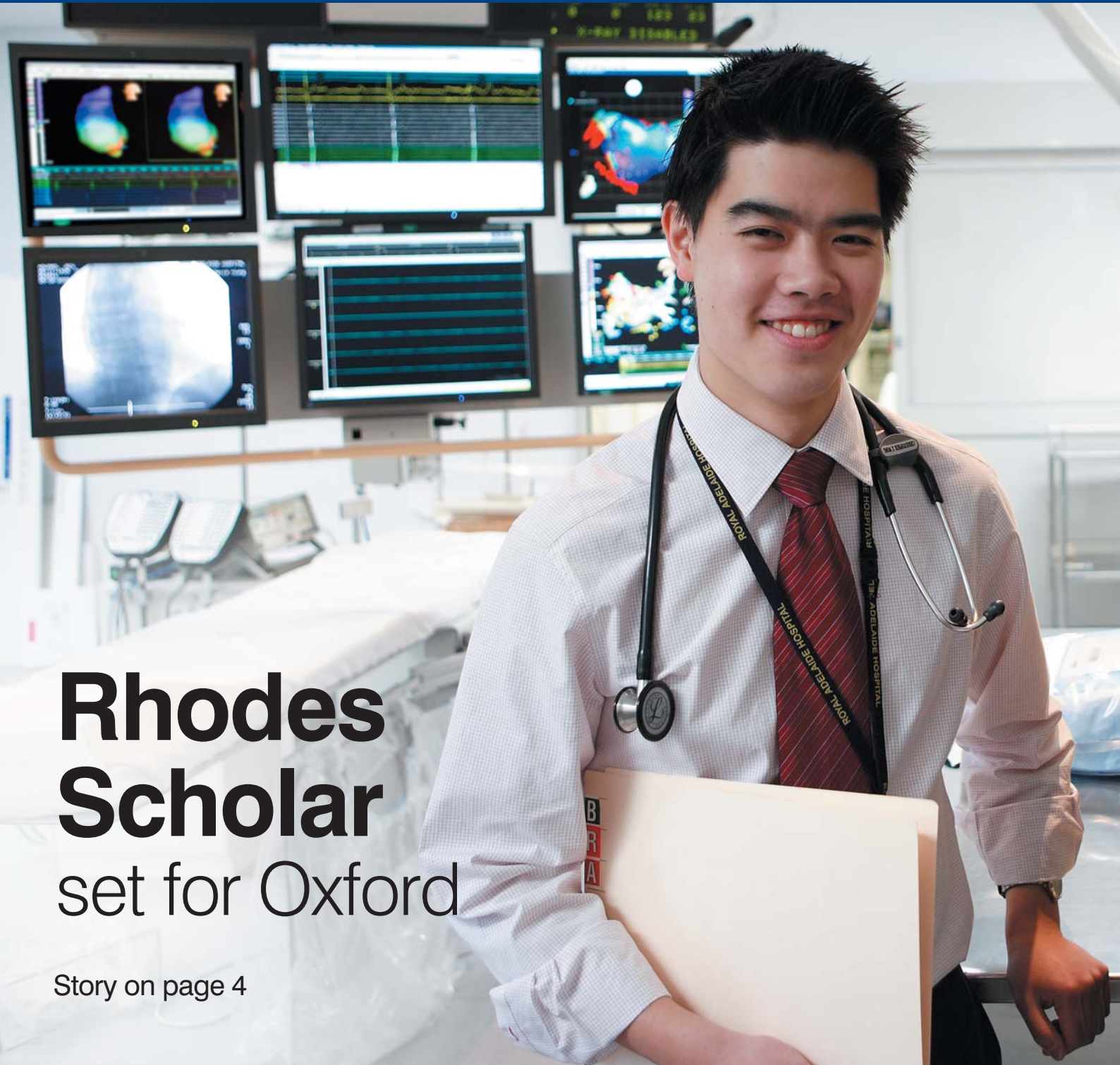


# Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

November 2010 | Volume 19 | Number 9 | Free Publication



## Rhodes Scholar set for Oxford

Story on page 4

# Our future in agriculture

While the focus of agriculture is changing, it remains a cornerstone for education and research at University of Adelaide.

We are seeing a wonderful revitalisation of both the Waite and Roseworthy campuses as the University's investment in infrastructure and research capacity is realised through state-of-the-art facilities and bold plans for the future.

Capitalising on a long tradition of excellence in agricultural research and teaching, we are building on these strengths and developing an environment that will encourage and support the next generation of students and academics.

This direction, starting with a restructure of the undergraduate agricultural degrees and a firm commitment to major capital works, and culminating in record levels of competitive research income, has helped to strengthen the University's reputation as a internationally recognised centre for agriculture.

This was highlighted at the recent openings of the Waite Research Institute, further cementing its well-deserved standing in plant research, and the first of five general public veterinary health centres at Roseworthy. It clearly demonstrated the University's resolve to keep plant and animal sciences at the forefront of our academic agenda.

From a resource viewpoint, Roseworthy has the facilities, equipment and land to effectively teach all of the practical and field aspects of agriculture including broad acre farming. Students benefit enormously from the unique combination of field and laboratory experience, which is enhanced by a range of industry internships and placements across Australia.

The establishment of the School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences and the new veterinary health centres will further attract research and teaching interest in Roseworthy at a time when the region is preparing for significant growth in population, industry and infrastructure.

Yet as we acknowledge the success of our research and education outcomes and our world-class facilities, we are acutely aware of the responsibility that we share with the community in ensuring that the agricultural sector is well supported for the long term.

A fundamental key to this viability is quite simple – undergraduate students.

Looking ahead, one of the greatest challenges facing the University, and more importantly the farming sector, is offering an attractive learning pathway for young people in agriculture. While postgraduate study continues to grow in agriculture, undergraduate enrolments have remained relatively constant in the past few years. However, an overarching shift in student interest in science has the potential to erode numbers in coming years.

This is fuelled by an unfortunate and persistent misconception that job prospects in the industry are uncertain.

Our agricultural graduates continue to achieve some of the highest employment outcomes across the University. The demand for our students is strong and the prospects look even brighter.

Imparting this message to our young people, the local community and the media is critical. Ironically, from the most challenging of environments come the most extraordinary and unexpected of opportunities. This is especially so in agriculture, where the industry relies heavily on the development and application of research that will help to solve some of the most pressing global issues including food security.

The University, the agricultural industry, governments of all levels and the public must work together to ensure that the needs of the sector, and the communities that are sustained by farming, are met today and into the future.



