Lower level project to revitalise campus

The designers of Canberra’s Parliament House, Mitchell/Giurgola and Thorp Architects, have teamed with prominent South Australian company Hardy Architects to win the University of Adelaide’s national design competition for its North Terrace campus.

University Council approved expenditure of up to $40 million on the five-year project at its July meeting. This project will be the first major new building constructed on the campus since the late 1970s, and is now entering the design development phase.

Demolition of the Fisher Building facing Frome Road and new buildings for Science and Engineering & Mathematical Sciences were at the core of the redevelopment.

A four-storey Bioscience and Biotechnology Complex behind Union Hall will house teaching and research facilities for Botany, Zoology, Genetics and Biochemistry. The Benham Building will be refurbished as a common undergraduate teaching suite.

A new Engineering & Mathematical Sciences Building behind the Mathematics Building and possibly a 300-seat lecture theatre linking the Mathematics and Engineering buildings will support expanding programs in Information Technology & Telecommunications.

The plan is construction of a glazed Galleria between the Benham and Mawson buildings, and the Union Hall, to link them and form a “gateway” to the Rivers to the Botanic Gardens. This east-west axis, visually and symbolically connecting the library building with the gardens, is one of three key lines of relationship which have shaped the architects’ conception for the site.

The second is a north-south emphasis, flowing from the current Engineering Buildings’ north entrance across the lawns to the new Bioscience and Biotechnology Complex and on to the River Torrens. Mooted within the plan is construction of a glazed Galleria between the Benham and Mawson buildings, and the Union Hall and the new Bioscience building, to link them and form a “gateway” to the Torrens and the park lands.

The third key line of relationship links the Medical School across to the new Mathematics and Engineering Building and then looks over the lawns to the portico of the Barr Smith Library. The space between the present Mathematics Building and the new Mathematics and Engineering Building (which will be built on a skewed angle to other buildings in the area) is envisaged as a north-facing, sun-filled Campus Square, with a student cafeteria in the new building opening directly onto this square.

Governance bill raises concern in Council

A Bill was introduced into State Parliament earlier in July which would markedly change the structure of the governing councils of all three South Australian universities.

The Bill, introduced by the Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education, Dr Bob Such, is the Government’s legislative response to the McGregor report into university governance.

The Council expressed serious concerns with the Bill at its meeting on 12 July, and reconvened the following day to formulate a detailed response.

The Bill would reduce the size of the Council of the University of Adelaide from 35 members to 18 to 20.

There would be 11 to 13 external members including:
- the Chancellor;
- seven people appointed by the Governor on the recommendations of a selection committee, comprising the Chancellor and six people appointed by the Chancellor in accordance with guidelines determined by Council;
- three people elected by the Senate; and
- up to two people co-opted and appointed by the Council.

The Bill stipulates that there be four staff members including two academic staff, elected by the academic staff, and two “ancillary” staff, elected by the “ancillary” staff.

There would be two student members including one undergraduate and one postgraduate, both to be “appointed or elected in a manner determined by Council after consultation with the presiding member of the Students’ Association”.

The Bill defines the role of the Council as the “governing body” with principal responsibilities for overseeing the management and development of the University, devising or approving strategic plans and major policies for the University, and monitoring and reviewing the operation of the University.

The Council has written to Dr Such expressing its concerns with the Bill.

To start, the Council believes no case has been put for the changes proposed.

Specifically, the Council is concerned to preserve the autonomy of the University and the democratic electoral process of its students, staff and alumni.

If there is to be a change the Council favors an additional undergraduate student representative, the election of eight external members by the Senate, six staff members (four academic, two general), and the co-option of three members.

The Council also raised concern about a provision in the Bill to put an eight-year cap on service for Council members.
Sub cruce lumen

When I moved into the Vice-Chancellor's office a couple of weeks ago Rod Page upgraded the lighting for me. "This will give you something to write about", he said. If you've passed by the front of the Mitchell Building you will have seen my new bright light that Carol Greenwood observes can be seen from South Terrace. I need lots of light to operate effectively and certainly feel a lot more comfortable in the office now this wonder has arrived. The Registrar will, of course, insist on wearing his shades when he drops in, but I have pointed out it only makes him look even more like one of the Blues Brothers.

