

# Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

**November 2006**

Volume 15 | Number 9

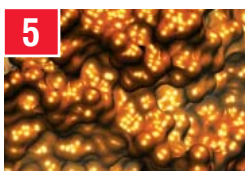
**inside this issue**

3



Nicole makes a century of Rhodes Scholars

5



Scientists make bacteria breakthrough

8



Adelaide wins \$48 million for new research

11



A tall order for builders



## Child study targets mental illness, learning problems

### Health Sciences

New research at the University of Adelaide aims to help prevent mental illness and learning difficulties among school children.

The research hopes to better understand the relationship between adverse childhood conditions and mental illness.

PhD student Amelia Searle in the University's Discipline of Paediatrics has won a \$75,000 scholarship to conduct the study.

She said the project would provide valuable information as to how children's mental health and learning outcomes are related.

The project will focus on children in their first year of primary school.

"This early period is an important focal point, since children must cope with the transition to school, together with the accompanying changes to their roles, responsibilities and relationships," Ms Searle said.

Ms Searle said children living through "adversity", such as poverty, divorce and parental mental illness, had a "greatly heightened risk of mental health problems and learning difficulties". She said learning difficulties can then lead to reduced self-esteem and further mental health problems among children. These problems can manifest themselves as early as kindergarten and persist into adulthood.

Ms Searle hopes to determine how positive child, parent and teacher influences can help to protect children from the negative effects of adversity, and instead set them on the pathway to success in school and in wider society.

"The information obtained through my project may help to optimise children's success in learning and in life by means of early, well-informed intervention that builds upon children's strengths," she said.

To that end, the Department of Education and Children's Services has undertaken to be a collaborative partner in her work and to ensure the knowledge she gains informs education policy and practice.

story continued on page 11



# Adelaidean

Adelaidean has a readership of more than 30,000 per month – 12,000 in print and 18,000 online

www.adelaide.edu.au/adelaidean

## Editor:

David Ellis  
Tel: +61 8 8303 5414  
Fax: +61 8 8303 4829  
Email: david.ellis@adelaide.edu.au  
Mail: The University of Adelaide  
Marketing and Strategic  
Communications Office  
Level 1, 115 Grenfell Street  
Adelaide SA 5000

## Design and Layout:

Chris Tonkin

## Writers:

Candy Gibson  
Robyn Mills

## Contributors:

Scott Arthursen  
Henry Bennett  
Helen Simpson

## Advertising:

Max Hicks, Radio Adelaide  
Tel: +61 8 8303 5000  
Fax: +61 8 8303 4374  
Email: max.hicks@adelaide.edu.au

## Printed by:

Lane Print Group  
Tel: +61 8 8179 9900  
Fax: +61 8 8376 1044  
Email: lane@laneprint.com.au  
Web: www.laneprint.com.au

## Distribution:

Lane Print Group  
Passing Out Distribution Co.

Material may be reproduced without permission but acknowledgement must be given to the *Adelaidean*.

Registered by Australia Post No 565001/00046

*Adelaidean* is produced on paper made from renewable resources and printed with vegetable-based inks.

## Deadline for next issue:

Monday, November 13, 2006



## From the Vice-Chancellor

What determines the prestige of a university? That's the question I find myself asking whenever a new ranking or survey is announced listing the best universities in the world.

I don't have a problem with rankings – you've really got to take them for what they are. Some, like the Chinese-based rankings, look mainly at research outcomes, while others, like the *Times Higher Education Supplement (THES)* ranking, equate more to a "brand recognition" survey.

Luckily for the University of Adelaide, we fare pretty well in most lists that compare the quality of universities. Take the most recent ranking by the *THES*, for example. To be on this list alone – the world's top 200 universities, according to the *THES* – is a fairly prestigious event in itself. But what does it really mean to be in the top 200?

In its simplest terms, it means being recognised as one of the top 1% of universities in the world.

That's an impressive achievement, even if you disagree with certain aspects of how the ranking is determined.

As the only South Australian university in this year's *THES* ranking, Adelaide is flying the flag for this State. But let's put that into context – Adelaide is not a large university by world, or even Australian, standards. Therefore, to have been recognised among the top 1% of the world is a great result for the University.

But how does a university achieve greatness? Is it by appearing on a world ranking? Personally, I think it's much more complicated – and rewarding – than that.

If you look back over the rich history of our University, of the many great names among our alumni, the Nobel Prize winners and the (now) 100 Rhodes Scholars, you see a pattern developing over the years that leads to a university being considered great.

The more recent examples of this we can see today in the outstanding results for our University in research funding (more than \$48 million in this year's ARC and NHMRC grant announcements) and in the brilliant academics we have here, considered among the best in Australia.

Our graduates are of a consistently high calibre, and we have the highest number of graduates in the nation who go onto further study. That is a significant boost to the qualifications, skills and knowledge of our graduates.

What makes any university great is more than just a ranking, and that is certainly true for the University of Adelaide. What makes us great are the people who study and work here, and the exceptional results we produce every day.

**JAMES A. McWha**  
Vice-Chancellor and President

# Students benefit from new TAFE deal

## Partnership

A new agreement signed between the University of Adelaide and the Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology (DFEEST) will increase tertiary educational opportunities within the State.

The revised Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations is a strategic approach to working together in order to help students with diverse educational backgrounds take up study at the University of Adelaide.

"The University of Adelaide believes very strongly in creating opportunities to help young Australians reach their full potential, and to help them towards a productive future in the community," said the University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McWha.

"This agreement will benefit not only individual students, but also the State and the local



economy and the University, by diversifying the student intake."

The Memorandum covers cooperative activities including admissions processes, articulation, credit transfer and recognition of prior learning, collaborative curriculum development,

resource sharing, strategic planning, marketing, professional development and research.

Professor McWha said efforts to establish collaborative links with the TAFE sector had more than doubled over the past year with a number of new developments initiated in fields such as science, engineering, architecture and languages.

"This new agreement will help us take a more strategic and planned approach to this collaboration," Professor McWha said.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Professor McWha and DFEEST Chief Executive Mr Brian Cunningham (pictured).

"DFEEST, through TAFE SA, is committed to high-level skill development and the opportunities presented by TAFE SA working directly with the University of Adelaide," Mr Cunningham said.

**Story by Robyn Mills**

# Nicole makes a century of Rhodes Scholars

## Scholarships

A Medicine and Arts student who has been studying schizophrenia has become the University of Adelaide's 100th Rhodes Scholar.

Nicole Krzys, 24, from Aberfoyle Park, joins a long list of distinguished South Australian Rhodes Scholars to study at Oxford University since 1904.

Ms Krzys is studying for a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery at the University of Adelaide and also has recently completed an Honours degree in Philosophy, specialising in cognitive science.

For her Honours, Ms Krzys looked at schizophrenia from a cognitive science point of view, combining elements of philosophy, psychology and neurophysiology.

In addition to being outstanding students, Rhodes Scholars must demonstrate some strength in community work and/or sport.

Ms Krzys is a classical ballet dancer who also teaches ballet, and she has a blue belt in tae kwon do. She also has a strong interest in Third World medicine, with a focus on women's

health. Last year she won a Medical Insurance Group Australia (MIGA) scholarship to study women's health in Ecuador.

Ms Krzys said she was honoured to become the University of Adelaide's 100th Rhodes Scholar. She will use her Rhodes Scholarship to study for a D.Phil (PhD) in Philosophy at Oxford in 2008, once she has completed her medical internship in Adelaide next year.

"It's been hard work, but it's been worth it," she said of her studies.

"I'm pleased to have been able to combine a number of different disciplines in my study – psychology, philosophy and medicine – all at the same time. It's really helped to enrich my experience at the University."

Ms Krzys said she hoped to use her Oxford studies to focus more on cognitive science and schizophrenia.

"The Rhodes Scholarship is an amazing opportunity to develop my understanding in this area and to contribute to the treatment of mental illness," she said.

Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha has congratulated Ms Krzys on her Rhodes Scholarship on behalf of the whole University.



Nicole Krzys  
Photo by David Ellis

"Nicole has shown herself to be an outstanding academic talent, completing her Honours degree in cognitive science at the same time as studying full-time for a medical degree," Professor McWha said.

