New mental health campaign promotes a positive outlook for young people

A consortium involving the University of Adelaide’s Department of Psychiatry has been awarded a major campaign by Living Health to promote positive mental health among young South Australians.

The campaign, called “A Partnership With Young People”, was devised by Living Health (formerly known as Foundation SA). It aims to increase the awareness and knowledge of young people about mental health and the services available to them.

A collaborative group comprising the Women’s and Children’s Hospital, University of Adelaide, University of South Australia and Netspot Communications won the highly competitive tender to develop and promote the campaign. Living Health will provide the consortium with funding of $600,000 over three years.

The campaign is believed to be the first of its kind in the world, bringing together a range of expertise from the various consortium members to tackle key issues of child and adolescent mental health.

Initiatives of the campaign will include:
- special web pages on the internet to promote positive mental health and provide vital information about services
- workshops for young people, parents and school staff
- support programs and community development projects
- information sheets for GPs, schools and parents.

The chairman of the project is the head of the Division of Mental Health at the Women’s and Children’s Hospital, Mr Phil Robinson.

The other main consortium members include Professor Ruth Grant, Dean of the Faculty of Health and Biomedical Sciences at the University of South Australia, and the University of Adelaide’s Professor of Child Psychiatry (Women’s and Children’s Hospital), Professor Robert Kosky.

Professor Kosky said child and adolescent mental health was a major concern that needed to be addressed in a positive way.

“There are many young people who suffer incredibly because they simply can’t deal with the pressures of school, home or work,” he said.

“If we can promote positive mental health to young people at a time when they need it most, we could help them deal with these pressures of day-to-day life and prevent mental health problems arising.

“This will have significant benefits for society in the future, because many mental illnesses suffered by people as adults are believed to stem from their child or adolescent years.”

Professor Kosky said that in order to achieve its goals, the lead consortium would be seeking information and advice from various community-based support centres.

Continued on Page 8

Major project to help Indonesia develop a sustainable agriculture

The University of Adelaide’s Centre for International Economic Studies (CIES) is leading a three-year, $900,000 joint research project to examine the links between Indonesia’s agricultural production, trade and the environment.

This major research project is funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and will involve collaboration between the CIES, Australian National University, Jakarta’s Centre for Strategic and International Studies, and Bogor’s Centre for Agro-socioeconomic Research.

Agriculture is extremely important to Indonesia, contributing about one sixth of its Gross Domestic Product and exports and half of all employment. But recent developments have raised serious questions about the sustainability of current practices in the rural sector.

“There is relatively little information on the possible indirect and long-term impacts of Indonesia’s evolving policies and practices,” said the Director of the CIES, Professor Kym Anderson.

“The key objective of our study is to assess the kinds of effects both policy and technical changes will have on Indonesia’s agricultural production, trade and the environment, particularly in view of the rapid economic growth that’s been occurring in that country.

“This analysis will be important to help ensure the sustainability of agricultural development in Indonesia, and the project could serve as a prototype for similar studies of other developing countries in south-east Asia and elsewhere,” he said.

The study is being conducted by a team of researchers who have extensive policy analysis and research experience in agricultural, trade and environmental issues. Professor Anderson said this collaboration was vital to the project’s success.

“The research team is made up of representatives of a mix of institutions, each bringing a particular bundle of expertise to the project,” he said.

“A number of students from both Australia and Indonesia are also involved, and the project is being undertaken in close collaboration with the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture and other government agencies involved with agriculture, trade and environmental policies.”

Continued on Page 5

This group of Architecture and Urban Design students has flown to Vietnam to begin 12 weeks of study at the Hanoi Architectural University. In all, 19 students from the University of Adelaide are taking part in the study trip — the first of its kind for the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Design.

During their stay the Adelaide students will work on two major design projects, centred on old and developing areas within Hanoi. The students will receive full credit towards their degree for the studies undertaken in Hanoi.

“The Faculty of Architecture and Urban Design has established close links with Hanoi Architectural University over the past two years. The trip was made possible by a grant from the Commonwealth Government under the University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) scheme.


IN Inside

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Examining our Myths

W hen I moved into the Vice-Chancellor’s Office, I took Augustus with me. That is, I took the bust of Augustus that had been in Carol Greenwood’s office and moved it into my office, which, of course, has a shelf above the fireplace in Carol’s office. We were looking for something suitable and had an offer of quite a nice statue but something wasn’t right, so we went up to the Classics Museum and said, “Is there anything else?”; suggesting that perhaps something other than a roman emperor would make a change.