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

## Adelaidean

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# Summer School is just around the corner

It's not summer yet, but interest in the University of Adelaide's Summer School for 2011 is already heating up.

Summer School offers a wide range of courses to current students who want to "fast-track" their degrees, as well as to members of the community who just want to "dip their toe in the water".

"In recent years the University of Adelaide has made a focused effort to increase the take-up of our Summer and Winter School courses, offering greater flexibility to students and giving them a wider range of study options," said Professor Fred McDougall, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Academic).

"The response has been outstanding. In 2009 we saw significant growth in student numbers, with our Summer School enrolments up by 26%, and enrolments in 2010 were up again by a further 20%. There are now thousands of students who take advantage of this flexible study opportunity each year.

"Being able to meet students' desire for these courses means we have given them yet another reason to value their learning experience at the University of Adelaide," Professor McDougall said.

For the 2011 Summer School, a range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses are being offered in the areas of: business, computer science, economics, education, entrepreneurship, commercialisation and innovation, engineering, humanities and social sciences, international trade, law, mathematics, psychology, public health, and sciences.

Professor McDougall said there were different reasons for students to take one or more of these courses.

"For current University of Adelaide students, Summer School is an ideal opportunity to accelerate their study, catch up on missed courses, and spread their study load over the whole year," he said.

"Students from other universities may also want to do a course with us over the summer, which will give them extra credit towards the programs they're studying at their own institutions.

"There are also non-award courses, which any member of the community is able to do. These courses provide people of all ages with the opportunity to broaden their educational experiences, learn for personal interest, or build upon their own practical experience."

Professor McDougall said Summer School 2011 enrolments would open on Monday 6 December.

"We encourage potential students to apply as soon as possible because in our experience these classes fill very quickly," he said.

**For more information about the range of courses offered during Summer School 2011 and the enrolment process, go to: [www.adelaide.edu.au/summerschool](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/summerschool)**

Story by David Ellis

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# Medical student takes Rhodes to Oxford

University of Adelaide final-year medical student Christopher Wong has been named the 2011 Rhodes Scholar for South Australia.

Mr Wong, 24, of Toorak Gardens, is the University's 103rd Rhodes Scholar and will study for a Masters of Global Health Science at the University of Oxford.

"I chose this course because it offers graduates the opportunity to develop skills in a wide range of medical areas, including public health, health economics and management, epidemiology and statistics," Mr Wong said.

"Undertaking my Masters at Oxford will provide me with a foundation for further doctoral studies, and also a future career as an academic and health advocate, in which I hope I can take a leadership role.

"As I have progressed through university, I have realised that one can make a greater difference in healthcare via a range of pathways, including research, teaching, health administration and medico politics," he said.

The scholarship is the latest honour for the former Pembroke School student who has been lauded by some of the country's most respected medical researchers for his achievements to date.

Mr Wong graduated as Dux of Pembroke School in 2004, matriculating with eight perfect SACE scores (20s) after undertaking nine SACE subjects at Year 12 level.

In 2008 while in the 4th year of his medical degree, Mr Wong was awarded one of the nation's top cardiovascular prizes for his research into atrial fibrillation, the most common heart rhythm disorder in the world.

He was the first undergraduate student in the country to win the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand's Affiliate Prize for Scientific Excellence, chosen ahead of 2000 other delegates, most of who were established postdoctoral scientists with years of experience behind them.

Earlier this year he was a guest presenter at the European Society of Cardiology's Scientific Congress in Stockholm, providing results of a study on Australian heart disease.

Mr Wong is a former President of the Adelaide Medical Students' Society, an accomplished violinist who has played with the Australian University Medical Orchestra, a keen marathon runner, participating in the London Marathon in 2009, and a fundraiser for both the National Heart Foundation and Oxfam.

He is also currently a student representative on the University of Adelaide Council.

He is described by one of Australia's leading cardiologists, Professor Prash

Sanders, as "the most outstanding student" he has ever supervised.

The Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide, Professor Justin Beilby, said Mr Wong was an "excellent choice" for South Australia's next Rhodes Scholar.

"What is impressive about Chris is his passion to pursue quality clinical training at the same time as developing a research career. He wants to be part of an exciting partnership between clinical care and research and this is one of the new challenges for health care," Professor Beilby said.

Nine Rhodes Scholars are chosen in Australia each year – one for each State, plus three for Australia at large.

The selection of the Rhodes Scholar for South Australia is made by a committee chaired by the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR, and comprising former Rhodes Scholars and community leaders.

The Scholars are chosen based on their academic achievements, as well as community work, leadership and sporting activities.

Story by Candy Gibson

Above: Rhodes Scholar Christopher Wong  
Photo by Michael Mullan

# News in Brief

## New University logo

The University of Adelaide has refreshed one of its most visible symbols – its logo.

Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha said that with significant change across the higher education sector, it was imperative that the University was well-prepared to succeed in an increasingly competitive environment.

“The refreshed logo is an important step towards lifting the University to a new level of confidence and determination, as reflected in our recent (*Times Higher Education World University*) rankings, and reinforces our core values – leadership, innovation, excellence and relevance,” he said.

He said the refreshed logo would help to “position the University effectively to current and potential students and staff, government, industry and the wider community”.

## Uni wins export award

The University of Adelaide has won the 2010 Business SA Education and Training Export Award for its significant contribution to international education.

The award acknowledges the University’s role in educating approximately 7000 international students from more than 90 different countries around the world.

The University will now go into the national finals held in Sydney next month.

## Postgraduate coursework online

The University of Adelaide is now offering the first of a suite of online postgraduate coursework degrees.

The University has engaged the online service firm, Colloquy, to support this new initiative. Colloquy is part of Kaplan, Inc., a subsidiary of the Washington Post Company. It is a leader in partnering with universities to deliver online programs with global reach and provides a range of integrated distance learning services, including round-the-clock technical support for students.

The first online program to be offered is the Master of Applied Project Management.

<http://mapm.adelaide.edu.au>

## Institute links with global partner

The University of Adelaide’s internationally renowned Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) has signed an exclusive partnership with one of the world’s leading providers of health products and services, Wolters Kluwer Health.

JBI, a global leader in evidence-based healthcare, will provide exclusive online access of its resources and information to the Netherlands-based company, which maintains operations in 35 countries.

Under the agreement, JBI will deliver the latest advances in evidence-based practice to Wolters Kluwer Health’s global customers in the medical, nursing and allied health fields.