Another change I've made to the Vice-Chancellor's office is to install one of the Frank Hurley photographs from the Mawson exhibition with the "Home of the Blizzard" label. This is a wonderful example of black and white photography which makes full use of the brilliant Antarctic light. It is for me a sharp reminder of the heroic journeys that Mawson and his colleagues undertook in exploring the Antarctic. It reminds me that such brave people were a part of our University and that their descendants are still well known in our city and connected with the University. It has been a particular delight to have Mawson's book University. It has been a particular delight to have Mawson's book University. It has been a particular delight to have Mawson's book University. It has been a particular delight to have Mawson's book...
Behind-the-scenes look at Uni life

The Madrigal Opera

Teaching and research from the classics department will be open to the public at the University of Adelaide’s first Open Day for 18 years on Saturday, August 5.

The treasures of three museums normally seen only by students and staff, five hours of free music and dance in Elder Hall, cultural, historical and artistic tours, and talks on topics as diverse as genetics and developmental economics are just some of the Open Day events.

Potential students and parents will also be able to see the latest in learning technologies from every University faculty, including the virtual classroom and the use of multimedia in teaching.

Active Vice-Chancellor Mary O’Kane says it will be a chance for people to find out how the University contributes to the social, economic, environmental and cultural life of South Australia.

“Open Day is also a great opportunity for people to look around the University and Terrace campus, to ask questions about courses and careers and to find out more about what student life at the University of Adelaide is all about,” Professor O’Kane said.

Highlights of the day include:

- The Madrigal Trail — follow the trail through the latest in research and teaching including hands-on activities from the biology, agriculture and marine science campuses and the aquarim tourism aquarim tour (meet tropical frog Big Bertha), understanding genes, and genetic technology, measuring human performance and the fossils and minerals of the Tate Geological Museum.
- Ceramics and culture and play — visit the Classics Museum, explore literary sites on the World Wide Web, find out how computer help students learn languages, visit Wilto Yerio, take guided tours of the historic North Terrace caucuses.
- Agricultural science research and displays — find out about native flower exporters, taste a trichite pancake, and refine your senses to pick up subtle tastes and aromas in wine.
- History and medicine — find out why many vertebrates in the neck of a giraffe... and how comparative medical science will change in the future. A volunteer from the South Australian Medical Ambulance Service will also be demonstrating cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) between 12 and 2pm on Open Day.
- Museums — visit the Tate Museum (geology), the Classics Museum (classical archaeology) and the Abbé Museum (comparative anatomy).
- Courses and Careers Expo — all the information you need about entry to the University of Adelaide through ATAR, VCE and IB courses, and the careers to which they lead, under the roof one on Broadway (the open air facilities available on Information Day, Monday 5 August, for a special Open Day Information Day program at Roseworthy Campus on Thursday 8 August).
- Music, dance, a behind-the-scenes look at a rehearsal of Shakespeare’s The Comedy of Errors, and a wide range of food and refreshments.
- The university bookstore, Unibooks, and campus computer shop, Computex, will also be open.

Open Day will run from 11am to 4pm on Sunday, 4 August. Detailed programs and maps will be available from four information tents at the North Terrace, Frome Road, Victoria Drive and Kintore Avenue entrances. Festival street tours will depart from the North Terrace information tent.

Public parking will not be available on the campus on Open Day. Parking will be available near the Medical School (enter from Frome Road), and at usual city parking stations.

—Patricia Cree

As Sunday, August 4 draws closer, I would like to congratulate the many staff and students who have been working hard to prepare for the University’s first Open Day for 18 years on their ingenuity, imagination and sheer hard work.

The activities and displays now being prepared offer amazing variety and depth. I am personally very looking forward to seeing them all. All faculties and services will be well represented, and Open Day will clearly demonstrate the contribution made by our teaching, research and community service to the economic, social, scientific and cultural development of South Australia.