In due course Aphrodite was delivered to us and we’ve been amused by the comments as people come in to look at it. Several people have asked why we have a statue of the Virgin Mary in the office. After I had overheard some of these queries, I went out and explained to that day’s questioner that it seemed obvious that this wasn’t the Virgin Mary. She was portrayed (I believe without exception) wearing clothes. Aphrodite has only the very skimpiest of drapes. However, it was easy to see why people had asked if our statue was the Virgin; the overall shape is very like the statue one sees in Catholic Churches and European grottes. In short, it’s a perfect example of the way new religions often conveniently transform the icons of old religions when they gain ascendancy. The myths of old religions are adapted to the myths of the new and continue on much as before.

As with religion, so with universities. Old myths about previous universities often persist into times when those funding regimes no longer exist. One example is the idea that if we put on more courses we can get more staff. At the moment we work in a devolved funding system where there is a decreasing bottom line and new courses actually mean considerable extra costs in all but the most exceptional cases.

As we now move to a new funding regime with the possibility of devolution of undergraduate fees, with very few places that are Commonwealth-funded for postgraduate coursework, and with the need to achieve the University’s mission to be an internationally referenced research university, it is essential that we examine our myths. In this context, I am particularly pleased with the initial reports from the three working parties that are examining budget issues around the University. I am not only looking for the issues in the light of the facts, but also consider the myths that have built up and decide how we can either kill some of them off or adapt them to the new regime.

MARTINDALE HALL

Your story 26 August 1996 “University landscape study for Martindale Hall” refers.

For the record this lovely property was never bequeathed to the University. Mr Mortlock, the owner, left the University half share in his Estate. That consisted of his farm (on which the Hall stands), shares worth over $200,000 in the farm, and a house filled with old furniture. Instead of liquidating the estate the University decided to take the farm since with the Hall there has been this impression that that was a bequest. It wasn’t — it was an investment decision.

David R Beecher
Deputy Registrar

The Division of Health Sciences is seeking members of the community to act as assessors in the new selection process for entry to Medicine and Dentistry courses.

The selection process includes an oral assessment of candidates, to be carried out by two assessors: one drawn from the academic staff of the Division and the other from the general community. The Division wants to recruit assessors from a broad section of the community with a view to establishing a panel which reflects the diversity of the Australian community.

However, to maintain community confidence in the new procedures the Division is ruling out the involvement of members of the dental, medical and education sectors. Their involvement might be perceived to raise conflicts of interest.

The Division is not in a position to pay assessors and hopes to recruit volunteers who are prepared to give their time to this important task. Each assessor will be required to attend a two to three-hour training workshop, to be held in the period 30 September to 4 October, 1996. The assessment period will be 2-13 December.

For a nomination form or further information call Alison James, Division of Health Sciences, on 8303 3462.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Budget Planning

by Mr Frank O’Neill Registrar

The Commonwealth Government’s intentions are now known for funding universities in the next triennium and the Senior Management Group is actively examining future strategic options for the University.

During the past couple of weeks I was somewhat surprised to be asked on three different occasions why the University spends more than 40% of its income on “Administration” and that this would be a good place to look for the foreshadowed budget efficiencies. Naturally I took some time to explain our general budget framework and was able to show that “Administrative Overheads” run at about 10% of discretionary income.

I believe that it would be useful for the whole University community to have a general understanding of the construction of our Budget. I have taken the 1996 Budget as the framework for my analysis.

In 1996 approximately $155m was available for allocation. This figure excludes non-discretionary income of about $80m such as research grants, contracts and other tied funds.

The $155m has been distributed as follows: -

Academic Divisions: $93.0m - 60.0% 5
University Libraries: $11.0m - 7.1% 1
Other Academic Support: $ 2.5m - 1.6% 2
Capital Buildings: $11.0m - 7.1% 4
University Overheads: $ 6.0m - 3.9% 3
Property Services: $8.5m - 5.5% 4
Administration: $15.5m - 10.0% 5

I hope that this analysis will stimulate informed debate about the future management of our resources. For example, would the devolution of the allocations held centrally for some Academic Support Services and University Overheads and then charging areas for actual use encourage more efficient use of these resources? Should we outsource more of the routine activities? Printng, cleaning, gardening, security have been tested through external tender processes and now operate as internal business enterprises with competitive cost structures. Could we do the same with routine teaching? Are there distance learning modules which might meet service teaching requirements?

The Commonwealth Budget also includes policy changes which allow fees for undergraduate courses after the University has met its profile obligations to the Government. In future, most postgraduate coursework courses will be fee paying. What opportunities does this provide to the University for income generation? Can we take more international students and in what courses?

As we move into a more deregulated environment there will be more opportunities for income generation but also more risks associated with ‘the market’. What level of risk can be managed while still protecting core activities?

I should be pleased to receive creative comments over the next few weeks as our financial planning for the next triennium is developed.