"Nicole has now become part of the University's – and South Australia's – history. What began with Adelaide's first Rhodes Scholar, Norman Jolly in 1904, has become a legacy of brilliant scholars in all fields of study spanning more than 100 years.

"This is a moment of personal pride for Nicole and her family, and also a

moment of institutional pride for the University of Adelaide. There would be very few universities anywhere in the world that have so many Rhodes Scholars to their name.

"As many of our Rhodes Scholars have done, I have no doubt that Nicole will go on to great things," Professor McWha said.

For more information about the Rhodes Scholarship, visit: [www.adelaide.edu.au/scholarships/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/scholarships/)

Story by David Ellis

# \$1 million for new uni scholarships

## Scholarships

The University of Adelaide has put an extra \$1 million towards new student scholarships starting in 2007 aimed at retaining the brightest students in South Australia and targeting every urban and rural secondary school in the State.

Any South Australian student who achieves a Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER) of 99.95 and accepts an offer to study at the University of Adelaide will receive \$10,000 towards study and living costs under the new **University of Adelaide Merit Scholarships** scheme.

Under the **University of Adelaide Principals' Scholarships**, a scholarship worth \$5000 towards education and living costs will be available for a student from each secondary school in the State. Principals will be asked to nominate up to three candidates with outstanding academic merit and who have also made a significant contribution to their school and the wider community.

The two new schemes will complement the continuing University of Adelaide scholarships, the Adelaide Undergraduate Scholarships and the Andy Thomas Scholarship. The University will also maintain its \$700,000 access and equity scholarship program.

University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha said: "The University of Adelaide has a history of attracting the brightest young people to study here as shown by our 100 Rhodes Scholars and three Nobel Laureate graduates. This new scholarship scheme builds on that history and shows our commitment to continue to educate high achievers and encourage them to stay in South Australia. We believe that setting aside this substantial sum for this purpose will make a significant contribution towards this goal for the benefit of the community and the State.

"We are also keen to ensure that students from throughout South

Australia who are outstanding both academically and in terms of their contribution to others are given the opportunity to receive this assistance and be encouraged, firstly, to take up university studies and, secondly, to do so within this State."

Students do not need to apply for these scholarships – the University will contact all eligible students.

Further details about eligibility can be obtained from the University's Student Centre on (08) 8303 5208 (or 1800 061 459 toll free for country and interstate callers) or at: [www.adelaide.edu.au/scholarships/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/scholarships/)

Story by Robyn Mills

# Postgrad students honour uni staff

## Recognition



The University of Adelaide's postgraduate students have paid tribute to the efforts of University staff, with prizes being awarded for excellence to four staff members and two disciplines/schools.

The Adelaide University Postgraduate Students' Association holds an annual Staff Awards ceremony – now in its 15th year – to recognise the quality of supervision and lecturing of postgraduate students, as well as the efforts of general staff and academic disciplines.

### This year's awards have gone to:

- Supervisor of the Year: Associate Professor Annette Braunack-Mayer (Discipline of Public Health)

- Lecturer of the Year: Dr Sajid Anwar (Adelaide Graduate School of Business)
- General Staff of the Year – equal winners: Ms Mary Evans (School of Humanities) and Dr Margaret Scott (School of Education)
- Discipline of the Year – equal winners: Discipline of Asian Studies (headed by Professor Purnendra Jain) and School of Commerce (headed by Associate Professor Barry Burgan)

"The Postgraduate Students' Association is proud to have been recognising outstanding service to postgraduate research and coursework for the past 15 years with these awards," said the President of the Association, Ms Felicity Rai.

Winning staff members (from left) Dr Margaret Scott, Associate Professor Annette Braunack-Mayer and Mary Evans. (Not pictured: Dr Sajid Anwar.)

Photo by David Ellis

"Students themselves nominate outstanding University of Adelaide staff – individuals and disciplines that have assisted them greatly with their research, studies or simply in navigating through student life at the University.

"With more than 6000 postgraduate and Honours students currently at the University of Adelaide, that is a phenomenal effort by staff. We thank them for the quality of their work and for contributing to the quality of postgraduate experience at the University."

Story by David Ellis

# Carrick Fellow aims for online assessment

## Learning

The University of Adelaide's Associate Professor Geoffrey Crisp has been awarded a prestigious Carrick Associate Fellowship for excellence in learning and teaching – the only Carrick Fellowship this year for South Australia and one of eight Associate Fellowships awarded nationally.

The Carrick Fellowships are awarded to outstanding scholars who are respected advocates for excellence in learning and teaching in higher education.

Dr Crisp, who is Director of the University's Centre for Learning



and Professional Development, will use his 12-month Fellowship to research and develop online assessment for university

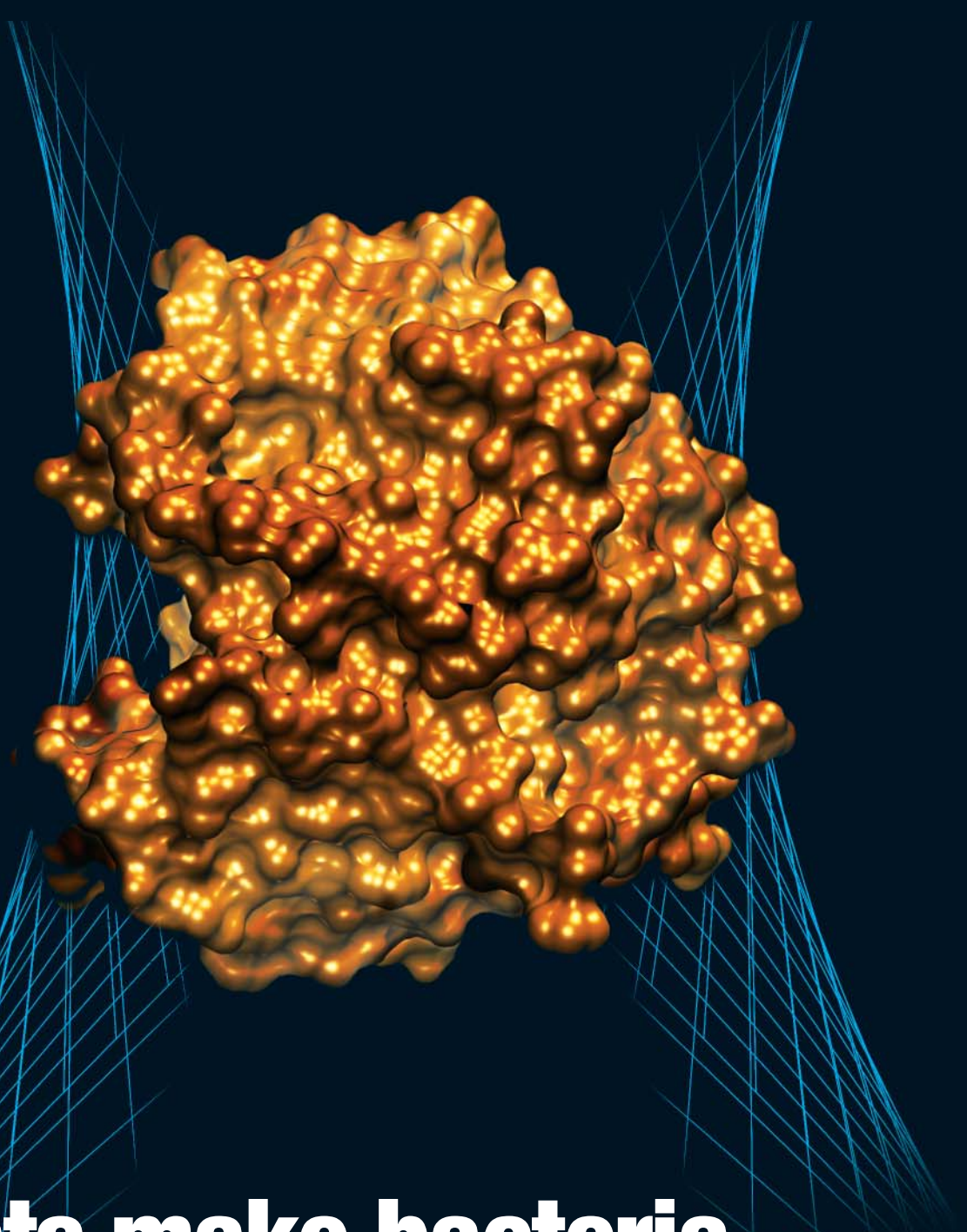
students, and promote his findings to universities across Australia.