The Joanna Briggs Institute is an international not-for-profit research and development operation within the University of Adelaide’s Faculty of Health Sciences.

<http://health.adelaide.edu.au/jbi>



# State’s best uni teacher

A University of Adelaide staff member has been named the most outstanding university teacher in South Australia in 2010.

Associate Professor Elizabeth Koch OAM, a flautist and Head of Woodwind and Performance at the University’s Elder Conservatorium of Music, has received one of 24 national awards from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council for teaching excellence in a tertiary institution – and the only award from this state.

Associate Professor Koch’s teaching and performance career spans 35 years. The accomplished flautist credited her students, colleagues and fellow musicians for the award.

“I love teaching because every single day I learn something different. I don’t think the students realise this, but the fact that each one has a unique personality, different ability and technical style actually informs my own teaching,” she said.

Associate Professor Koch has also kept pace with innovative new teaching methods, including being the first university music teacher in Australia to use Wimba Voice, a web-based vocal instruction software tool, to improve her students’ flute playing skills.

The software enables students to record practise sessions in the privacy of their room and upload them on to the University’s website where they are directly emailed to Associate Professor Koch for her feedback.

“It means I can give the students instructions and advice in between their

weekly face-to-face lessons so they learn to analyse and dissect their practise in a much more useful way. It is a fantastic breakthrough in teaching,” she said.

Associate Professor Koch said constant interaction with her colleagues and music peers around the world was essential in her own professional development.

“Attending conferences, performances and networking with music teachers exposes you to different teaching techniques, which you can then adapt for your own students,” she said.

In January 2011, Associate Professor Koch will take six flute students to London and Paris for a three-week tour. This will include classes with some of the world’s best flautists at the Royal College of Music, BBC Symphony and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as the École Normale Supérieure.

Associate Professor Koch will receive her \$25,000 teaching award at a ceremony in Canberra on 16 November, at which the 2010 Prime Minister’s Award for Australian University Teacher of the Year will be announced.

Story by Candy Gibson

Above: Associate Professor Elizabeth Koch (left) with flute students Nicole Pearce, Helen Seppelt and Anna Cooper  
Photo by Candy Gibson



## Justice prize for indigenous health research

Dr Alice Rumbold, a perinatal epidemiologist, has won a national award for her work helping indigenous women to overcome life-threatening reproductive diseases.

Dr Rumbold, a Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and a member of the Robinson Institute, has been awarded a 2010 Future Justice Medal for demonstrating leadership and initiative in Australia's most disadvantaged sector.

For the past five years Dr Rumbold has worked with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, researching why indigenous women are more susceptible to reproductive cancers and other health problems.

Dr Rumbold said indigenous people faced health setbacks on a day-to-day basis, with sexually transmitted infections such as gonorrhoea and Chlamydia unacceptably high in Aboriginal communities, compounded by other health problems such as diabetes, polycystic ovary syndrome and obesity.

"These are all having a marked impact on the reproductive health of Aboriginal women, particularly in pregnancy outcomes," Dr Rumbold said.

"Infertility, pelvic inflammatory disease and ongoing pelvic pain are the end result of these health issues and the tragedy is that most of these conditions are largely preventable," she said.

The Director of the Robinson Institute, Professor Rob Norman, said Dr Rumbold demonstrated leadership and achievement "beyond her years" as a researcher.

Dr Rumbold is currently chief and associate investigator on several NHMRC grants that total more than \$2.4 million and was South Australia's Tall Poppy of the Year for 2009.

Story by Candy Gibson

Above: Dr Alice Rumbold  
Photo by Candy Gibson



## Study rejects benefits of fish oil capsules

A University of Adelaide study has found no evidence that taking fish oil capsules during pregnancy can help reduce the risk of post-natal depression, contrary to international recommendations.

In an article published recently in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, Professor Maria Makrides said a study of 2400 pregnant women in five Australian maternity hospitals between 2005 and 2009 supported this finding.

Professor Maria Makrides, who is Professor of Human Nutrition at the University of Adelaide and Deputy Director of the Women's and Children's Health Research Institute, said the results also contradicted existing recommendations that fish oil capsules taken in pregnancy help newborn babies' language and cognitive development.

In a five-year study led by Professor Makrides, half the women in the latter stages of pregnancy were given fish oil capsules and the other half vegetable oil capsules. There was no significant difference in either the incidence of post-natal depression or neuro-developmental outcomes of their children.

"These results show that recommendations to increase omega-3 fatty acids in pregnancy are being made without sound evidence," Professor Makrides said.

She said previous findings from the United States and Europe suggesting the benefits of fish and seafood during pregnancy were based on observational studies that could not separate the influence of social variables from the intake of fish and seafood.

"Despite the paucity of hard evidence, women are being recommended to increase their intake of fish oil fats in pregnancy and the nutritional supplement industry is successfully marketing products with fish oil, claiming they optimise brain function in both mother and infant.

"Before omega-3 supplementation in pregnancy becomes widespread, it is important to establish not only any benefits, but also any risks to mother or child," she said.

While depressive symptoms were more common among women with a previous or current diagnosis of depression, there was no difference between the control group and those taking fish oil capsules.

Similarly, 700 children from the study group who were assessed for cognitive and language development at 18 months of age showed no marked differences.

The study was funded by a \$1.6 million National Health and Medical Research Centre (NHMRC) grant awarded to Professor Makrides in 2004.

Other University of Adelaide researchers involved in the study included Professor Bob Gibson from the School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, and Professor Philip Ryan and Lisa Yelland from the Discipline of Public Health.

Story by Candy Gibson

Photo by iStock

# Students launch scramjet at Woomera

University of Adelaide engineering students are helping to develop Australia's involvement in future hypersonic flight and space industries.

The successful launch of a scramjet – a supersonic air-breathing combustion engine – at Woomera last month has produced flight test data on combustion in air above the speed of sound.

The experimental external burning scramjet was designed and launched by a team of undergraduates from the School of Mechanical Engineering. It reached a maximum velocity of Mach 1.9 (2200kph) and an altitude of 5080m.

"This was a unique concept being tested because we are trying to burn fuel in the supersonic airstream around the outside of the vehicle itself," said Dr Con Doolan, Senior Lecturer and the students' supervisor.

"There is no real engine as we commonly know it. Thrust is produced by cleverly shaping the outside of the vehicle so the burning fuel pushes it along. You can imagine the potential savings in weight and cost associated with that."

The technology has applications for future hypersonic aircraft that could theoretically fly from Adelaide to London in just a few hours, as well as space launch and missile applications.