Footnotes

1: Research and Development Fund, Scholarship, Study Leave, Conference Leave, Vice-Chancellor’s Development Fund, Contingency Fund.
2: ACUE, Animal Services, CEMSSA, Wilto Yerto, Externals.
3: Electricity, Water, Gas, Telephones, Postage, Insurances, Copyright fees, Legal fees, Audit fees, AVCC and SATAR fees.
5: Vice-Chancellor: Media Relations and Development, Equal Opportunity, Quality.
6: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic): Student Administration, Student Services, International Office.
7: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research): Research Brochure, Graduate Studies and Industry Liaison.
8: Registrar: Finance, Personnel, Information Technology, Management Information, Secretariat, Alumni and Radio 5UV
Engineers take a crack at major Adelaide house problem

Ever wondered how you could prevent those cracks appearing in the walls of your house? Wish you’d known how bad those cracks would be before you started building?

Cracking in houses is caused by the natural expansion and contraction of soils during winter and summer. Adelaide is believed to be one of the worst areas in Australia, and the world, for expansive soils.

But researchers with the University of Adelaide’s Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering have now developed a mathematical model to determine the probability of cracking in Adelaide’s houses.

The model, based on the type of soil on which the house is built and the kind of foundation the structure has, could help prevent future problems for people looking at building a new house.

Senior lecturer Dr Mark Jaksa and postgraduate student Mr Ranganath Barthur studied more than 200 Adelaide houses between two and eight years old.

“First of all we went to local councils to get detailed information on the house foundations and the soil types, which are documented by councils when you build a house,” Dr Jaksa said.

“Then we went out to see how these houses were performing. We approached a lot of home owners, many of whom responded favourably, and we measured the crack widths in the walls of their house.”

Dr Jaksa said they correlated the expansive nature of the soil with the strength of the foundation and related that to the cracks that had occurred in the houses.

“By looking at it from a probability point of view, we can now say that if you use a particular size foundation, you have a 5% chance or higher of having cracks in your walls — and we can tell you what size those cracks are likely to be.”

“Of course, not everyone’s going to experience that level of cracking in their house, but we can show them what the probability will be,” Dr Jaksa said.

He said the research also showed that new home builders may want to spend a few thousand dollars extra when building a house in Adelaide.

“People who spend a bit extra on having deeper, stronger foundations in their homes may save large sums of money in the long run, as it is less likely those houses will need substantial repairs,” he said.

“Our work has shown that the Australian standard for the design of house foundations tends to under-estimate the level of cracking associated with expansive soil movement. We’re currently revisiting these analyses in light of improved statistical techniques and a new revision to the Australian standard.”

Dr Jaksa and Mr Barthur have further developed their probability model into a chart which can easily be used by builders or engineers.

“The outcome of the research is directly applicable to industry or to engineering practice, so a practising engineer can pick up the charts as they are now and apply them directly to their design procedures,” Dr Jaksa said.

“In the past this kind of information wasn’t available to home owners, but now we’re hoping people will be better informed so that they can make the right decisions when building their new home.”

Dr Jaksa’s research is a continuation of the work started at the University of Adelaide in the mid 1980s by Dr Neil Kay and Dr Peter Mitchell.

A paper written on this topic by Dr Jaksa, Mr Barthur and Dr Mitchell was recently awarded best paper at the 7th Australia New Zealand Conference on Geo-mechanics in Adelaide.

—David Ellis

Call to set up national drug database

A national database should be set up to monitor the safety and effectiveness of drugs, according to a meeting of pharmacologists, epidemiologists and government representatives.

The seminar was convened by the Department of General Practice in July, on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, to discuss the technical and ethical issues associated with setting up a National Pharmaco-Epidemiological Database (NPED).

Such a database would include data about the performance of prescribed drugs, modified to protect the identities of the patients.

Dr John Marley, the Head of the Department of General Practice, said other countries such as the UK already had databases of their own.

“The main use of the NPED would be to enable the rapid assessment of potential safety problems of medications,” he said.

“These problems, for example jaundice caused by the antibiotic fluoroacillin, come to light from spontaneous reports. There is currently no way of assessing whether the reports indicate a true safety concern or not and how big the problem might be.”

“The database would enable these problems to be solved rapidly and effectively.”

The multi-disciplinary meeting resolved that development should proceed and that the database was a priority for the safe use of medicines in Australia.

—David Washington

CAMPUS NEWS

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THAILAND GRANT

Dr John Hatch from the Department of Economics has received a grant from the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs (DEETYA) to establish the subject “The Australian Economy” as a module in the Bachelor of International Program taught at Thammasat University in Bangkok, Thailand.

The subject was introduced last year by Professor Richard Pomfret under a 1994 Australia Thailand University Links Program grant. It is now being fine tuned for a pilot delivery at Thammasat University this year, with final delivery and evaluation in 1997.