I would like to invite all staff, if they are not already directly involved in their areas Open Day activities, to take this opportunity to explore areas of the University with which they may not be familiar, and to show family and friends our work environment.

And to those staff members who will be working just as hard again when thousands of school students arrive for Information Day on Monday 5 August, special thanks!

Mary O’Kane, Acting Vice-Chancellor

Dvide-bill: 0 pera in the E xtreme

The Madley Dance Space will be the venue for three nights of unique chamber opera in August when a new Australian premiere and the world’s earliest known opera are presented on the same program.

The three operas being performed are: A Madrigal Opera by Philip Glass and Adam de la Halel’s Robin and Marion, which is based on the build¬

ner Head of Drama, Frank Ford.

Glass wrote A Madrigal Opera in 1982, which originated from six vocal madrigals as being “completely written in terms of music but without words” (as per the authors in order to be completed for the theatre).
Agricultural Science PhDs on the move

Two University of Adelaide PhD candidates were among five nation-wide winners of the Farrer Memorial Travelling Scholarships announced recently by the Director-General of NSW Agriculture, Dr Kevin Sheridan.

The awards are designed to support overseas travel by postgraduates enrolled for a PhD on any aspect of field crop research.

Jason Eglinton from Plant Science will travel to the 7th International Barley Genetics Conference in Canada, next month. The conference, which is held every four years, is the pre-eminent international meeting in Mr Eglinton’s area of research on identification and characterisation of alternative alleles for malt enzymes from the wild barley Hordeum spontaneum.

Paul Nelson, who is in Soil Science, is researching the role of organic matter in maintaining the structure of sodic soils. These soils have poor conditions for plant growth due to clay dispersion, and their widespread distribution throughout the cereal growing areas of Australia poses major limitations to yield. Mr Nelson will visit the US and Canada to attend the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Agronomy/Soil Science Society of America in Indianapolis in November this year.
Anatomist breathes new life into old bones

Koala fingerprints, ancient diseases, the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, and the restoration of animal skeletons are all topics that seem to have little in common — but not to Professor Maciej Henneberg, from the University of Adelaide's Department of Anatomy and Histology.

The inaugural Wood Jones Professor of Anthropological and Comparative Anatomy, Professor Henneberg has been involved in the excavation of animal bones and human artefacts in many sites across the world, including South Africa and Italy. He has collaborated with other researchers to identify the kinds of diseases suffered by ancient Greeks; and he has helped determine the sex and age of people killed in Pompeii when Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD.

Professor Henneberg took up his position with the University in January where he is now supervising several doctoral students such as studying the way in which koalas' fingerprints resemble those of humans and apes, and has helped the excavation of animal skeletons at the University that can be used for comparative anatomy teaching and research.

"This work is on the borderline between hard science and general humanities," Professor Henneberg said, "because we are dealing with history at the same time we are dealing with our social order evolved," he said.

Lower level redevelopment project

From Page 1

Throughout their concept for the site, the winning architects have incorporated open spaces, gardens, squares and terraces to ensure that the human scale of the North terrace campus is maintained and enhanced. Their proposal also gives high priority to energy efficiency, with maximum use made of passive environmental management techniques, including reduced east and west exposures, the use of sun shading to non-exposed walls, double-glazed windows, green roofs and the use of natural features such as trees to establish a natural ventilation and reduce the effects of sun.

Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane said the lower level development would revitalise the north-east corner of the campus.

"This development will create an outstanding, 21st century infrastructure for our teaching and research in science, engineering and mathematics — particularly when linked with the almost completed up-grading of the Badger and John-son laboratories in the north-west corner of the campus," she said.

"The co-location of the biological sciences in the new complex will also improve internal collaboration between departments as well as our external links with the Medical School, IMVS, Hanson Centre for Cancer Research, and CSIRO."

A display showing drawings for the lower level redevelopment proposal can be visited in the Ira Raymond Room of the Barr Smith Library until Friday 9 August.