Dr Doolan said there was currently no experimental data available of external supersonic mixing and the combustion process.

"The launch went extremely well," he said. "They [the students] obtained quality data of the external mixing and combustion process, which they are now analysing."

Student Phillip Mellen said: "This project has been a fantastic opportunity to gain experience while working with both industry and academic personnel, developing an idea from its early concept stages right through to completion."

"This type of educational experience is very rare and worthwhile and shows the high-quality education our Aerospace graduates obtain," Dr Doolan said.

"This project has allowed a group of undergraduate students to design and construct a cutting-edge aerospace research flight test vehicle, mount it on a rocket and test it at Mach 2 over the Woomera Test Range.

"There are very few universities in the world who can give their undergraduates that kind of education."

The project is sponsored by BAE Systems (who manufactured the scramjet), the Sir Ross and Sir Keith Smith Fund and Teakle Composites, with launch services provided by the Australian Space Research Institute.

Story by Robyn Mills



Above: The scramjet blasts off at Woomera Test Range  
Below: University of Adelaide Aerospace Engineering students at Woomera (from left) Thomas Minge, Jia Kok, David Kemp, Phillip Mellen, Scott Beinke and David Wilke



# Graduations 2010

The University of Adelaide's September graduation ceremonies were marked by a number of firsts.

They were the first graduation ceremonies to be presided over by the University's new Chancellor, the Hon. Robert Hill.

It was also the first time that the ceremonies were broadcast via live video streaming on the Internet, meaning family, friends and others who were unable to attend could still watch the ceremonies live.

More than 1600 students graduated at the September ceremonies, which also saw arts, music and speedway entrepreneur Kym Bonython AC and two distinguished scientists, Professors Peter Colman and Brian Matthews, awarded honorary doctorates.

They were admitted to the degree of Doctor of the University (*honoris causa*) in recognition of their outstanding contributions to society.

Mr Bonython was a schoolboy when he presented his first radio jazz program in 1937. He went on to become a long-time broadcaster and major promoter of jazz music in Australia over many years.

He was a competitor and promoter at Rowley Park Speedway from 1954 to 1973 and also a champion speedboat racer.

He also contributed significantly to the Australian arts community as a serious collector, gallery owner, writer and member of many arts boards and committees.

Mr Bonython was made both an Officer (1981) and Companion (1987) of the Order of Australia in recognition of his service to the arts and the community.

Professors Peter Colman and Brian Matthews are both Bachelor of Science and PhD graduates of the University of Adelaide and have gone on to make outstanding contributions in the field of structural biology.

Professor Colman determined the structure of a protein on the influenza virus using x-ray crystallography and led the development of the world's first anti-influenza drug, Relenza. Relenza and the related drug Tamiflu are used around the world to combat influenza pandemics.

Professor Colman is Head of the Structural Biology Division at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Victoria and has won many awards, including the Australia Prize in 1996.

Professor Brian Matthews, Professor of Physics at the University of Oregon and one-time postdoctoral supervisor of Peter Colman's, is an international leader in structural biology, with the use of x-ray and other imaging techniques at the heart of his work. His work in determining the structures of proteins has been immensely important in human health and drug development. He was awarded a Doctor of Science by the University of Adelaide in 1986 in recognition of his research and publications in this field.

Videos of the September 2010 graduation ceremonies are still available to view online. Simply go to: [www.adelaide.edu.au/student/graduations](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/graduations)







Above left: Professors Peter Colman and Brian Matthews rejoined their *alma mater* on 29 September to receive honorary degrees from the University. Both are Science PhD graduates from the University, and both have gone on to excel in their chosen fields (see main story).

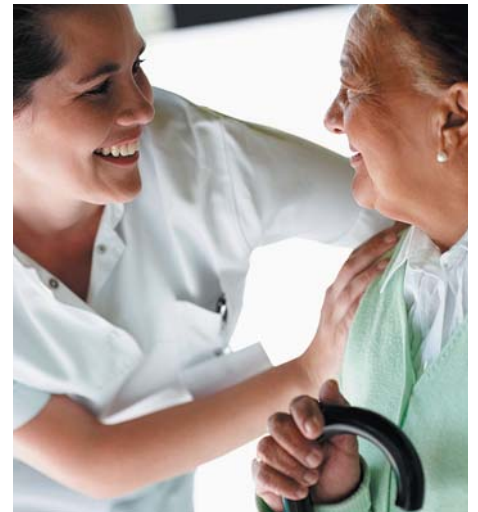
Photo by Wayne England

Above: Dr Lata Jayaram graduated with her PhD in Medicine from the University of Adelaide on 28 September, 57 years after her mother Laletha achieved her medical degree, also from Adelaide. The two are pictured after the ceremony. Laletha and her husband flew from Auckland for her daughter's graduation. Dr Jayaram is now working at the Monash Medical Centre in Melbourne.

Inset: Laletha, pictured at her University of Adelaide graduation in 1957

Left: The graduation ceremony on 28 September for three PhD students in Dental Education – Dr Dimitra Lekkas, Dr Vicki Skinner and Dr Nattira Suksudaj – was an historic event. It was the first time in Australia that three new PhDs in Dental Education were awarded from the same school in the same ceremony. Prior to this, Australia had only one PhD graduate in this area. They are pictured with Associate Professor John Kaidonis, Associate Professor Tracey Winning, Professor Johann de Vries and Professor Grant Townsend.

Photos by Candy Gibson and Wayne England



## Nursing scholarships for aged care

South Australia's largest aged care provider has joined forces with the University of Adelaide as a 75th anniversary gift to help one of the state's fastest growth sectors – an ageing population.

Resthaven Incorporated, an aged care community service of the Uniting Church that has been operating since 1935, will support 10 scholarships for full-time nursing students at the University of Adelaide.

The scholarships, on offer from 2011, are open to both undergraduate and postgraduate nursing students and are the first for the University's Discipline of Nursing program.

Discipline Head Professor Alison Kitson said the scholarships would help ensure that the state's older people were given the best possible care by highly qualified professionals.

"South Australia has the oldest population in the country, with almost 16% of the state's residents aged 65 or older," Professor Kitson said.

"Trends indicate that in the next 25 years this sector will grow three times as fast as the younger population, so it's imperative we attract excellent students into aged care nursing.

"The University welcomes the generous support of Resthaven in helping us to meet demand."

This year the Discipline of Nursing celebrates a special milestone – 15 years of teaching, learning, research and achievements that continue to transform health care in Adelaide and internationally.