The new subject is expected to be of great benefit to Thai students under-taking exchange programs with Adelaide and other Australian universities.

The project is another link between the Department of Economics and Thammasat following an exchange agreement set up in 1994. Students from both universities have already taken part in the Department’s exchange.

ASTRONAUT TO GIVE PUBLIC LECTURE

Astronaut Dr Andrew Thomas will give a public lecture on Wednesday, 18 September in the Florey Lecture Theatre (Medical School North) at 5.15pm.

In May this year Dr Thomas, a graduate of the University of Adelaide’s Department of Mechanical Engineering, became the first Australian-born astronaut to go on a Space Shuttle mission.

He was a payload commander and mission specialist on board the shuttle Endeavour.

The public lecture has been organised by the Centre for Environmental Law (ACEL) and the Adelaide branch of the Australian Institute of Engineers.

It is free but bookings are essential. Phone the Institute on (08) 8267 1783.

CONFERENCE: DEFENDING THE ENVIRONMENT

The Adelaide branch of the Australian Centre for Environmental Law (ACEL) is hosting the 3rd Defending the Environment Conference on 21-22 September.

Under the theme, “Global Responsibility at a Local Level”, the conference covers a wide range of issues, such as trade and the environment, world heritage, local government initiatives, and the potential conflict between human rights and environmental rights.

The conference will be held in the University’s Ligertwood Building. For information phone ACEL Director Mr Paul Leadbetter on (08) 6303 9382.

LIBRARY/GLENSIDE LINK

Staff of the South Australian Mental Health Service (SAMHS) now have access to the full collections of the University of Adelaide Library.

The move follows an agreement signed in July to relocate Glenside Hospital’s Hugh M. Birch Library to the University’s Barr Smith Library.

The affiliated library service of the University and SAMHS was officially launched on Tuesday, 3 September.
Innovative project sets sights on diversity

Australia’s tertiary student population is becoming increasingly diverse. More women are entering non-traditional fields; the proportion of students from non-English speaking backgrounds is growing. Catering for that diversity is a major issue for educational institutions.

A recent Federal Government report on women in engineering (WISE, 1995), and other publications from both Australia and overseas, have begun to challenge the “deficit model” assumption that has tended to shape educational thinking on diversity — namely, that NESB students and women entering non-traditional fields such as engineering should change to fit into the prevailing educational culture, that if they couldn’t succeed, it was their fault.

It’s now understood that the educational culture itself must change to make it more inclusive of “non-traditional” students, and in the field of engineering, the University of Adelaide has taken up the challenge enthusiastically.

This year, the Faculty of Engineering began an innovative collaborative project called “Valuing Diversity in Engineering Education” as part of a strategy to examine and improve its academic and learning environment to cater more effectively for diversity.

“Valuing Diversity in Engineering Education” is actually six inter-linked projects with a common impetus, namely, that NESB students and women entering non-traditional fields; the proportion of women are entering non-traditional fields; the proportion of students from non-English speaking backgrounds.

“Valuing Diversity in Engineering Education” involves six component elements: one is gendered to engineering behaviour in laboratory classes; another project is examining masculinity in engineering; and so on.

The projects are based on the fact that acting women to engineering — in addition to the battle you then have to ensure their success. What we are finding is that there’s a real disincentive at the system level for women as well as students from non-English speaking backgrounds.

“In the past, we’ve tended to blame the individual. Now, we recognise that we have to look at what might be wrong with the system, at how the environment of the discipline could operate to inhibit learning for some groups of people.”

The six projects explore issues such as the differences in prior technical knowledge which men, women (and also international students) bring to engineering, how gender and culture can shape learning styles and assessment, gender dynamics in laboratory classes, the needs of students from language backgrounds other than English, and how to train laboratory demonstrators to cater for diversity in their classes.

Apart from a common focus on diversity, the projects also share an important focus on student experience and performance as a springboard to staff reflection and development.

In the project on gendered behaviour in laboratory classes, for example, the data consisted of video footage of laboratory classes, and follow-up interviews with individual students about their perceptions of the student-teacher interaction.

“Analysis of the video has been very revealing about gender dynamics in the classroom, as well as the degree of student involvement in their classes,” said Jane Copeland.

“It’s fair to say that the lecturers were ‘blown away’ by what they saw, and by what the students had to say.

“This exercise has already led to changes in the way laboratory classes are organised — for example, breaking them into smaller groups — to allow for more hands-on student engagement and participation,” she said.

Another project is examining masculinity in engineering. The premise is simple: improving the teaching and learning environment for female students means getting to grips with the experiences, expectations and attitudes of male students.

In a series of interviews (complementing a similar exercise with female students in 1995) male students were asked about their prior experiences of teaching-type activities, preferred learning styles and problem-solving approaches, level of confidence and self-esteem, attitudes to female engineering students, and attitudes to sexual and gender harassment.