"There has been a significant amount of work undertaken recently on online learning but very little on online assessment," Dr Crisp said. "Our goal is to develop a database of examples of how academic staff can prepare interactive computer-based assessments across all major discipline areas. Online assessment is moving beyond the traditional multiple-choice question that is currently the predominant form of computer-based assessment and will provide much richer, authentic and meaningful assessment tasks for students."

University of Adelaide Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Fred McDougall said: "We heartily congratulate Geoff Crisp on this prestigious and well-deserved award. The real beneficiaries will be students. This work will show academics across the country how diagnostic and formative assessment can be used to help students maximise the learning outcomes from their study time."

Dr Crisp will present workshops at the University of Adelaide and universities across Australia on how to design interactive computer-based assessments.

Story by Robyn Mills



# Scientists make bacteria breakthrough

The 3D structure of the bacterial toxin  
Image supplied by Monash University

## ■ Science

An international team of scientists led by the University of Adelaide has made a world breakthrough in understanding how bacterial toxins cause severe gastrointestinal diseases.

The scientists, led by Dr Adrienne Paton from the University of Adelaide's School of Molecular and Biomedical Science, have discovered that a highly potent bacterial toxin kills cells by inactivating an essential component in the endoplasmic reticulum (ER). The ER is part of the cell that is essential for packaging newly-synthesized proteins.

The toxin, called subtilase cytotoxin, is produced by certain strains of *E. coli* bacteria responsible for severe gastrointestinal disease in humans.

Dr Paton discovered the toxin in 2003 in a bacterium responsible for an outbreak of haemolytic uraemic syndrome (severe food poisoning) in South Australia.

Subtilase cytotoxin is so potent that it is a potential bio-terrorism agent.

Dr Paton and her colleagues from Monash University and Tufts New England Medical Center in Boston, United States, published their findings last month in the prestigious international journal *Nature*.

"The ER is a command centre of the cells of higher organisms, second

only to the nucleus in its influence on other cellular functions," Dr Paton said.

"The molecule targeted by the toxin is a chaperone protein called BiP, which is a master regulator of ER function. Disrupting this crucially important chaperone has inevitably fatal consequences for a wide range of cell types."

As well as learning how the toxin works, the scientists have also determined its three-dimensional structure, which will help in the development of treatments for toxin-related diseases.

Dr Paton said the breakthrough may also provide insights into the development of age-related and degenerative diseases such as

Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease, which involve defects in ER function.

Scientific colleagues working on the discovery with Dr Paton include fellow researchers from the University of Adelaide, Professor James Paton and Ursula Talbot; Dr Celeste Thorpe from Tufts New England Medical Center in Boston; and Professor Jamie Rossjohn, Dr Travis Beddoe, Dr Matthew Wilce and Dr James Whisstock from Monash University.

The collaborative research was supported by the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Research Council.

Story by Candy Gibson

# Great name in music not lost with time

## Music

The life of a great man in the history of the University of Adelaide – and of Australian music – Professor E. Harold Davies, has been revealed in a book written by one of his former students.

*More Than A Musician*, by Dr Doreen Bridges, is a tribute to Professor Davies, who was Elder Professor of Music and Director of the Elder Conservatorium from 1919 until his death in 1947. Dr Bridges (nee Jacobs) is one of the few surviving alumni who studied with him.

The Friends of the Barr Smith Library recently hosted a discussion by Dr Bridges about her book with the current Elder Professor of Music and Director of the Conservatorium, Professor Charles Bodman Rae.

Dr Bridges discussed how she had been able to explore the many facets of Professor Davies's life and work thanks to Davies's youngest daughter, Mrs Catharine Mary Cheesman, who had her father's papers.

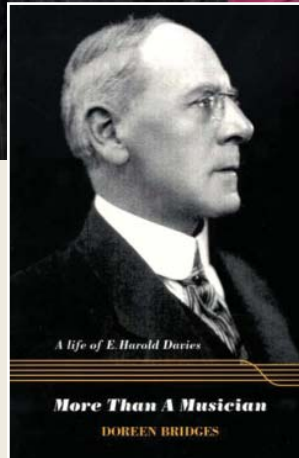
Although musically conservative, Professor Davies was considered an outstanding teacher and lecturer. His association with the University

began in 1883 when he enrolled in the Bachelor of Music degree. After becoming only the second graduate in Music, he requested that the University prepare regulations for the degree of Doctor in Music, and in 1902 was the first to obtain this degree from an Australian university.

When the Faculty of Music was created in 1906, Davies was appointed a member, even though he was not then a University teacher. He was also a member of the University's Music Examination Board and later of the Australian Music Examinations Board. Davies revitalised the Elder Conservatorium following World War I when he became Elder Professor of Music in 1919.

One of Davies's many interests was radio broadcasting. In 1925, before the advent of the ABC, he was a member of the University Council's three-person subcommittee on broadcasting. He arranged fortnightly music broadcasts from Elder Hall which he compered. Subsequently, Davies became a regular ABC broadcaster, discussing not only music but also philosophical, ethical and social subjects.

From 1927-30 he was a member of the University Anthropological



From left: Professor Charles Bodman Rae, Director of the Elder Conservatorium, Dr Doreen Bridges, author of *More Than A Musician*, and Adelaide Lord Mayor Mr Michael Harbison, who is E. Harold Davies's great-grandson

**Photo by Clark Rodda, Festival Photographers**

*More Than A Musician* is published by Australian Scholarly Publishing and sells for a recommended retail price of \$34.95, plus postage and handling.

The *Adelaidean* has three free copies of *More Than A Musician* to give away, thanks to the publisher. To win a copy, be one of the first three callers on (08) 8303 5414 to answer this question: which Lord Mayor is E. Harold Davies's great-grandson?

Society and accompanied his scientific colleagues to Central Australia and Eyre Peninsula to conduct Aboriginal studies. His task was to record Aboriginal songs, and the field notebooks and papers that he published were to reveal him as an Australian pioneer in ethnomusicology. He was elected a member of the Royal Society of SA for his work.

# An education to whet the taste buds

## Creative Writing

If you have a passion for food and words, the University of Adelaide is offering a unique course in 2007 to get the creative juices flowing.

The Graduate Certificate in Food Writing is the first of its kind in Australia and draws on the University's expertise in creative writing and gastronomy.

Designed to equip course participants with advanced food writing skills, the program will include a semester of online study preceded by one week's intensive face-to-face study on campus at the University. Specialist lecturers and University staff will also host workshops and presentations.

Chair of Creative Writing at the University of Adelaide Professor Nicholas Jose will oversee the new course.

"Food writing – from restaurant reviews and cookbooks, to memoir and social history – is recognised in its own right and in conjunction with

other kinds of writing, from travel articles to fiction and poetry. This program will produce graduates with skills that are directly transferable to the workplace," Professor Jose said.

"Students will visit Adelaide's famous Central Market on assignment, encounter local gastronomic traditions and engage with Australia's leading literary and culinary figures."

Award-winning food writer, author and internationally renowned culinary historian Dr Barbara Santich is also contributing to the course.

As well as Professor Jose and Dr Santich, the teaching staff include: Dr Susan Hosking (senior lecturer in English), Gay Bilson (national food writer), Dr Kerry Goldsworthy (writer, essayist and columnist), Marion Halligan (author), and David Sly (food and wine editor of *SA Life* magazine).

Applicants will need a Bachelor's degree or equivalent, or relevant professional experience, and a portfolio of creative or journalistic writing. For more information about the course, contact Professor Nicholas Jose on (08) 8303 3861.

**Story by Candy Gibson, photo by Adam Bruzzone**





# Gender ups and downs: the new perspective

## ■ Social Studies

Changes and progress in the status of women in South Australia are being mapped by a unique new online website produced by social researchers at the University of Adelaide.

Gender Indicators Online is a collaborative initiative of the University's Australian Institute for Social Research, the Premier's Council for Women, Office for Women and the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The website – [www.aisr.adelaide.edu.au/gio](http://www.aisr.adelaide.edu.au/gio) – provides a diverse range of statistics reflecting the position and situation of women

and men in the State. The data, categorised under nine themes and various sub-themes, is easily accessible and aims to help government departments develop, implement and evaluate gender-sensitive policies.