Resthaven CEO Richard Hearn said the 75th anniversary of his service in 2010 provided an opportunity to celebrate and affirm the work of its staff, volunteers, carers and family members within Resthaven.

"We are excited to provide eight undergraduate and two postgraduate scholarships for students in their second and final year of Nursing at the University of Adelaide over the period 2011-2014," he said.

The undergraduate scholarships are valued at \$10,000 each and the postgraduate scholarships are \$5000 each.

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



## Study into future of family farms

ANZ and the University of Adelaide Business School have partnered to conduct a major study into the issues impacting the future of Australia's family-run farms.

The three-year research project focuses on succession planning for family farms, the development of options to ensure their sustainability and farmers' access to credit and appropriate financial management practices.

Grain and livestock producers from across Australia are invited to participate in the study, which is being run by PhD student Andrew Harrison under the supervision of Professor Ralf Zurbrugg, Head of Research at the University of Adelaide's Business School.

"This research will be the first real examination of both the constraints and opportunities family farms will be faced with in the future," Professor Zurbrugg said.

"ANZ's depth of expertise and networks in agribusiness will be invaluable to the success of this study."

ANZ Head of Agribusiness Development, John Redpath, said: "One of the most critical issues for the sustainability of the family farm today is its ability to fund the transfer from one generation to the next. We trust the findings of this research will help address some of these funding issues in this ever-changing credit environment."

The study will look at: the role of the farm's business structure in securing finance; prevalence and attitudes to risk management strategies employed by farmers; the role of banks in understanding and catering to farmers' financial needs; farmers' attitudes to business and financial risks; and financial institution involvement in, and understanding of, farming businesses at head office and branch level.

The outcomes of the study are expected to provide advice to farmers on how to manage succession planning, better access capital and increase awareness of good financial management practices that will lead to a long-term future for their business.

Australian grain and livestock producers interested in the study should contact Andrew Harrison from the University of Adelaide Business School on 08 8313 0749 or email: [andrew.t.harrison@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:andrew.t.harrison@adelaide.edu.au) or go to: [www.anz.com/agribusiness](http://www.anz.com/agribusiness)



## Concert tribute to operatic great

A tribute concert honouring one of the most renowned opera singers of the 20th century, Greek soprano Maria Callas, will be held at Elder Hall on Saturday 6 November.

*The World of Maria Callas* concert will mark the culmination of Adelaide's Hellenic Cultural Festival and is being coordinated by the Elder Conservatorium of Music and the Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia.

Guila Tiver (mezzo-soprano) and Patrick Power (tenor) from the Elder Conservatorium of Music and guest soprano Rosalind Martin will present some of Callas's operatic favourites in the two-hour concert.

They will be joined by the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Keith Crellin, in an evening featuring operatic pieces by Gluck, Mozart, Rossini, Bizet, Delibes, Saint-Saëns, Offenbach, Dvorák, Puccini and Verdi.

Music from *Madama Butterfly*, *Carmen*, *Così fan tutte* and including *Nessun Dorma* – one of the world's most beloved arias – will form part of the program.

The concert will not only pay tribute to Maria Callas, but also acknowledge the influence of ancient Greek tragedy and myths on the emergence of opera as an art form.

Channel 10 news presenter George Donikian will emcee the event, which will be followed by Greek food, wine and music on the Goodman Lawns in front of Elder Hall.

Tickets for *The World of Maria Callas* concert are: \$25 (adults), \$20 (concession) and \$15 (students).

Meanwhile, the Lunchtimes at Elder Hall concert season draws to a close this month with two outstanding programs on offer.

On 5 November, the Adelaide Chamber Players led by violinist Natsuko Yoshimoto will perform Mendelssohn's popular *Octet for Strings*. Japanese-born Yoshimoto is the Concertmaster of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and one of Australia's most sought after violin virtuosos.

The last lunchtime concert of the year, on 12 November, will see four rising stars from the Elder Conservatorium of Music compete in the Beta Sigma Phi Awards.

Student pianists Mekhla Kumar and Warwick Ambrose, cellist Jack Ward and flute player Anna Cooper will vie for \$2400 in prize money, with the winner announced at the end of the concert.

**For more information and bookings for any of these concerts, contact Elder Hall Manager Claire Oremland on 08 8303 5925 or email: [claire.oremland@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:claire.oremland@adelaide.edu.au) [www.elderhall.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.elderhall.adelaide.edu.au)**

Above: Greek soprano Maria Callas, who will be the subject of a tribute concert at Elder Hall this month

# No fear of sea level rise

Many people living in Australia's most vulnerable coastal communities do not perceive they are at serious risk, despite projections of a 1.1 metre sea level rise by the end of this century.

These are the findings of University of Adelaide PhD student Christopher Button, who has spent the past two-and-a-half years looking at how Australia's most vulnerable coastal dwellers perceive risks such as predicted sea level rises.

"The majority of people living on the coast are concerned about climate change but are confident they will adapt to rising temperatures, more frequent storms and even sea level rises," Mr Button said.

The 24-year-old doctoral student surveyed coastal communities on the Yorke Peninsula in South Australia and also Rockingham, a seaside resort south of Perth in Western Australia.

Both are non-metropolitan areas with low-lying shorelines and houses built very close to the beaches.

"Most residents of these areas accept that climate change is real, but for various reasons are not too worried about how it will impact on them," Mr Button said.

"For many people, their coastal home is a holiday or weekender residence, or the predictions regarding sea level rises are too far in the future for them to worry about.



"This could be misplaced optimism, particularly if we are talking about the long-term impacts of climate change on Australia's coastline," he said.

"If we plan to avoid new developments in the most vulnerable coastal communities and develop strategies for people most at risk to relocate from the coast, there would be less upheaval down the track."

Mr Button said many of those surveyed had already taken some action to mitigate climate change, including recycling more of their household products, installing solar panels and reducing water usage.

A 2009 report by the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency predicts that a sea level rise of approximately 1.1 metres by 2100 will erode up to 100 metres of shoreline, with

many coastal dwellers feeling the effects from 2030 onwards.

The report estimates that up to \$63 billion of existing residential buildings (about 247,000 houses) on Australia's coastline are at risk of inundation from a 1.1 metre sea level rise.

Mr Button is in the final year of his PhD, completing his thesis on *Climate Change and Coastal Vulnerability*, within the Discipline of Geographical and Environmental Studies at the University of Adelaide.