This project is being replicated at the University of South Australia, and the two institutions will pool data to develop appropriate strategies to address issues identified by the interviewees.

The Faculty believes that “Valuing Diversity in Engineering Education” will enable it to establish a body of data which can then guide the development of teaching and development strategies that will put it at the forefront of gender and culturally inclusive development.

The thorough consultation with staff which underpins the work has also ensured the sort of collaborative commitment needed to bring about long-term and deep-rooted change in the teaching and learning environment.

Jane Copeland is enthusiastic about the way the Faculty of Engineering has committed itself to the project.

“I really think it’s a very brave undertaking, because it involves being willing to hear what students are saying and to risk being exposed,” she said. “The response from the staff has been fantastically positive, and the end result will be very positive for all.”

The Dean of Engineering, Professor John Agnew, expressed his strong support for the project and satisfaction with the way it has progressed.

“Thanks to the enthusiasm and team effort of all concerned, we are now in a much better position to deal with the gender imbalance problem that has plagued us for so long,” he said.

Professor Agnew applauded the just-released draft report of the national Review of Engineering Education which recommends a “culture change” to make the profession “more outward-looking and inclusive of a wider range of values and attitudes than at present”.

—John Edge

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CAMPUS NEWS

ADELAIDEAN

NEWS

This month sees an ambitious project on S.U.V and S.M.B.S (100.5 MHz, testing in September).

Emeritus Professor Brian Coghlan has written and presented eight one-hour programs on Wagner’s Ring Cycle; production was by S.U.V/S.M.B.S volunteer Glen Quick.

They can be heard on Mondays at 11.00am and Tuesdays at noon on both S.U.V and S.M.B.S. They can also be heard later on S.M.B.S only at 8.00pm on Tuesdays and 9.00pm on Wednesdays.

Brian Coghlan is also presenting the famous Decca recordings of The Ring complete on successive Sunday afternoons on S.M.B.S commencing at 2.00pm on 8 September.

For further details contact S.U.V on 8303 5000 for a Program Guide.
A unique book on the history of scientific instruments written by a University of Adelaide lecturer is now forming the basis of a new curriculum for a major education centre in Germany.

The book, *Scientific Instruments of the Modern Age* by Dr Engelhard Weigl (Department of German Studies), takes a close look at the development of instruments such as the lightning rod, telescope, microscope, vacuum pump and thermometer, but not from a hard science point of view.

It discusses the impact each of these instruments had on society, including reactions to them by religious and scientific communities, public debates that arose from their development, and their impact on literature and philosophy.

The book, written in German, was translated into Japanese and was first published in Japan in 1990 where it received critical acclaim. It led to a German edition being published in 1991.

Dr Weigl is now using the material in his book to develop a new school curriculum for the teaching of the history of science, at the request of the prestigious Institute of the History of Science, at the University of Kiel in Germany.

"It's very pleasing that the Institute, which has an international reputation for development of science curricula, has taken such an interest in my work," Dr Weigl said.

He said he attributed some of the success of his writing to the different approach he took to science.

"I am not a scientist, so it is difficult for me to write a book from the scientific perspective. What I can do is look at the combination of literature, philosophy and history of these instruments, because these are my subjects," Dr Weigl said.

"So far the history of science has been taught as a series of inventions leading to modern-day physics. Any alternative concepts, doubts, reservations and fears are either not mentioned or ridiculed as superstitious.

"But recent experiences with science and technology, such as nuclear power and genetic engineering, have led us to re-evaluate the conflicts of the past," he said.

Dr Weigl said one of the major examples he looked at in his book was the lightning rod, which is considered to be the first application of a scientific invention.

"On the one hand it was seen as the triumph of modern science, but it also caused major opposition. The first lightning rod in Europe was instantly destroyed by angry peasants," he said.

"This example of applied science shows many similarities to modern-day conflicts over scientific achievements. By looking at the history of scientific instruments from this point of view, we may help today's students understand and solve future problems of applied science more successfully."

As well as forming the basis for a new curriculum at the Institute for Science Education, *Scientific Instruments of the Modern Age* will soon be published as a series of papers in English.

Dr Weigl is also working on two other books. The first will be the diaries of German explorer Alexander von Humboldt published for the first time in Japan.

The second book deals with centres of German enlightenment, city life, philosophy and literature.

—David Ellis

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**German curriculum inspired by Adelaide work**

A unique book on the history of scientific instruments written by a University of Adelaide lecturer is now forming the basis of a new curriculum for a major education centre in Germany.

Two of the University of Adelaide's enterprises, CEEMS and EngTest, are taking part in a new business network aimed at making South Australia more competitive.