"This is an important resource for policy developers and researchers, particularly in government and other public sector organisations, but it is open to anyone interested in the field," said the Executive Director of the Australian Institute for Social Research, Associate Professor John Spoehr.

"This resource will help support a gender-sensitive approach to the further development, implementation and monitoring of

South Australia's Strategic Plan. It will help government better understand how South Australia is tracking against specific targets in the plan from a gender perspective."

The data is the most up to date available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and government departments and will be updated regularly.

"The key principles of the site are that it's very quick and simple to use, users don't need any training, and it was cost-effective to develop," Mr Spoehr said.

Data on the site is presented under the themes: crime and justice, education and training, employment, informal networks and community

engagement, health, income, leadership and decision making, population and demographics, and recreation and leisure.

Rosslyn Cox, responsible for the site's construction, said one of the strong features of the site was its dynamic presentation of data, enabling comparison of different years and different areas. This feature will be further developed.

The site was developed with the assistance of the University of Adelaide's Marketing and Strategic Communications Office.

For more information visit: [www.aisr.adelaide.edu.au/gio](http://www.aisr.adelaide.edu.au/gio)

Story by Robyn Mills



**November 2006**

**101.5fm**

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

**Subscribe on Time..**



Win 5 *WESSANO* watches

8303 5000 [www.radio.adelaide.edu.au/subscribe](http://www.radio.adelaide.edu.au/subscribe)

November 10 to 26

Feast Radio Faerie tales

feast festival 2006





AFRO WORLD

culture, news and beats from the african diaspora

Thursdays 9pm

# Adelaide wins \$48 million for new research



## ■ Research

The University of Adelaide has been awarded more than \$48 million in new funding from the Australian Research Council (ARC) and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for projects that aim to impact on people's lives in Australia and around the globe.

Here are the results of those funding announcements.

“This is further proof that we are one of the top universities in Australia for research”

## ARC funding

The Australian Research Council (ARC) has awarded more than \$12.7 million to the University of Adelaide for new research projects starting in 2007.

Adelaide was again the top-funded university in South Australia, and was awarded:

- 31 Discovery Projects worth more than \$9.5 million;
- 11 Linkage Projects with industry worth more than \$2 million;
- 3 Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities grants worth \$951,000;
- 1 Linkage International Fellowship of \$40,306; and
- 1 Discovery Indigenous Researcher Development grant of \$85,800.

Adelaide's Discovery grants include major, groundbreaking projects that have the potential to improve people's lives in Australia and across the world, such as:

- \$541,063 to investigate methods of reducing soot in industrial flames, benefiting the community by reducing air pollution and improving health and safety (Associate Professor Gus Nathan, Dr Bassam Dally and others – School of Mechanical Engineering);

- \$201,000 for the improvement of intelligent surveillance systems, enabling the tracking of suspicious individuals and vehicles in busy environments and helping to safeguard Australia from terrorism and crime (Professor Mike Brooks and Dr Anthony Dick – School of Computer Science); and
- \$873,000 to better understand calcium storage and water flow in plants, to benefit agricultural production and quality of life (Professor Roger Leigh, Professor Steve Tyerman, Dr Brent Kaiser – School of Agriculture, Food & Wine).

In addition to the ARC funding, more than \$3 million has been pledged in cash and in-kind support from industry partners for the University of Adelaide's Linkage Projects.

Seven fellowships were awarded to University of Adelaide researchers. The most prestigious of these are the Australian Professorial Fellows. Adelaide's Professor Steve Tyerman (School of Agriculture, Food & Wine) and Professor Mathai Varghese (School of Mathematical Sciences) have been named among the

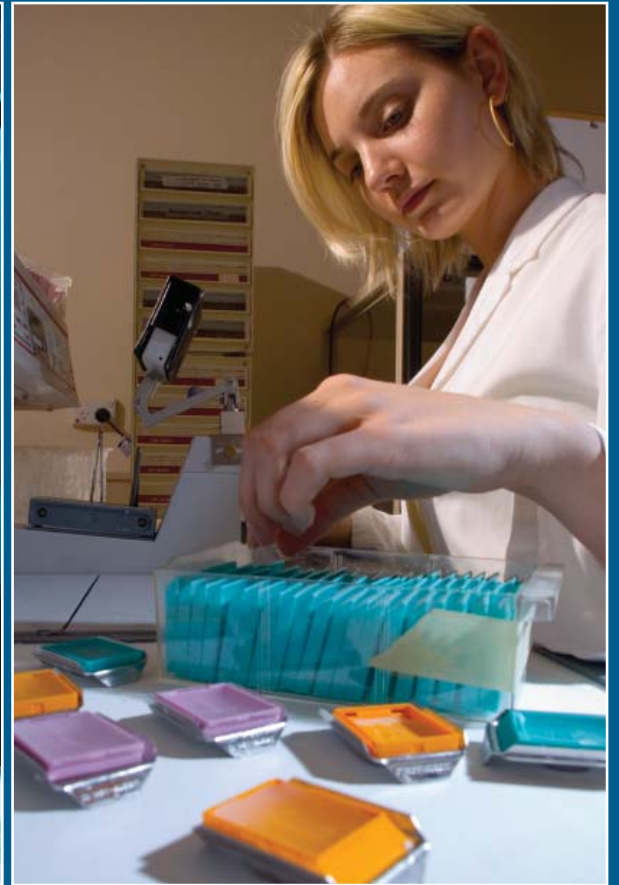
ARC Australian Professorial Fellows, with funding commencing in 2007.

The Linkage International Fellowship has been awarded to ARC Postdoctoral Fellow Dr Ben Kear (School of Earth & Environmental Sciences). Dr Kear aims to learn more about climate change through the study of Australian Cretaceous fauna. This work is being conducted in collaboration with the Natural History Museum in London.

Adelaide's three Federation Fellows – Professor Alan Cooper (School of Earth & Environmental Sciences), Professor Graeme Hugo (School of Social Sciences) and Professor Mark Tester (Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics) – have all been successful in winning ARC funding for research in their various fields, bringing in more than \$1.15 million between them.

The University's Discovery Indigenous Researchers Development grant went to PhD student Richard Bosworth (School of Agriculture, Food & Wine). The \$85,800 funding over three years is aimed at better understanding the competition between native and introduced herbivores on Kangaroo





Island, which could lead to better management of land resources.

"This is an excellent result for the University of Adelaide, with an extremely high calibre of research projects being funded by the ARC," said Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Alan Johnson.

"The new funding... will drive research here in Adelaide that has the potential to make a huge impact on the environment, our understanding of human thought and behaviour, the food we eat, the way we cope with future pandemics, how we defend our nation and its citizens, and many, many other fields in Australia and right around the world.

"I am especially pleased with the strong support we have had for research projects in partnership with industry. Industry links continue to be important to the University of Adelaide, and these partnerships result in real benefits for the State and the nation," he said.

**Story by David Ellis**

## NHMRC funding

The University of Adelaide has confirmed its reputation as the leading medical research institution in South Australia after winning \$35.3 million in funding from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

This represents the lion's share of the \$46 million awarded to South Australian universities.

Major beneficiaries in the Faculty of Health Sciences include a \$10.3 million program grant for reproductive health research, a \$2 million Clinical Centre of Research Excellence grant for nutritional physiology and a \$1 million project grant for prenatal corticosteroids research.

This year's funding is an increase of \$11.1 million on the 2005 NHMRC grants awarded to the University.

"This is an outstanding result for the University," Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Alan Johnson said. "I am pleased that the NHMRC has recognised our research strength in areas such as reproductive medicine, orthopaedics, children's health, infectious diseases and biomedical science.



"The \$35 million awarded to the University is further proof that we are one of the top universities in Australia for research and our work continues to make a significant impact on society," Professor Johnson said.

Funding highlights include:

- Professor Rob Norman, the Director of the Research Centre for Reproductive Health, has been awarded \$10.3 million for a program to investigate periconceptual foundations for a healthy start to life;
- Professor Michael Horowitz from the Discipline of Medicine has received \$2 million for research into nutritional physiology, interventions and outcomes;

- Professor Caroline Crowther from the Obstetrics & Gynaecology Discipline has been awarded \$1 million for a randomised controlled trial of early school-age outcomes after exposure to repeat prenatal corticosteroids.