He is being supervised by Professor Nick Harvey (Executive Dean, Humanities and Social Sciences), Dr Douglas Bardsley and Dr John Tibby.

Story by Candy Gibson

Photo by Charlie Lawrence



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## Physics leader wins Telstra business award

Professor Tanya Monro, Director of the University's Institute for Photonics & Advanced Sensing (IPAS), will head to the national finals of the prestigious Telstra Business Women's Awards this month after winning one of the awards at state level.

Professor Monro is recognised in the international scientific community for breakthroughs in optical fibre research. The Institute brings together 130 physicists, chemists and biologists to research sensing technologies.

An ARC Federation Fellow, since 2005 Professor Monro has generated more than \$65 million in research funding and won numerous awards for her work.

At the 2010 Telstra South Australia Business Women's Awards, held in Adelaide last month, Professor Monro won the White Pages Community and Government Award.

Telstra Chief Marketing Officer and Telstra Business Women's Awards Ambassador Kate McKenzie said the winners of the South Australian awards were a diverse group of successful business women whose achievements provided inspiration for the careers of countless others.

"Since 1995, the Telstra Business Women's Awards have celebrated the achievements of outstanding Australian business women," Ms McKenzie said.

"The finalists from South Australia this year join the tradition of women who have made significant contributions both across the state and within their local communities."

All of the South Australian winners proceed to the national finals of the 2010 Telstra Business Women's Awards, which will be announced in Melbourne on 11 November.

Above: Professor Tanya Monro with her White Pages Community and Government Award

Photo courtesy of the Telstra South Australia Business Women's Awards

# Vet health centre draws public attention

Around 3000 members of the local community have taken a behind-the-scenes look at the University of Adelaide's new \$28 million Veterinary Health Centre at the Roseworthy Campus.

Roseworthy, which is home to the School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, held a Community Open Day last month ahead of the official opening of the new Veterinary Health Centre.

It was the public's first chance to see inside the new facility, which includes a Companion Animal Health Centre for the treatment of dogs, cats and other domestic pets. That centre has just opened to the general public on 1 November.

"I was very pleased to see so many people coming to see our new Companion Animal Health Centre, which was a major drawcard for the public during the Open Day," said Professor Gail Anderson, Head of the School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences.

"Many people who attended the day were thinking of using our services and they were curious to see the quality of our facilities. Feedback from them has been overwhelmingly positive – we were taking bookings almost straight away."

The Companion Animal Health Centre offers a wide range of services, including areas of specialisation such as intensive care, ultrasound, radiology, separate isolation wards and two fully equipped surgical theatres.

The Community Open Day also gave members of the public a chance to see the Vet School's state-of-the-art teaching, diagnostic pathology and research facilities.

"Thousands of those who visited us took a behind-the-scenes tour of the Vet Health Centre, conducted by our own staff and students," Professor Anderson said.

"Our live surgery proved to be one of the biggest attractions. While many stood to watch the surgery being performed, it was also broadcast live into our seminar rooms so that visitors could watch on large screens, instead of looking directly into the surgical theatre. This technology will be an important part of our teaching, so it was great to be able to share that with the local community."

The official launch of the Veterinary Health Centre will be held in early November.

**For more information about the centre, go to: [www.adelaide.edu.au/vhc](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/vhc)**

Story by David Ellis

Below: Professor Gail Anderson (right), Head of the School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, explains to a public tour group how the Surgical Skills Suite at the new Veterinary Health Centre at Roseworthy will be used to help teach students

Photo by Frederick Chew





## United front on mining and energy research

Helping the mining and energy sectors protect the environment, increase efficiency and reduce costs are the main aims of a major new research institute launched at the University of Adelaide.

The Institute for Mineral and Energy Resources (IMER) was launched at the National Wine Centre last month by South Australian Mineral Resources Development Minister the Hon. Paul Holloway.

Guest speakers included Beach Energy Managing Director Reg Nelson, whose address dealt with current and future challenges for the mining and energy sectors and the need for integrated research.

The Institute for Mineral and Energy Resources will create mutually beneficial partnerships between the mineral and energy industries and leading research teams from across the University of Adelaide.

"The world's rapidly increasing hunger for mineral and energy resources offers great potential economic benefits for our state and Australia. At the same time, it raises enormous technical, social and environmental challenges and conflicting points of view. We need to maximise the benefits to society while minimising any social and environmental impacts," said IMER Director Professor Stephen Grano.

"We need research that is integrated in its approach. We will bring together world-

leading researchers across a wide range of disciplines, including science, engineering, economics, business and social sciences, all working in close partnership with industry."

Professor Grano said IMER would add value to the mining and energy industries with research targets, including: lowering the cost and increasing the success rate of resource discovery; lowering energy costs in mineral production; adding value to mineral products; improving the efficiency and lowering the cost of renewable and conventional energy sources; reducing operating costs; and improving safety.

Other potential environmental gains included minimising discharges and designing for sustainability.

He said there were tremendous gains to be made for all through closer collaborations between the mineral and energy sectors.

"Mining is highly energy intensive," Professor Grano said. "Finding alternative energy sources and reducing energy consumption and cost is imperative for the mining sector."

In launching the new Institute, Mr Holloway emphasised the importance of

resource discovery and development to South Australia's future prosperity.

"The Institute is expected to build multi-disciplinary research teams and partnerships across geoscience, engineering, economics, business and social sciences disciplines," Mr Holloway said.

"The technical contributions and innovations provided by these teams and partnerships will no doubt assist the state's growing mineral resources and energy industries."

University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha said: "IMER is building on the University's renowned expertise in the geosciences, bringing in a range of other disciplines to work together to make significant impact on these big issues facing the mining and energy sectors. Research that promotes the efficient and sustainable use of resources will have major benefits for society, industry and the environment."

**For more information about IMER, go to [www.adelaide.edu.au/imer](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/imer)**

Story by Robyn Mills

# Uni rowers strike gold

Rowers from the University of Adelaide have made history by winning the Oxford and Cambridge Cup for the second year in a row.



The men's eights crew from the Adelaide University Boat Club won the cup – and the gold medal – while competing at the Australian University Rowing Championships, part of the Australian University Games in Perth.

The Adelaide crew again beat the University of Sydney in the finals, winning by one stroke (approximately 1.8 metres).

Coached by Boat Club President Mike Jeffries, the winning crew consisted of Lachlan Ward, Pat Maddern, Michael Shannon, Matthew Bolt, Ned Kinnear, Owen Giradi, Tom Sullivan, Nick Andrew, and Lucy Hyde (coxswain).