The Property Ser-vices Branch, which will act as project manager, will set up a project office on the site within the next few months; this will have ongoing information about the project.

"What we're attempting to do is establish the place of humans in nature — where we came from, how we evolved, why we evolved differently from other animals, and also to see how our social order evolved," he said.

Professor Henneberg is originally from Poland and was formerly at the University of the Witwatersrand, University of Cape Town and University of Texas. He sees himself as continuing the important work into anatomy that has been conducted at Adelaide over the years.

He said world-renowned Adelaide professors Ray Last and Frederic Wood Jones were inspirational to him when he was a postgraduate student in Poland.

It is ironic, then, that Professor Henneberg has now taken up the Wood Jones Professorship, which was made possible by money donated to the University by the late Professor Last.

Professor Henneberg said his position was aimed at reviving students' interest in biological anthropology, by bringing the study of animal and human evolution into the teaching of anatomy. He and his colleagues in the department designed a new subject which started this year.

"The subject, Biological Anthropology, has not been taught here before, and it has been very successful so far," Professor Henneberg said.

Team responds to economic needs

The University of Adelaide is playing a major role in the economic development of South Australian regional areas, through its involvement in the new Regional Research Network (RRN).

The RRN is a multidisciplinary research and consultancy group that specialises in economic development. It is comprised of the University of Adelaide's Centre for Labour Market Research, the University of South Australia's School of Economics, Finance and Property, the University of Newcastle's Employment Network (RRN), and the Australian regional areas.

The organisation has strong links with the southern region of Adelaide, having recently completed an economic study of the Willunga Basin.

Its latest achievement is being awarded a major economic development project encompassing the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, Southern Adelaide and the Murraylands.

Koala development project encom- passing the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, Southern Adelaide and the Murraylands.

Known as the South Central Region, the area covers more than 36,500 square kilometres and has a population of about 367,000 people.

The RRN was awarded the project by the SA South Central Consultative Group and is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Development.

Project Director Mr John Spoehr, from the Centre for Labour Studies, said he welcomed the opportunity to develop closer links between industry in the South Central Region and the University sector.

"We have a lot to offer to the process of regional development by combining the diverse range of skills that exist in the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia," Mr Spoehr said.

"Our multidisciplinary project teams produce very high levels of innovation through effective application of research," he said.

"I believe this project will mark the beginning of a very successful long-term research collaboration between members of the Faculty of Arts and the University of South Australia."

Members of the project team include Mr Rodin Genoff (Centre for Labour Studies) and University of SA staff including Mr Geoff Page, Mr Paul Statton and Mr J ames Unner.

The team also includes Professor Graeme Hugo, Dr Kym Nicholson and Mr Errol Bamford (Key Centre for GIS), Director of EcoBusiness Mr Lou de Leeuw, finance expert Dr Fred Guilhaus, and Dr Roy Green, Director of the University of Newcastle's Employment Studies Centre.

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David Ellis
A man of humane values

The following eulogy of the late Professor Harold Woolhouse was delivered by Professor Penny Boumelha from the Department of English at a special celebration of Harold Woolhouse’s life which was held at the Waite Campus on Thursday 11 July.

I had many opportunities to see, and admire, Harold Woolhouse in action as the Dean of Agriculture, as a senior member of the University, and as a representative of the University of Adelaide in the wider community. I had also great personal cause for gratitude for the characteristic generosity with which, seeing that there were very few here who might be a mentor for a (then) young female professor of English, he simply took on the task himself. But I am particularly glad that it is not of this professional Harold that I have been asked to speak, because it is not for this alone that I believe he deserves to be honoured.