In all, the University received 46 new Project grants, a Clinical Centre for Research Excellence grant, five fellowships, as well as the substantial Program grant.

University researchers to benefit come from the Faculty of Health Sciences, Faculty of Sciences, the Women's and Children's Hospital, Royal Adelaide Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, the Child Health Research Institute and the Hanson Institute.

Nationally, the Federal Government provided \$529 million in health and medical research for new projects beginning in 2007.

**Story by Candy Gibson**

# Major boost for bioscience labs

## Science

A \$542,000 State Government grant will help to establish two new bioscience laboratories at the University of Adelaide.

The Minister for Science and Information Economy, the Hon. Karlene Maywald, made the announcement during a recent visit to Adelaide Microscopy in the University's Medical School.

Adelaide Microscopy is one of 14 leading bioscience laboratories located across Adelaide that currently house \$30 million worth of highly sophisticated equipment and employ about 50 leading scientists. The labs are a partnership between Bio Innovation SA, the State's three universities and key research institutes.

World-renowned scientist Professor Grant Sutherland AC, an Affiliate Professor with the University's

Paediatrics Discipline and School of Molecular & Biomedical Science, has recently been appointed Chair of the Adelaide Integrated Bioscience Laboratories (AIB Labs) Steering Committee.

Professor Sutherland played the leading Australian role in the Human Genome Project and has contributed to the development of genetics research at the Women's and Children's Hospital for the last 30 years.

"We are delighted to have someone of the calibre of Professor Sutherland to lead AIB Labs into the future," Minister Maywald said.

Professor Sutherland said the funding would help ensure world-class facilities were available so that researchers could make contributions of international significance.

"The development of AIB Labs will provide South Australian scientists with access to a wide range of

cutting-edge equipment. These facilities should help retain some of our best brains in SA and attract leading scientists to the State to conduct research in our universities and industry."

Four early career researchers from the University of Adelaide demonstrated the work of Adelaide Microscopy during Minister Maywald's visit.

From left: Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) Professor Alan Johnson, Mr John Terlet, Hon. Karlene Maywald and Professor Grant Sutherland

Director of Adelaide Microscopy Mr John Terlet said raising the status of the AIB Labs committee to a State Government advisory role would help ensure its continued success.

Story by Candy Gibson



# Areas of medical strength come together

## Health Sciences

A world-class facility bringing together researchers in obstetrics, gynaecology, paediatrics and reproductive health has opened in the University's Medical School.

SA Minister for Health the Hon. John Hill recently launched the co-location of the Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and the Research Centre for Reproductive Health to one site in the University's Medical School. The launch also celebrated the introduction of the School of Paediatrics and Reproductive Health.

For the past 20 years the groups have operated at two separate locations – the University and Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

The project has been jointly funded by the SA Department of Health and the University of Adelaide in order to create closer ties with the Women's

and Children's Hospital and a stronger collaboration between research and clinical groups.

Both areas have an international reputation as leaders in their field, with a history of world-leading research over the past 50 years.

Since 1958 when the Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynaecology launched Australia's first ovulation stimulation program – paving the way for in-vitro fertilisation – the discipline has celebrated a number of "firsts". These include the establishment of the first IVF program in South Australia, Australia's first birth by Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection and preimplantation genetic diagnosis, as well as world-leading pregnancy rates.

Over the past 10 years the University of Adelaide has also been awarded the largest number of competitive research grants for any Australian university obstetrics and gynaecology department.



The Director of the Research Centre for Reproductive Health, Professor Rob Norman, said the co-location brought together two NHMRC program grants worth \$2.6 million a year, around 100 researchers in reproductive health and approximately 2200 square metres of high-quality laboratories.

"Adelaide has been one of Australia's leading centres in obstetrics and gynaecology for the past four decades and this move allows us to consolidate our international reputation," Professor Norman said.

Story by Candy Gibson

# Young composer awarded

## ■ Music

University of Adelaide composition student Alexander Mitchell has been awarded the Helpmann Academy/ETSA Utilities Travel Grant for 2006.

The grant will enable Alexander to travel to China to present work in Shifting Horizons, a world-class cultural exchange program. Invited by the Shanghai Theatre Academy to represent Australia, Alexander will be one of the main collaborators at the Shifting Horizons event.

Shifting Horizons is an innovative performing arts cultural exchange by collaborators from China and Australia. Held in Shanghai from October to December this year, the program includes international workshops, lectures and performances.

The event is hosted by the Shanghai Theatre Academy, and facilitated by notable Chinese film and theatre director Guy Yi An with independent choreographer Amanda Phillips from Australia.

The program offers a melting pot of opportunity and artistic creativity, along with the development of cultural ties between the participants.

Alexander graduated with First Class Honours in a Bachelor of Music (Composition) from the Elder Conservatorium of Music at the University of Adelaide last year. He is currently completing his Masters in composition at the Conservatorium and has rapidly earned a reputation as an emerging composer.

In awarding the grant, ETSA Utilities Chief Executive Officer Lew Owens said: "We are a great believer in the youth of South Australia and this grant will allow a very promising artist to develop and display his skills on the international stage. We are pleased to be able to acknowledge this talent artist."

## Child study targets mental illness, learning problems

story from page 1

Ms Searle's research is funded by the University of Adelaide, the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund and the Rotary Club of Adelaide.

The research is being conducted in the Research and Evaluation Unit at the Children, Youth and Women's Health Service. Her supervisors are Professor Michael Sawyer and Dr Lauren Miller-Lewis (Paediatrics) and Dr Peter Baghurst (Public Health).

The support for Ms Searle's research by the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund is part of the Fund's \$2.2 million contribution to medical research for 2006.

Story by Scott Arthurson and David Ellis

# A tall order for builders

## ■ Public Health

The building industry could be in for a shake up following the results of a University of Adelaide study that has found Australians are outgrowing the regulation height of safety barriers and balustrades.

In researching the height of balustrades, stairs, ramps and escalators in Australian buildings, Health and Social Sciences student Emily Caruana found that nearly 25% of men have cause for concern.

"Almost a quarter of men now have a centre of gravity higher than the minimum balustrade height of 100cm," the final-year undergraduate student said.

"The minimum required height of safety barriers on stairs, ramps and escalators is even lower, at 865mm."

Emily undertook the research as part of a public health internship within the Injury Surveillance and Control Unit in the South Australian Department of Health.

Her project was instigated by an incident in a suburban shopping centre in Adelaide in 2005 when an 18-year-old woman sustained serious head injuries after falling six metres over the side of a balustrade.

"Falls from, out of, or through a building or structure are the leading cause of fall deaths in Australia among people aged 15-44, but this type of injury could potentially be avoided," Ms Caruana said.

"The current building code regulation for balustrade height, which has not been altered since 1988, may not be sufficient to avoid accidental falls."

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics' most current records (from 1995), 25% of the male population are 180cm or more in height, which means their centre of gravity is 101cm or higher.

"Over time, both the height and the weight of Australians has increased, but the regulation height of balustrades has not been altered to reflect these changes" Ms Caruana said.

Ms Caruana said that the average Australian adult weighs four kilograms more than they did in the late 1980s. For men this extra weight tends to be located in the chest and waist area and this causes an uneven weight distribution, which can cause the body's centre of gravity to move upwards.