"This the first time since the cup race began in 1888 that the University of Adelaide team has won the coveted trophy two years running," said Mike Daws, Executive Officer of the Adelaide University Sports Association.

"Given Sydney University's stranglehold on the cup for several years now, we were thrilled to retain the cup for Adelaide."

The Oxford and Cambridge Cup is a solid silver trophy standing nearly a metre tall. It was donated in 1893 by Australians who rowed for the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

Mr Daws said the rowing win was the highlight for Adelaide at the Australian University Games in Perth.

"This year, Adelaide Uni excelled in the team sports, bringing home a healthy collection of medals. The Adelaide rowing team finished third overall among the competing universities in a very pleasing all-round performance," he said.

The honours list comprised:  
**one gold** (rowing – men's eights)  
**four silver** (men's hockey; rowing – single scull; rowing – women's lightweight quad; and Ultimate Frisbee)  
**three bronze** (women's hockey; rowing – women's eights; rowing – women's coxed fours).

Mr Daws said the University's success at the Australian University Games followed a series of premiership wins for our sports clubs – collectively known as "the Blacks" – over the winter season.

"University of Adelaide teams won no less than eight premierships – one in soccer, two in hockey, two for baseball, and three premierships for Australian Rules Football teams. It was a fantastic result for the University and was a great source of pride for all of our Blacks teams," he said.

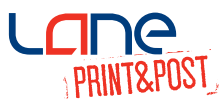
**For more information about sport at the University of Adelaide, go to: [www.adelaide.edu.au/sports](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/sports)**

Story by David Ellis

Above: The winning team from the Adelaide University Boat Club, which secured the Oxford and Cambridge Cup two years running

Photo courtesy of the Adelaide University Sports Association

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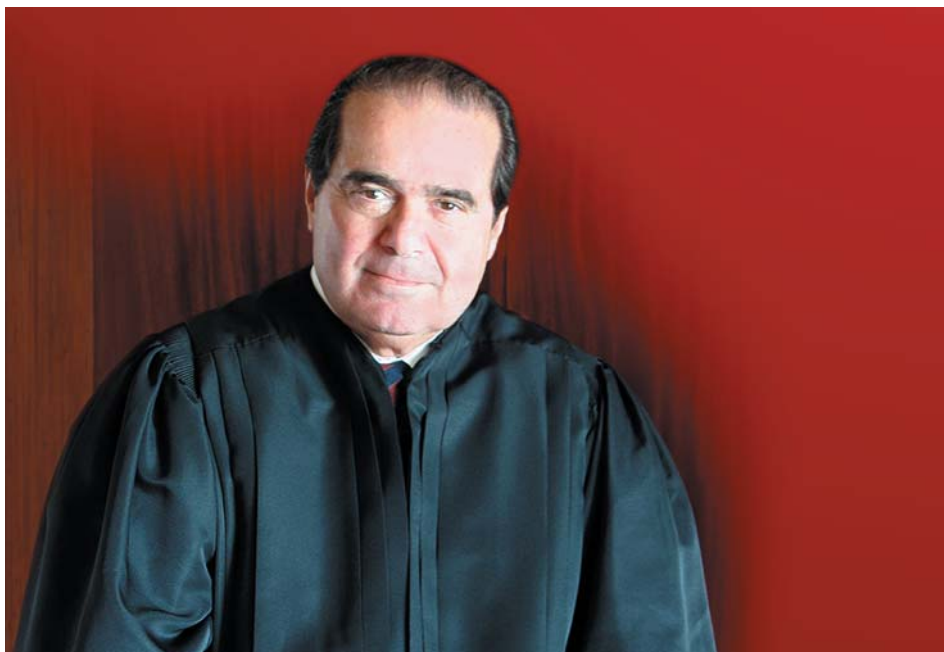
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## Outspoken judge at law conference

Members of Australia's legal fraternity will converge on the University of Adelaide next year to take part in a major event highlighting the importance of legal advocacy.

The 21st Century Advocacy Conference, being held on 4 February 2011, will bring to Australia US Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.

Considered to be the most outspoken Justice of the US Supreme Court, Justice Scalia is known for his aggressive oral argument and scathingly critical written opinions.

He was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the US Court of Appeals in 1982 and then to the Supreme Court in 1986.

As well as speaking at the conference, Justice Scalia will deliver the 2011 James Crawford Oration on International Law, on 2 February.

The 21st Century Advocacy Conference will feature topics such as trends in advocacy and the changing nature of the profession. In particular, the conference will address the issue of modernisation of advocacy in the courts and likely future developments.

"Justice Scalia is widely known among the world's legal profession, both as a brilliant legal mind and a huge personality," said Professor John Williams from the University of Adelaide's Law School, and member of the conference organising committee.

"At the conference in Adelaide, Justice Scalia will provide a comparative perspective on developments in Australia and the United States. While there are

shared experiences, the two legal cultures are different and have given rise to differing approaches.

"The University and members of the legal committee are excited by the prospect of having such a leading jurist in Adelaide."

Professor Williams said the opportunity to entice Justice Scalia back to Australia stemmed from a visit he made in the 1980s and friendships he made at that time.

"The work of Justice Tom Gray of the South Australian Supreme Court and Judge Mark Griffin from the District Court has been instrumental in securing Justice Scalia for the conference," Professor Williams said.

Other key speakers at the conference include Chief Justice John Doyle AC (Chief Justice of South Australia) and the Hon. Michael Kirby, AC, CMG (former Justice of the High Court of Australia).

Sessions will also be devoted to the gender revolution in the profession – celebrating the centenary of the *Female Law Practitioners Act 1911* – and a young lawyers event.

**For more information about the conference and the James Crawford Oration, go to:**  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/justice-scalia-2011](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/justice-scalia-2011)

Story by David Ellis

Above: US Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia

## Alumni

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Adelaide alumni have access to a range of exclusive benefits, services and discounts – and each month we bring you the pick of the bunch for a featured special.



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This is a great opportunity to sample some great value, easy drinking wines for this entertaining period. However, stocks are strictly limited. Offer valid until 30 November 2010 or while stocks last.