On the first occasion I met Harold, he said in that exact, almost fastidious, manner of his, ‘I suppose you are a deconstructionist, aren’t you?’ To be honest, I occasionally tire of conversations about deconstruction, post-structuralism or other arcane varieties of literary theory to which people to whom it seems can mean little and matter less, and to my shame I tried to rebuff him off with some platitudinous ‘Oh!’ He said, ‘I only ask because when I was Professor of English at large at Cornell, I went to some length to find myself a student or two who would seriously engage with the world’s leading literary theorist of the moment) and there were a couple of points, but not, I was forced to admit, with my closer disciplinary colleagues. But it was not only the theory of literature that interested him: he spoke often, deeply, and well about writers whose work was important to him, writers like Rilke and Kafka, Berryman and Dickinson, Eliot and Hill. Harold sometimes wrote poetry, I know, although he never showed it to me or, to my knowledge, to anyone else. He wrote without any intention to publish, without any expectation of an audience, simply because he wanted to see if he could understand how it worked. To understand how things worked lay at the bottom of Harold’s curiosity in all, and just alike, and was never a self-aggrandising gesture of mastery: it was, rather, a way of increasing what can reasonably called ‘the response to poetry was concerned, this meant a sometimes sharply discriminating but genuine humility in the face of artistic achievement.

Harold was certainly not a religious man; he was a rationalist by training, by temperament and by conviction, probably because in the human values he saw embodied in culture and art, and not particularly persuaded of their absolute importance. In poetry and in music, particularly, he sought and he found wisdom. Harold Woolhouse was, of course, a very brilliant man, as his distinguished career demonstrates. But it was not just his intellectual qualities that set him apart. The personal qualities for which he deserves to be most remembered exemplify the same values that he most valued in the poetry he loved: clarity of thought, precision of expression, generosity of spirit, and passionate contemplativeness. In this sense, the man and his poetry were truly, and as only rarely, at one.

It is hard to realise what is newsworthy obviously the truth, that Harold Woolhouse, sometime Harvard, the man, was as well versed in Shakespeare and Yeats that I have often heard him quote with relish and admiration: ‘Yeats that I have often heard him about matters of significance. For what he did best: thinking deeply and about eloquence. It was a man of mastery: it was, rather, a way of increasing what can reasonably called ‘the response to poetry was concerned, this meant a sometimes sharply discriminating but genuine humility in the face of artistic achievement. Harold was certainly not a religious man; he was a rationalist by training, by temperament and by conviction, probably because in the human values he saw embodied in culture and art, and not particularly persuaded of their absolute importance. In poetry and in music, particularly, he sought and he found wisdom. Harold Woolhouse was, of course, a very brilliant man, as his distinguished career demonstrates. But it was not just his intellectual qualities that set him apart. The personal qualities for which he deserves to be most remembered exemplify the same values that he most valued in the poetry he loved: clarity of thought, precision of expression, generosity of spirit, and passionate contemplativeness. In this sense, the man and his poetry were truly, and as only rarely, at one.

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New play celebrates life of G reek modernist poet

On 13 August, Theatre 62 will see the world premiere of Cafe Cavafy, a play by University of Adelaide graduates Max Mastrosavas and dancer Michelle Buday of Leigh Warren & Dancers. The play is set in Alexandria and in Cavafy’s imagination. Thirty of his poems are interwoven throughout the text, compiled by Arthur Giannopoulos and arranged by John Kourbelis.

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H istory of influential SA school

Just over ten years after the establishment of the Colony of South Australia, lessons began in a School Room behind Trinity Church in what was then a thickly-populated and far from healthy part of Adelaide. Within four years a building resembling an Oxford College had been erected in open paddocks in Hackney. This was the beginning of the Collegiate School of St Peter (St Peter’s College). For two decades — until Prince Alfred College came on to the scene in 1869 — the Collegiate School of St Peter was the only establishment in Adelaide offering an education equivalent to that of a Public School in England. It also incorporated the only theological college in the Anglican diocese of Adelaide.

Now the history of those early years and of the many influential figures in South Australian society who played a part in the school’s foundation and development has been told by Dr John Tregenza, in Collocated School of St Peter, Adelaide: The Founding Years, 1847-1878. (McGraw-Hill Education, $29.95, hardback binding with over 50 black and white illustrations.)