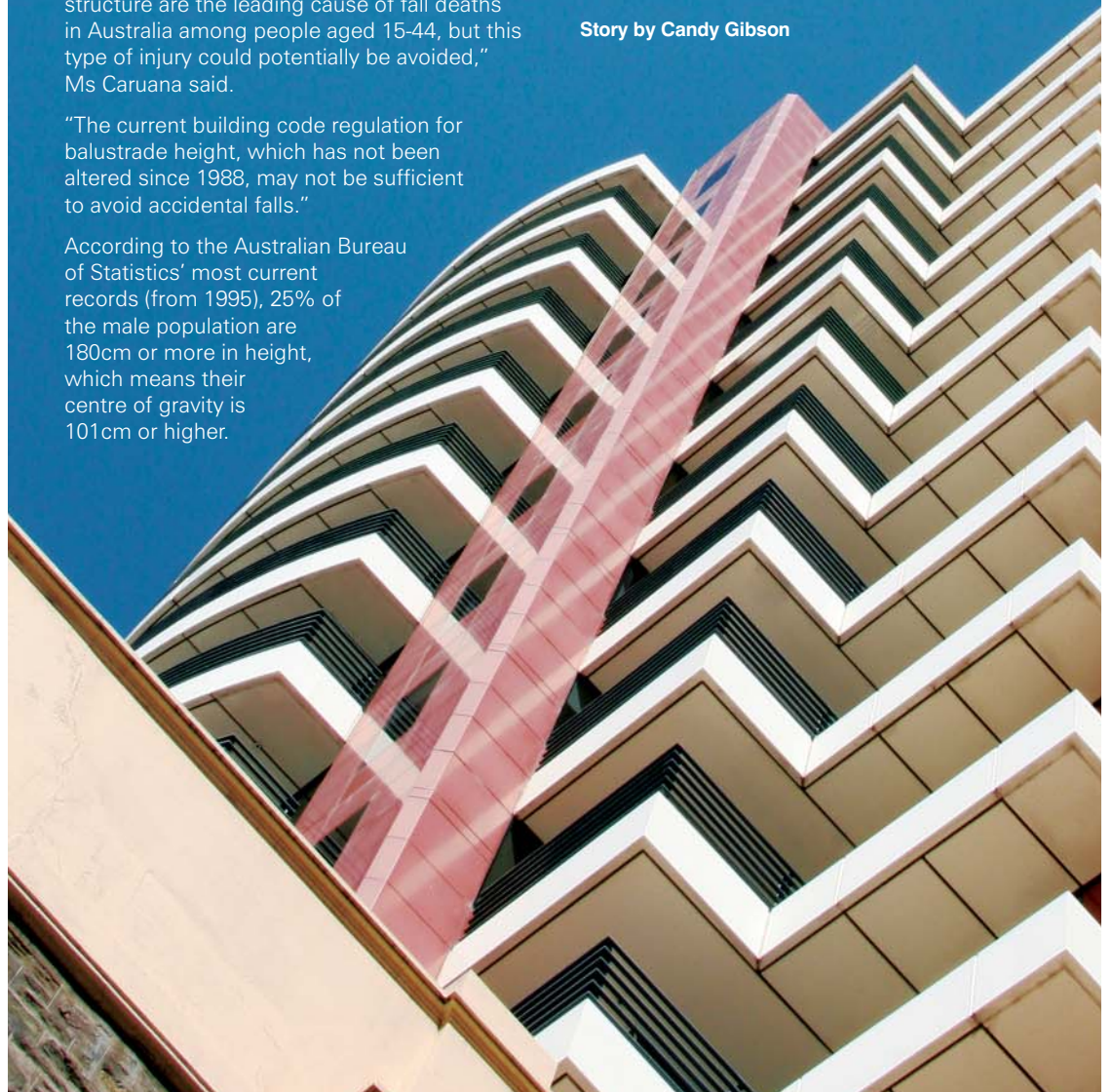
Most women are still covered by the current standards, although 5% exceed the 100cm centre of gravity.

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reports that injuries due to falls are the second leading cause of injury mortality in Australia. In 2001/02, 39 cases of spinal injury were also due to falls from a height of more than one metre.

While the current barrier heights were set in 1988, the last notable studies of centre of gravity were conducted in 1922 for males and 1938 for females.

Ms Caruana's studies were supervised by Dr Ron Somers from the Injury Surveillance and Control Unit and Dr Afzal Mahmood of the Discipline of Public Health at the University of Adelaide.

Story by Candy Gibson



# University mourns Agent General

## ■ Alumni

The University of Adelaide has lost one of its most distinguished graduates with the untimely death of South Australia's Agent General, Maurice de Rohan OBE, aged 70, who lost a battle with cancer last month.

"Agent General de Rohan was an outstanding and distinguished graduate of the University who helped us enormously in recent years with building our alumni chapter in London," Vice-Chancellor Professor McWha said.

"His death is a sad loss for both the University and the State, and we pass on our deepest sympathies to his family."

Earlier this year Professor McWha presented Agent General de Rohan with a Distinguished Alumni Award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the University, the community and his field of work.

Maurice de Rohan graduated from the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Technology in 1960 and embarked on a spectacular career.

He was founding partner of Kinnaird Hill de Rohan and Young, which became Kinhill Engineers, and later Brown & Root Asia. In 1976 he moved to the UK and was appointed Agent General in January 1998, a London-based position with a role of encouraging investment, trade and tourism to South Australia.

At the time of his death Agent General de Rohan was Patron of the Combined UK Chapters of South Australian University Alumni Associations and regularly provided tangible assistance in supporting chapter activities.

He was tipped to be South Australia's next Governor after the retirement of Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-Nelson in mid 2007.

Story by Candy Gibson



## Dr David L. Hayman (1929 - 2006)

### ■ Obituary

David Hayman, who retired as Reader in Genetics in 1992, was closely associated with the University of Adelaide for more than 50 years.

In his final year for the B.Ag.Sc. degree at the Waite Institute in 1952, David obtained a splendid grounding in genetics with Professor D.G. Catcheside and George Mayo and Jean Mathieson as Lecturers in the new Department.

In 1953 he began a study of cross-incompatibility in the grass *Phalaris coerulescens* which led to his PhD and a paper sent for publication early in 1956 with his discovery of a novel genetic system with two separate gene loci, both with multiple alleles, controlling incompatibility. A similar discovery was reported for rye in 1954 by Lundqvist in Sweden. Hayman and Lundqvist are now acknowledged as co-discoverers of the genetic basis for incompatibility found in all grass species that have been studied.

After several years as a Research Officer in the CSIRO Division of Plant Industry, David came to Adelaide as a Lecturer in Genetics in 1959 and began a big project on marsupial cytogenetics.



From studies of chromosome morphology and banding patterns in Australian and South American species, he identified two contrasting themes in marsupial evolution: i) conservation of chromosome number and morphology, and ii) chromosomal fission events leading to an increase in chromosome number.

After Bennett and Hope observed very much higher genetic recombination frequencies in males than in females in *Sminthopsis crassicaudata*, David found (in the first systematic study of meiosis in both sexes of a marsupial) that paralleling this observation, there was pronounced distal localisation of chiasmata in all autosomes at meiosis in females but not in males. He found

similar differences in a South American marsupial, suggesting an ancient origin, but not all species are affected.

David maintained his interest in incompatibility in *Pcoerculescens*, supervising studies of mutations where the incompatibility has been completely or partially lost and after retirement he worked with Professor Peter Langridge at the Waite Institute in an attempt to clone an incompatibility gene from pollen.

David is remembered as an inspiring teacher of cytology and genetics. An excellent supervisor of research students, he always encouraged them to develop and test their own ideas, never forcing his opinions on them. He was very pleased that so many of his students went on to distinguish themselves in scientific work. Whilst Assistant to the Dean of the Faculty of Science (1960-75) and later as Dean, he built lasting friendships with many in the wider university. He served on the University Finance Committee (1982-86), the Wilderness School Council (1969-84) and as President of the Genetics Society of Australia (1979).

David enjoyed collecting early maps and books and he recently gave some 17th century texts to the University Library. It thus seems especially fitting that the University has now established the Dr David Hayman Memorial Book Fund, with donations to this fund becoming part of an endowment, the income from which will be used to purchase books for the Library.

Contributed by Henry Bennett

# Cellist stars in concert finale

## Music

Talented soloist and second-year music student Louise McKay (cello) will be a major feature of the fifth concert in the Elder Conservatorium of Music Evening Concert Series, Finale.

To be held at 6.30pm on Saturday 25 November in Elder Hall, the concert will open with one of the greatest concertos in the cello repertoire, Dvorak's Cello Concerto, written in 1854-5 while Dvorak was head of the New York Conservatory of Music.

Louise, who is a Bachelor of Music Performance student at the Elder Conservatorium, grew up in Perth and is currently studying with Janis Laurs. She has been studying cello since she was seven years old and has received numerous awards and prizes.