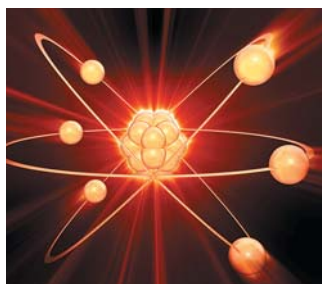
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[www.alumni.adelaide.edu.au/privileges](http://www.alumni.adelaide.edu.au/privileges)





## Research Tuesdays

SHARING GREAT RESEARCH  
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### Quantum Leaps

From subatomic to celestial: exploring the great discoveries and mysteries of the physical universe

In 1911 physicist Ernest Rutherford made the remarkable discovery that the atom was not the base component of matter, but contained mainly empty space with electrons orbiting a tiny nucleus.

Since then, our physics knowledge has exploded. The components of the atomic nucleus have been identified. Three of four forces that influence them have been explained. And we've uncovered the laws of quantum mechanics governing the interaction of energy and matter.

Yet physicists agree this will pale in comparison with discoveries still to come, involving phenomena not seen since the Big Bang.

In this captivating presentation, the University of Adelaide's Professor Anthony Thomas will discuss the journey so far and explore the most exciting questions now being tackled by his team.

**WHEN:** 5.30-6.30pm Tuesday 9 November

**WHERE:** Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Building, North Terrace Campus

**ADMISSION FREE, BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

Register online:

[www.adelaide.edu.au/researchtuesdays](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/researchtuesdays)

or call: 08 8303 3692

### MBA Alumni Association (MBAAA) – networking breakfast

**When:** From 7.30am onwards, Wednesday 3 November (first Wednesday of every month)

**When:** East Terrace Continental Café, 6 East Terrace, Adelaide

The MBAAA Executive Committee welcomes contact from MBA alumni and current students. If you are interstate or overseas and are interested in coordinating or participating in networking gatherings with MBA alumni colleagues living in the same city, contact the Executive Committee on: [mbaaa\\_committee@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:mbaaa_committee@adelaide.edu.au)

### Thinking Critically About Sustainable Energy – Demand Side Management

Part of a public seminar series organised by the Centre for Energy Technology in conjunction with the Royal Institution of Australia.

For more info email: [environment@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:environment@adelaide.edu.au) or visit: [www.adelaide.edu.au/environment/cet](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/environment/cet)

**When:** 6.00pm Wednesday 3 November

**Where:** The Science Exchange, 55 Exchange Place, Adelaide

**Cost:** Free, but bookings essential

**RSVP:** [www.riaus.org.au](http://www.riaus.org.au)



### Sylvia Chan Memorial Public Lecture

*Wither China's Democracy? Political Development in the Hu Jintao Era* by Professor Joseph Cheng (City University of Hong Kong). Presented by the Confucius Institute and the Centre for Asian Studies at the University of Adelaide. [www.confucius.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.confucius.adelaide.edu.au)

**When:** 6.00pm Thursday 4 November

**Where:** Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Building, North Terrace Campus

**Cost:** Free – but registration is essential

**RSVP:** to Asa Hogben on 08 8303 4798 or email: [confucius.institute@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:confucius.institute@adelaide.edu.au)

### Cultural Illumination – Artist Talk

Artist Joe Felber will discuss his work on display in the foyer of the Barr Smith Library, *Eleven Blackboards and Rêve Idèle Atlas*. Presented by Art & Heritage Collections at the University of Adelaide.

**When:** artist talk: 1.00pm Friday 5 November  
exhibition: on now until Sunday 7 November during library opening hours

**Where:** Foyer, Level Three, Barr Smith Library, North Terrace Campus

**Cost:** Free

**RSVP:** please call 08 8303 3086 or email: [art.heritage@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:art.heritage@adelaide.edu.au)

### Lunchtimes at Elder Hall

Adelaide's favourite lunchtime series of music concerts concludes its 2010 season, with performances from the Adelaide Chamber Players and violinist Natsuko Yoshimoto, and the Beta Sigma Phi Awards, featuring rising stars from the Elder Conservatorium of Music. [www.elderhall.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.elderhall.adelaide.edu.au)

**When:** 1.10pm Friday 5 November and Friday 12 November

**Where:** Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus

**Cost:** Tickets \$7, available at the door from 12.30pm on the day of the concert

### Wine @ Fridays Uncorked

Celebrate the end of the week and enjoy a selection of sparklings, white and red wines. Make your way through the list and try something new or purchase a tasting flight, which includes a selection of wines.

For a true wine experience, "Meet the Maker" and enjoy a guided tasting of their wines. Sponsored by SC Pannell (5 November) and Grant Burge (19 November). [www.wineaustralia.com.au/news](http://www.wineaustralia.com.au/news)

**When:** 4.30pm Friday 5 November and Friday 19 November (Meet the Maker starts at 5.00pm)

**Where:** National Wine Centre of Australia, corner of Hackney and Botanic Roads, Adelaide

**Cost:** free entry. Meet the Maker: \$15 – bookings essential

**To book:** call 08 8303 3355 or email: [nwc.info@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:nwc.info@adelaide.edu.au)

### Evenings at Elder Hall – Concert 5

*The World of Maria Callas – an Opera Gala*, jointly presented by the Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia and the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra as part of the Odyssey Cultural Festival.

An evening of much-loved operatic numbers from *Madama Butterfly*, *Carmen*, *Così fan tutte* and including *Nessun Dorma*, one of the world's most beloved arias.

[www.elderhall.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.elderhall.adelaide.edu.au)

**When:** 6.30pm Saturday 6 November

**Where:** Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus

**Cost:** \$25 adult, \$20 concession; \$15 student. For a special Family Ticket deal, contact Elder Hall Manager Claire Orenland.

**To book:** call 08 8303 5925 or email: [claire.orenland@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:claire.orenland@adelaide.edu.au)

### Centre for Automotive Safety Research – free seminar series

*Impact testing – how it's used* by Andrew van den Berg and Giulio Ponte

<http://casr.adelaide.edu.au>

**When:** 4.00pm Wednesday 24 November

**Where:** Art Gallery Auditorium, Art Gallery of South Australia, North Terrace, Adelaide

**Cost:** Free

**RSVP:** Please register your attendance with Leonie Witter on 08 8303 4114 or email: [leonie.witter@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:leonie.witter@adelaide.edu.au)

### Friends of the University of Adelaide Library

Associate Professor David Paton: *At the End of the River: The Coorong and Lower Lakes*.

**When:** 6.00pm for 6.30pm Thursday 25 November

**Where:** Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, Barr Smith Library, North Terrace Campus

**Cost:** Free and open to all – gold coin donation invited

**To book:** by Tuesday 23 November, call 08 8303 4064 or email: [robina.weir@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:robina.weir@adelaide.edu.au)