The venture, known as STARS (Southern Testing And Research Services), was launched last month at the University of Adelaide by State Industry Minister Mr John Olsen.

In all, STARS combines the expertise of nine university, government and private sector agencies to perform scientific testing on a commercial basis.

The networking arrangement has the potential to earn South Australia millions of dollars by providing testing services to overseas-based companies, and by helping to make South Australian industry more competitive.

CEEMS (Centre for Electron Microscopy and Microstructure Microanalysis) offers a range of services in areas that include research and development, quality control, airborne particle analysis, examination of biological material, and specialist sample preparations.

EngTest is the commercial arm of the University's Faculty of Engineering. It provides testing and consultancy services in areas such as vibration, acoustics and fatigue, environmental engineering, fluid systems, and infrastructure management.

EngTest, which hosted the STARS launch, gave Mr Olsen a demonstration of its vibration testing on the latest model cars from Mitsubishi Motors.

—David Ellis

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**Major project to help Indonesian agriculture**

From Page 1

While Indonesia had much to gain from the findings of the study, Australia also would benefit, Professor Anderson said.

"The expected benefits are large and can be achieved at a relatively low cost, which is a characteristic of much economic policy analysis.

"We will gain a better understanding of Indonesia’s economy and its future growth and trade prospects, as well as new investment opportunities, including those resulting from policy reforms that might be induced by the study.

"Hopefully we will also see a reduced dependence of Indonesia on aid from countries such as Australia," said Professor Anderson.

This latest project is another major achievement for the CIES and Professor Anderson, who was recently appointed by the World Trade Organisation to one of its Dispute Settlement Panels and by the Australian Government to assist in the preparation of a White Paper on Australia’s foreign and trade policy for the 21st century.

—David Ellis
New postgraduate coursework proposals
SMG has examined all coursework proposals coming before Academic Board for its feedback. This gives Heads of Divisions an opportunity to comment on any implications of one Division’s courses for their own Division; and for all SMG members to look at the potential resource implications of new courses across the University, including in areas such as the Library, administration and computing. The vast array of such course proposals this year, coupled with the current financial climate, has led SMG to review the costing of fee-paying postgraduate courses.

Educational Profiles
Each year the University is required to submit to DEETYA its Educational Profiles Documentation, including planned student load for the next triennium. The University’s submission was required to be in before the Government’s Budget announcements, so plans were developed around the funding base at that time. SMG members spent some time discussing the desirable student load “shape” of the University, acknowledging existing current student load and highlighting the need to balance overall load. SMG is now revisiting these matters in light of the Commonwealth Government’s Higher Education Funding Statement 1996. They are exploring when the SMG met with the DEETYA Profiles Team during the first Profiles Visit on 3 September. The second Profiles Visit will be a joint visit with the University of WA on 28 September.

Inter-university cooperation
SMG has had input into the membership of the committee established to consider whether the University should be established to look at closer cooperation with Flinders University, and had a joint buffet dinner in mid-August with members of Flinders’ Student Management Group. SMG is also engaging links with the University of WA and has endorsed some goals and objectives for furthering this cooperation.

Financial Reports
SMG receives regular monthly reports, presented by the Director, Finance, on the University’s monthly and year-to-date position re expenditure against budget; the cash flow position; and the return on investments and loans. These enable SMG to fulfil its responsibilities to monitor the University’s overall financial performance and management. SMG also, of course, has oversight of the preparation of the annual Financial Statements.

Adelaide Graduate Business School
SMG has focused on the Graduate School of Management in its new incorporated form as the Adelaide Graduate Business School. A draft Services Agreement between the University and the incorporated body has been considered and is now being revised in light of SMG input.

Overseas ventures
SMG has had full discussions of and input into the proposal to establish a joint venture with the Ngee Ann Kongsi in Singapore. It has reviewed the Business Plan, and is ensuring that there are processes in place to monitor the academic rigour of the courses offered. It also monitors activities in the University’s twinning project with the Sapiang Institute of Technology, and has set up a SIT Coordinating Committee to ensure communication between the SIT Team and Divisions.

NTEU meetings
SMG meets every two months with representatives of the University of Adelaide Branch of the NTEU and this provides a valuable opportunity to exchange information and clarify areas of concern.

Roseworthy Transport
SMG has approved the underwriting of the costs of running a bus service between the Waite, North Terrace and Roseworthy Campuses and the Lyell McEwin Hospital, twice a day on week days for a trial period in 1997.

Student preclusion
University Council at its last meeting referred a report prepared by the Clause 4C Committee following a meeting between the Convenor of that Committee and a representative of the Faculty of Medicine. SMG has referred the report to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), and has asked that he review the way the University deals with students who consistently fail and to prepare a report by the end of November.