In 2004 she was the youngest recipient of a scholarship to attend the Australian National Academy of Music in Melbourne, where she completed the Advanced Performance Program, and in the same year was the youngest semi-finalist in the Gisborne International Recital Competition in New Zealand, receiving the 'Most Promising Player' Award.

This year, Louise was awarded the inaugural Kamala Khurana

Scholarship for Music Performance, which was donated to the Elder Conservatorium by Professor Ashok Khurana, a former head of the Australian School of Petroleum, in memory of his late mother. This award allowed Louise to travel to the Czech Republic where she was one of only 50 cellists selected worldwide to compete in the Prague Spring International Music (Cello) Competition.

At the concert on 25 November, Louise will perform with the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Conductor-in-Residence Keith Crellin.

The closing work in the program is the well-loved Symphony No. 2 by Rachmaninov, written in 1906-7 while the composer was in exile in Dresden. This gloriously rich symphony displays all the hallmarks of a Russian work – melancholy, optimism, sadness and sheer emotion.

Tickets are \$22 adult/\$17 conc/\$12 student, available from BASS or dial'n'charge 131 246. Tickets will also be available at the door. University staff at concession price.

For more information, please contact the Manager, Evening Concert Series, on (08) 8303 5286 or email: [helen.simpson@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:helen.simpson@adelaide.edu.au)



Louise McKay  
Photo by Brenton Edwards

# Students hear message of success

## Community

How to 'think big' and be successful in life were the key messages for more than 200 primary and secondary students from schools in Adelaide's western region at a special Enterprise Day organised by the University of Adelaide recently.

Opened by the Hon. Paul Caica, Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education, the University of Adelaide's Western Region Enterprise Day aims to

inspire young people with stories from young successful business and professional people.

The day involved students from schools in the Port Adelaide Enfield, Charles Sturt and West Torrens council districts and was held at the Parks Community Centre, Angle Park.

The students were shown the ins and outs of business, "and what they need to do in order to make a success of their social and economic lives", said Ben Yengi, the University of Adelaide's Community Engagement Programs Coordinator.

An important part of the day featured students hearing from a cross-section of people who come from a wide range of educational backgrounds and who have taken charge of their own futures.

"The day is about enterprise and entrepreneurship, sharing personal success stories and ways others have achieved their potential – giving students options, ideas and alternatives to follow," Mr Yengi said.

During the day, the secondary students presented some of the ideas they had gained in a Powerpoint presentation. Primary

students were involved in a project to make a product, and then produced and performed a 30-second commercial to market it.

The day was supported by the University of Adelaide, City of West Torrens, City of Port Adelaide Enfield, City of Charles Sturt, Inner West BEC, Martin Mediation, Young Achievement Australia, Western Futures, the Tall Poppy Campaign and Educational Consultants.

Story by Robyn Mills



# Farmer's prize for fields of gold

## Alumni

A pioneer of a radically different and very successful system of growing grain in Australia has won the 2006 Award of Merit from the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association (ROCA).

The winner is 1961 Roseworthy graduate Brian Wilson of Lismore in south-western Victoria.

Mr Wilson was among a small group of people who in the mid 1990s set out to grow grain on raised beds in high rainfall country.

"In 1997 there were about 300 ha of raised beds used for grain growing in southern Australia. Today there are about 100,000 ha spread across various States, and the crop yields that are being achieved on these beds are quite spectacular by Australian dryland grain growing standards," said ROCA president Mark Seeliger.

"This farming system enables profitable and environmentally sensitive grain growing to occur on country previously considered far too wet.

"In receiving the Award of Merit, Brian... joins a distinguished group of producers, researchers, scientists and other Roseworthy personnel who have been acknowledged by ROCA over the past 46 years for their outstanding contribution to the advancement of primary industry," Mr Seeliger said.

Mr Wilson and his family moved from Coomandook in South Australia's upper south-east in 1984 to the much higher rainfall country at Lismore where livestock production was the dominant income earner.

"But when wool prices crashed in the early 1990s we had to diversify and I began experimenting with growing wheat on land where underground drains were installed, and then on raised beds," Mr Wilson said.

2006 Award of Merit winner Brian Wilson in a canola field on his property in Lismore  
**Photo courtesy of ROCA**

"The yields were very promising so I became involved with a small group of people near Geelong, ultimately to become the 900 member-strong Southern Farming Systems group, and we began a series of raised bed trials in 1996.

"The trials and associated field days, including those on my property, have continued and expanded.

"Today there are 530 ha of raised bed and deep drained crops on our farm and I am averaging about 5t/ha for wheat, 5.5 t/ha for barley and 3.5 t/ha for canola.

"If it wasn't for raised beds, cropping would be restricted to a very small area on our farm and many others in the high rainfall region of southern Australia."

## Adelaide has new thinker

One of the world's leading experts on early childhood development, Dr Fraser Mustard, is South Australia's latest Thinker in Residence.

Dr Mustard launched his term in SA recently at the University of Adelaide as part of a four-speaker panel addressing the issue of "Early Childhood Development – The Dawn of a Paradigm Shift", sponsored by the University's Research Centre for Reproductive Health.

A Canadian academic, Dr Mustard co-chaired the Early Years Study for the Government of Ontario in 1998, considered a landmark study both for Canada and for the rest of the world.

In 2005 Dr Mustard established the world-leading Canadian Council for Early Childhood Development, a body which brings together community and scientific networks, business, education, health, research, early childhood development communities and private citizens – all championing the study's recommendations.

"Dr Mustard will assist South Australia in becoming a national and international leader in early childhood, providing us with strategic advice on the future of this field," according to Brenda Kerr, Director of the Adelaide Thinkers in Residence program.

The State Government program brings world-leading thinkers to live and work in Adelaide for a period of two to six months.

## Development & Alumni Events

### Cornell Chapter for Arts and Performing Arts

**Event:** AGM and Dinner featuring speaker Nicholas Jose and music by the Grainger Quartet

**Date:** 17 November

**Time:** AGM 6pm, dinner 7pm for 7.30 start

**Cost:** \$50

**Venue:** St Mark's College, 45 Pennington Terrace, North Adelaide, SA 5006

**RSVP:** Bookings essential by 8 November. Contact the Development and Alumni office at (08) 8303 6356 or fax: (08) 8303 5808.

### Friends of the University of Adelaide Library

**Event:** Small Press and New Writing, Patrick Allington and Dominique Wilson in conversation

Patrick Allington is an editor of the new literary magazine, *Etchings*, published by Ilura Press. He has a PhD in Creative Writing from the University of Adelaide and writes regularly for newspapers such as *The Australian*. Dominique Wilson is the Managing Editor of the quarterly Adelaide magazine *Wet Ink* which began publication last year and which is dedicated to publishing new writing. She is currently working towards a PhD in Creative Writing.

**Date:** Thursday 23 November

**Time:** 6 for 6.30pm

**Venue:** Napier Building, Lower Ground, Room LG29, North Terrace Campus, University of Adelaide

**Cost:** Admission is free and open to the public: *gold coin donation invited*.

**RSVP:** by Tuesday 21 November to: karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au or phone (08) 8303 4064

# Adelaide wins Uni Games honour

## ■ Sport

The University of Adelaide has had its best result at the Australian University Games, winning eight gold medals and capturing one of the Games' highest honours, the Doug Ellis Trophy.

Awarded to the university that scores the most points per capita, the Doug Ellis Trophy was presented to the University of Adelaide at the end of the national five-day sports event.

Adelaide won gold in men's football, women's basketball, mixed beach volleyball, swimming (200-metre individual medley), and three rockclimbing events (advance climbing, advance bouldering, and intermediate bouldering) as well as overall champion of rockclimbing.

University of Adelaide competitors also won eight silver medals and five bronze medals.

A number of high placings in fourth and fifth helped to push the University of Adelaide up in the points tally, securing the Doug Ellis Trophy on a per capita basis (ie, number of students).

"This has been the most outstanding result for the University of Adelaide since the Australian University Games began in 1993," said the

Executive Officer of the University of Adelaide Sports Association, Gloria Chester.

"Adelaide has never won the Doug Ellis Trophy before, and this was a real treat at the end of a very satisfying week of competition," she said.

The President of the Sports Association, and coach of the University's Men's Soccer Team, Andres Munoz-Lamilla, said Adelaide's excellent results all came down to one thing: hard work.