Dr Tregenza writes that, when he was first asked to prepare the book, he “expected to be able to cover the whole 150 years from 1847 to 1997 in one medium-sized volume”. That had also been the expectation of the Council of Governors. He found, however, that it was impossible to glide rapidly over the school’s formative and formative years — hence the decision to close the story in 1878, the year of the retirement of George Farr, a “great headmaster who served the School for nearly twenty-four crucial years”.

Dr Tregenza explores the many difficulties that shaped the school in its formative period: “intense debates in 1848 about the form of its constitution, and the style of its architecture, near bankruptcy during the early years of the Victorian gold rush, dramatic fluctuations in the numbers of students, primitive sanitary arrangements, long delays in providing running water and gas lighting,” and others.

He also writes of its achievements, and the contribution of its students to the community, in South Australia and beyond. The appendix of Notable Old Scholars reveals, among others, the names of Tom Elder Barr Smith, Sir George Murray, Sir Edward Stirling, and Sir John Verco — all inseparable from the history of the University of Adelaide.

The book’s large cast of characters includes the first Church of England Bishop of Adelaide, Augustus Short, who attempted as early as the late 1840s to establish a University College on the same site as the Collegiate School, and was to become the first Vice-Chancellor (and subsequently the second Chancellor) of the University of Adelaide when it was established in 1874.

Others featured are the sea captain and Burra Mine shareholder William Allen, whose financial support was influential in getting the school established, its greatest benefactor, Benjamin Mandes da Costa, and George Farr’s remarkable wife, Jula Farr.

Collegiate School of St Peter, Adelaide: The Founding Years, 1847-1878 was published by St Peter’s College on 28 June, 1996, the eve of St Peter’s Day. Copies are available from St Peter’s College, St Peters, SA 5069, for $29.95 ($7.50 extra for posting). Copies will also be available from Unibooks.

—John Edge
The “virtual classroom” has completely transformed the way students from Adelaide, with Architecture students displaying their designs and discussing workplace problems on the Internet.

The Department of Architecture set up a special site on the World Wide Web last semester for students undertaking Design & Form, an introductory subject to develop their design skills.

Although they attended traditional classes in the University of Adelaide’s 97 Architecture students received all their assignments via a “handout page” on the web site. As well, a computer bulletin board kept them up-to-date on latest information, notes and hints from their lectures, Dr Rob Woodbury said.

Making use of the University’s State-of-the-art Computer Aided Teaching System, students also held virtual discussions with Dr Woodbury and classmates about important aspects of the subject. Each student used the computers to create multi-colored architectural designs. Each completed assignment was then posted to the Department’s internet web site. A gallery of the results of this work, including comments by Dr Woodbury and tutor Sarah Paddock can be found at http://arch.adelaide.edu.au/df/.

“Computers are changing the practice and teaching of architecture,” said Dr Woodbury.

“Increasingly, architecture is being done with computer-based drawings and models, instead of the older manual techniques. Because computer-based offices will be their professional future, students have to make the transition to this new mode of work, and we’re helping them to do that,” he said.

Dr Woodbury said the World Wide Web site, which was unique in Australia, was a great deal of enthusiasm among students for the “virtual classroom.”

“Students in the Architecture are keenly aware of the importance of the computer medium and are willing to learn and utilise it. This approach to teaching and learning has been successful both for the students and myself, and I think the University as a whole could benefit from developing a broader version of what we’ve done.”

—David Ellis

Breathing new life into old bones

From Page 5

“We had more than 20 students enrol, and to get that for a first-time course shows there is an interest about this area of study. Our first year student is also registering now,” he said.

One of the most interesting aspects of the subject is the establishment of a collection of animal skeletons, which students can then use to study the differences and similarities with that of other animals. The collection of skeletons we have here is not only of major importance to our scientific work, but should also be fascinating to the community as a whole,” he said.

—David Ellis

The Architecture Students’ Association has also got into the act, creating its own web site to display students’ high-quality work in an internet gallery. The site can be visited at http://smug.student.adelaide.edu.au/~archstud/.

Teng-Wen Chang and Rob Woodbury: Photo David Ellis