Top quality training for high school ‘E’ Teams
The University of Adelaide is helping to provide high school students with a better understanding of how Quality principles are applied in the workplace.

Under a joint program between the University and the Australian Quality Council, groups of students are divided into special ‘E’ (Enterprise) Teams.

The ‘E’ Teams undertake work experience in which they study behind-the-scenes processes at the University of Adelaide and apply Total Quality Management principles to those processes.

Previous ‘E’ Teams have studied areas such as the provision of computing resources to University branches involved with postgraduate students, and induction procedures for new staff.

So far there have been four ‘E’ Teams, involving students from Mitcham Girls High, Yorketown Area School, and Glenunga International high schools.

It was their task to apply quality management principles to the processing of building maintenance requests in the University’s Property Services Branch.

The highlight of the team’s five-day project was the presentation of their report before an audience of Property Services managers and staff from other branches of the University.

The staff were impressed by the intelligence and skill shown by the Year 11 students in applying quality management principles to their assigned area of study.

Mr Vice-Chancellor Professor Mary O’Kane welcomed the input of this latest ‘E’ Team, which she said formed an important part of the University’s commitment to quality principles.

“The University of Adelaide is fully committed to the adoption of international best practice policies in all areas of its operations,” Professor O’Kane said.

“Our work in this area has already led to a more productive use of resources, and allowed us to improve our service to students and staff.

“Hosting the ‘E’ Teams demonstrates our commitment to quality improvement, while allowing the teams themselves to develop important skills during their time here,” she said.

The next ‘E’ Team project will be held in December. Any University branches interested in hosting a team should contact the Director, Quality, Mrs Heather Howard, on ext 35200.

—David Ellis

West Torrens Council student awards
Four Adelaide University students were presented with 1996 Mendelson Scholarships in a special ceremony at the City of West Torrens Council chambers on Friday 2 August.

Stewart Wright (Science), Adam Zaenic (Arts), Stephen Toohey (Law) and Martin Cottrell (Electrical & Electronic Engineering) were among students from the three South Australian universities to benefit this year under the scholarships scheme of the West Torrens Council Max & Bette Mendelson Foundation.

Mr Max Mendelson (who died on 22 September 1994) and Mrs Bette Mendelson (8 January 1995) were long-term residents of West Torrens. Thornes too, knew that winners must be residents of West Torrens.

The next ‘E’ Team project will be held in December. Any University branches interested in hosting a team should contact the Director, Quality, Mrs Heather Howard, on ext 35200.

—David Ellis

Adelaide University’s scholarship winners are shown above with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Ian Falconer, in the foyer of the West Torrens Municipal Offices. The busts of Mr & Mrs Mendelson were commissioned by the Council from Mr Jim Cross.

Photo courtesy of West Torrens Council
Return of the Astronaut

Astronaut Dr Andrew Thomas (BE Mech '73 PhD '78) will be the Chapman (Engineering) Association's special guest at a cocktail party at 6.45pm on Wednesday 18 September 1996.

Professor Paul Davies will interview Andrew Thomas on a series of issues including his reflections on his recent Mission on Space Shuttle Endeavour (including video clips of mission activities), his general experience within the US aerospace industry over 20 years and the changes he has observed, and opportunities for individuals and companies in the aerospace business against the background of major rationalisation taking place worldwide.

The cocktail party will be held in the Gallery Little Cinema in Union House at the University of Adelaide and will include a light buffet meal with champagne, wine, beer and soft drinks. Cocktails commence at 6.45pm and the interview at 7.45pm.

The all-inclusive cost for Chapman Association and Alumni Association members is $20, and for non-members $25. Places will be limited so advance bookings are essential.

For bookings, location map and parking information, telephone the Alumni Association on 8303 4275. Bookings must be accompanied by payment (Visa, Mastercard).

Universities well placed for successful development work: expert visitor

Australia has unprecedented opportunities for development and fundraising in educational institutions, and to pass up these opportunities will cost dearly in the future.

This message was delivered in strong terms by Peter Buchanan, President and CEO of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), speaking at a breakfast meeting on Friday 30 August hosted by ADAPE SA (Association of Development and Alumni Professionals in Education).

CASE is a US-based international organisation which provides resources and advice for development (fundraising) work in educational institutions. CASE is present working on ways of communicating best practice among development professionals internationally.

In opening his remarks, Mr Buchanan stated that it was widely accepted that in general, alumni development is more important than ever before. There has also been a shift in perception that views education as a benefit to the individual rather than to society, with a result that students are increasingly not paying the costs of their courses and governments are cutting back their contributions.

"This is true in the United States, Canada, Europe, the United Kingdom and China as well as in Australia," he said. "Furthermore, nobody expects that there will be a return to the level of government support enjoyed in the past." He suggested that Australia was well placed for successful development work.