"The students' spirits were high going into these Games – they had a very good preparation, and that helped them to stay among the top of the field in many sports," he said.

The 2006 Australian University Games, held in Adelaide in September, involved 41 universities and 5000 competitors. More than 300 students from the University of Adelaide took part in the games, with many more involved as volunteers to help with the running of the event.

Story by David Ellis



The winning team (plus reserves) in the mixed beach volleyball event

**WE LANE**  
PRINT GROUP  
**UNDERSTAND  
YOUR  
DEADLINES**

Colour printing  
Digital printing  
Direct mail processing  
Digital imaging  
Internet development  
Software development  
Graphic design

Telephone  
08 8179 9900

Facsimile  
08 8376 1044

Website  
www.laneprint.com.au

## Sophie excels

Postgraduate student in the University of Adelaide's Masters of Commerce program Sophie Zeng has been named the State Champion for Microsoft Office Specialist Excel.

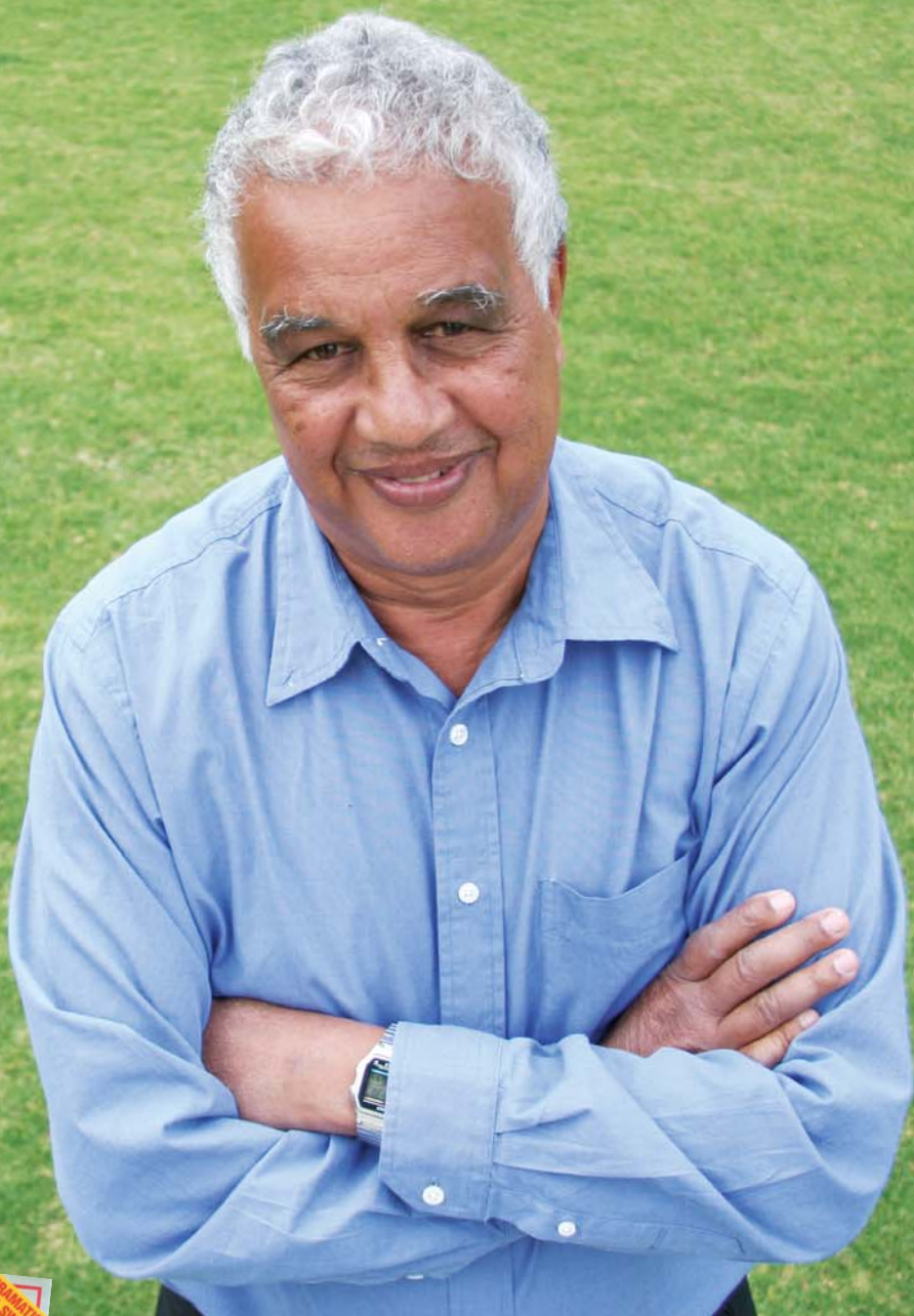
Sophie completed her Excel training with the University's IT services earlier this year. Now in her last semester, Sophie hopes to secure work in the accounting field once she finishes her PhD.

A record 40,000 students from 66 countries participated in several rounds of local, country and regional championships, culminating in the World Championship in August.



Story and photo by Candy Gibson

# Caught out: cricket's controversies in new book



## ■ Anthropology

Cricket, once widely regarded as a gentleman's sport, has had its share of controversial incidents.

Sledging, chucking, racism, abusive fans, and political intervention have all impacted on the game. Even terrorism has taken its toll on cricket in recent history.

A new book by a University of Adelaide academic takes a detailed look at the wonderful and sometimes not-so-wonderful world of cricket.

The author is Adjunct Associate Professor Michael Roberts from the Discipline of Anthropology. Dr Roberts has a strong interest in the politics and controversies surrounding cricket and has written a number of books on cricket, always with a focus on his native Sri Lanka and on the Australian-Sri Lankan interaction.

His latest book, *Essaying Cricket: Sri Lanka And Beyond*, is an anthology of cricket articles written predominantly by Dr Roberts. It also reprints many articles written by notable figures in the cricket



world, such as former English cricketers and now commentators Peter Roebuck and Mark Nicholas, Indian cricket journalist Harsha Bhogle, Australian cricket writer Mike Coward, West Indian cricket commentator Tony Cozier, and Sambit Bal, editor of the world's most popular cricket website, [www.cricinfo.com](http://www.cricinfo.com), which is owned by the cricketers' 'Bible', Wisden.

Issues covered include abuse by players and fans, disputed bowling actions, death threats, bomb blasts, match fixing, the impact of the 2004 tsunami, team selection, and world cricket and its politics.

Spanning 372 pages and including a vast selection of 157 photographs, *Essaying Cricket* is one of the more serious contributions among the many cricket books being published this summer.

Dr Roberts said he was fortunate to be able to combine his research interests with a love of cricket.

"Some of my past work has focused on the impact of suicide bombers and other terrorism, and how the Tamil Tigers were able to disrupt everyday life in Sri Lanka. Among those acts of terrorism was the Central Bank bombing in Colombo in 1996, which resulted in Australia pulling out of their World Cup match in Sri Lanka," Dr Roberts said.

"Cricket is one of those world sports that naturally lends itself to serious discussion.

"I've written a lot about cricket in the past, but this is my biggest book, with many contributions from very respected writers and commentators, and many photographs that are either very hard to come by now in other sources or never seen before.

"One of my favourites is a photo of Shane Warne giving Arjuna

Above: Adjunct Associate Professor Michael Roberts

Photo by David Ellis

Left: *The Bulletin's* coverage of Australia's decision to pull out of the World Cup match in Sri Lanka in 1996, because of the threat of terrorism

Ranatunga a hug in February 2005. This signified a change in Australian-Sri Lankan cricket relations and was directly brought on by the tragedy of the 2004 tsunami."

*Essaying Cricket: Sri Lanka and Beyond* is printed by Vijitha Yapa Publications in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and sells for around AUD \$65 in hardcover or AUD \$45 for softcover, plus postage. To order a copy, visit the publisher's website: [www.vijithayapa.com](http://www.vijithayapa.com)

Story by David Ellis

The *Adelaidean* has one signed (softcover) copy of *Essaying Cricket* to give away to a lucky reader. To win, be the first caller to answer this question: how many gold medals did the University of Adelaide win at the 2006 University Games? Phone (08) 8303 5414 with your answer, and leave your name and contact details.