seated in Bonython Hall as early as 9:30am, but no later than 10:15am

#### Reunion Luncheon

Time: 12 noon, onwards

For more information contact Joan Soon on +61 8 8303 3317 or email: [joan.soon@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:joan.soon@adelaide.edu.au)





# Village a new home for students

The University of Adelaide is setting a new standard for student accommodation.

Work has begun on a 400-bed student village, which will cater to the needs of local, rural, interstate and international students.

The first stage is expected to be completed by July 2005 and the latter in February 2006.

The University of Adelaide Village (or, simply, The Village) will be located on Grote Street, nestled in the West End precinct of the city – a short walk from the university’s North Terrace Campus.

In the heart of Adelaide, it is close to the Adelaide Central Market, the shopping district, the Gouger Street restaurant precinct and a short stroll from the Adelaide parklands.

At the turning of the soil ceremony, the university’s Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McWha, said The Village would set the world standard

for university accommodation with its emphasis on student well being and community development.

“It will not only be a place to live while at university, but also become a true home for the students,” Professor McWha said.

“Stage One of The Village will be delivered in July 2005 and will consist of 33 townhouses that differ in design and size. Many of the townhouses are four stories with decks and rooftop gardens.

“The living area for each townhouse is on a separate floor to the bedrooms ensuring peace and quiet is always maintained.

“Stage Two will be completed in February 2006 and will contain 18 townhouses plus a six-storey apartment building consisting of 39 apartments,” he said.



Professor McWha said the personal security of The Village residents is one of the university’s highest priorities.

“Access into The Village will only be possible with the use of the resident’s identification card. Closed circuit TV cameras and an after-hours onsite security guard will assist us in maintaining a high standard of security,” he said.

Story by Howard Salkow



An artist’s impression of some of the different accommodation styles available at the Village

More information about student accommodation and student support services can be found at the University of Adelaide’s Open Day – Sunday, August 15. Or visit: [www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)