"Australian studies of philanthropy suggest that people in this country are very generous, far more generous than Americans," he remarked. "During the 1980s, individual giving in Australia increased some 700%, and education was the largest recipient of corporate giving." Mr Buchanan said, "Those circumstances should be enough to persuade any rational person that development is crucial to education in Australia."

What is wrong with development work in Australia in Peter Buchanan's opinion is that Australian universities and schools do not have everyone on the same wavelength. Everyone from the head of the institution to the person who answers the telephone must recognise his or her place in the scheme of things.

Buchanan pleaded with those present not to repeat the US mistake of wasting time arguing about who was more important in the institution's development effort.

Development has three main components: Alumni Relations, Communications, and Fundraising. They are all important and they must all work together as part of a coherent whole. If one of those components is missing, then your development effort will not work. You cannot run a development program that does not have these three parts, and they must be considered together.

Too often, he asserted, if a development program is failing it is because the leadership of the institution has not recognised its importance and made a wholehearted commitment to it.

"We talk of 'external relations,'" he said, "but the battle is internal. Heads of institutions have a responsibility to define and set a shared sense of mission. You are not going to be successful without a sense of vision and strategic process."

Peter Buchanan met with key people in the University of Adelaide later in the day where he repeated his message.

After leaving Adelaide, he travelled to the national ADAPE conference at Bond University where he was one of four international speakers.

—Adrienne Eccles
Kirby: Australia an example to world

The mosaic of human rights includes economic, social and cultural rights as well as civil and political rights, he said. When it comes to priorities, most ordinary citizens are much more concerned about where they can get food, drinkable water, education for their daughters and sons, and good hospital treatment when needed for their families. These are human rights.

People of the Western tradition tend to lay emphasis upon democratic and political rights, J ustice Kirby said, but it is precisely the communal leaders, still less all Asian people, agreed with the rather autocratic views about democracy and human rights preached by the Senior Minister of Singapore, Mr Lee Kwan Yew. Asian views on human rights and democracy should not be stereotyped, he said.

It had taken 200 years for Australians to realise the opportunity and challenge of their geographical position in the world, said Justice Kirby in his next few weeks of remarkable developments in the region.

Australians should position themselves as one of the advantages of working multicultural democracy that is trying to follow a route in which values and human kind currently finds itself lost in.

Referring to his recent experience as Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Human Rights to Cambodia, Justice Kirby pointed out that Western people of the European tradition (including Australians) could learn from the Asian perspective on human rights.

From Page 1

“As the title of the campaign suggests, well be trying to form a partnership with young people. It’s important that we involve ourselves at the community level to do this.

“Each of the members of the consortium agrees that none of us could be successful without the collaborative efforts. The same is true of the community-based organisations — they are essential to the success of this campaign,” Professor Kosky said.

We use the computer technology to reach a wider audience would also be a significant component of the campaign, because information provided on the internet might be better suited to grabbing young people’s attention.

“We know that for some people suffering mental illnesses, the computer can be a key to getting in to the outside world. So it’s important that we use computer technology to its fullest potential to provide information to young people about positive mental health. By using the internet we could also conduct online surveys, which will provide us with valuable information on people’s mental health and their need for support services,” he said.

Although the funding for the campaign is limited, the consortium is determined to make “A Partnership With Young People” an ongoing campaign. Commercial and industrial interests would be sought to help fund the campaign well beyond its six weeks.

“We’re very certain that this campaign will have a positive impact on young people and we believe this kind of collaborative venture between the two universities and the teaching hospital could be the model for the future in terms of mental health care.”

—David Ellis

Mental health campaign for young people

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ACCOMMODATION

AVAILABLE: Townhouse, 2 br, Spenceburn, close to shops & transport. $140 p/w. Ph 8333 0698.

BELAIR: Share accommodate - Suit student, 2mins to transport, only 15 mins to city. Private phone line available. $75 pw + elec/phone. No bond necessary. Ph Simon 8278 9442 or 08 835 328.


NORTH ADELAIDE: Large well lit room, close to transport, shops and cafes. Studio space included. $75 + bond. Ph John 8361 7826.

UNIVOODO: Approved 2 br, ba, stone cotage. Furn, including washing machine & crolley. $190 p/w. Ph 8359 0880 (ah) or email: s.penny@mecheng.adelaide.ed

WANTED

MICROSCOPE: For student, any condition with or without lenses. Ph or 8359 0880 (ah) or email: s.penny@mecheng.adelaide.edu.au

PARTICIPANTS: To take part in a study on eating disorders. If you are female, aged 18 to 30, single, healthy and have significant prob- lems in the eating disorders area, contact Maria Beplerino 8353 5993. Participants will be required to complete some questionnaires. Participants will be paid $10 for their time.