

Extreme sports a risky business for tourists

THEY are the newest breed of "athlete", and they are about as far removed from an Olympic athlete as you can possibly get.

Unlike Olympians, these new athletes do no training, make no personal sacrifices, and in many cases don't even have to try when partaking in their chosen sports.

And unlike Olympians, these new athletes are risking far more than normal sporting injuries when they "compete"—they are quite often risking their lives.

Who are they?

According to an Adelaide University researcher, they are ordinary young Australians aged between 18 and 35—Mr Joe and Ms Jo Average—who are travelling around the world in increasing numbers to take part in so-called "extreme sports", such as bungee jumping, mountaineering and canyoning.

Department of Anthropology lecturer Dr Catherine Palmer says average Australians are taking part in these activities under the misapprehension they are high thrill, but low risk.

"These sports are sold to people as being high-thrill, but at the same time low-risk—and that's obviously not the case," Dr Palmer said.

"Things can and do go wrong, and when that happens, the nature of the activities mean lives are lost.

"The Interlaken disaster last year is a prime example of the tragic consequences which can occur when things go wrong."

Dr Palmer has researched why ordinary Australians are attracted to extreme sports as part of a paper titled *Shit Happens: the selling of risk in extreme sports*, which she will present at the Australian Anthropological Society Conference in Perth later this month.

"I'm interested in why people feel the need to risk their lives like this—why they want to put their lives in the hands of people they've never met—and how the commercial operators sell their services in such a way that makes them attractive to people," she said.

"Part of it stems from the fact that anyone can do these activities. You look at an Olympic athlete, they spend years training constantly, making lots of sacrifices and just generally being incredibly dedicated to their sport, and you compare to it to doing these so-called extreme activities, where basically all you have to do is show up.

"Much of this is purely about hedonism, in that people want to do these things for themselves—their motivation is one of self-gratification. A large part of that is because of the way these sports are marketed by the operators."

Of greatest interest—and concern—for Dr Palmer are that these tragedies, which usually involve young middle-class Western travellers, have produced a burgeoning new literary and media genre: the adventure saga, an autobiographical account of the disaster as penned by a survivor.

"While the Interlaken tragedy is yet to make it to print or the big screen, we have seen in recent times films such as *The Perfect Storm* or books

Fatal ^{Adventure holiday disaster} canyon thrill

Tourist killed in jet boat crash
Adventurers take plunge into danger 13 Aussies feared dead
Adventure turned to terror
Disaster waiting to happen



Extreme fun, or danger?

such as *Into Thin Air*, which details an ill-fated trip to Mount Everest in 1996.

"I find this kind of 'selling a disaster' curious and questionable."

Another interesting point to emerge from the rise of these tourist-oriented extreme sports is that they differ markedly from their competitive, made-for-television counterpart, Dr Palmer said.

"Competitive extreme sports, like BMX riding and skateboarding, are more like traditional sports, because skill is needed and you do need to train in order to be successful," she said. "The risk is still there, but it's much more of a controlled risk.

"But while the competitive sports are predominantly a male domain, these tourist-based extreme sports attract both male and female participants.

"Not a lot has changed about the traditional place of men and women in sport, and these

tourist-oriented activities give women a chance to take part in the kinds of 'thrill-seeking' activities that have traditionally been the preserve of men."

—Ben Osborne

Joint programs discussed by new consortium

ADELAIDE University has moved a step closer to offering new Masters degrees in collaboration with three international partner institutions.

The University hosted a two-day meeting with representatives of the University of Canterbury (New Zealand), Waseda University (Japan) and Universiti Putra Malaysia to discuss how two new Masters programs should be developed.

Participants included Professor Daryl Le Grew, Vice-Chancellor of Canterbury, Dr Shurijo Urata, Professor of the School of Social Sciences at Waseda, Dr Muhamad Awang, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at UPM, and Professor Penny Boumelha, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) of Adelaide.

It was the second meeting between the institutions since they agreed to explore the formation of a consortium earlier this year.

The meeting discussed curriculum development for the proposed Masters programs. It also explored models for delivery and structure, industry sponsorship opportunities and the roles and commitment of each partner. It was agreed that a Memorandum of Understanding for the project should now be prepared.

Further meetings are planned this year.

—John Drislane

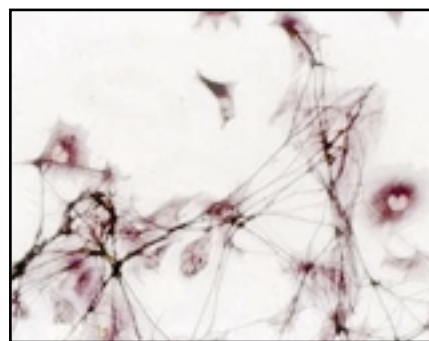
Biotechnology research to grow from embryonic start

ADELAIDE-BASED biotechnology company BresaGen expects to receive human embryonic stem (ES) cells in the near future from the University of Wisconsin, USA.

The cells are intended for use in the BresaGen Cell Therapy Program which is conducted in the Department of Molecular Biosciences at Adelaide University under the scientific direction of Professor Peter Rathjen.

Stem cells are embryonic cells, among the first to appear as a fertilised egg develops. They have the ability to develop into most of the specialised cells in the human body including blood, skin, muscle and nerve cells. They also have the capacity to divide and proliferate indefinitely in culture.

Scientists can use these two unique properties of stem cells to produce seemingly limitless supplies of most human cell types, paving the way for the treatment of diseases by cell replacement. In fact, cell therapy has the potential to treat any disease that is associated with cell dysfunction or damage, including stroke, diabetes, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, heart attack, spinal cord injury,



Nerve cells derived from mouse embryonic stem cells.

cancer, and AIDS.

Parkinson's disease provides a model of how such treatment might occur. The disease is caused by dysfunctional nerve cells in a particular area of the brain. Using cell therapy, these faulty cells could be replaced with healthy, stem cell-derived nerve cells.

"Scientists in the Cell Therapy Program have been able to produce nerve, muscle and blood cells from mouse ES cells and would like to demonstrate the same transitions using human ES cells," said BresaGen's Dr Paul Tolstoshev.

"BresaGen is focusing on developing cell-

based therapies for Parkinson's Disease and genetic diseases of the bone marrow, using the mouse and rat as model systems," he said.

The most useful population of human stem cells for therapeutic purposes are the embryonic stem cells. In December 1998, two USA research teams announced the isolation and stable regeneration of human ES cells in culture. Despite the great promise offered by these cells, their source and acquisition raised important ethical questions.

Human ES cell lines come from two different sources. One line is isolated from human foetal tissue obtained from terminated pregnancies, the other was obtained from surplus early-stage human embryos donated by individuals undergoing IVF treatment. It is cells from this second line that BresaGen will use.

Despite the fact that both tissue sources are donated with the informed consent of the donors, the destruction of embryos for stem cell isolation has attracted criticism from some pro-life, religious and bioethics groups. The central ethical argument hinges on the status of an embryo.

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COMMENTARY

WHAT'S IN AN OLYMPIC RING

Associate Professor Rob Woodbury
School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture
& Urban Design

The torch relay has been to Adelaide and gone onto Sydney. I am happy to have seen it and to have been part of the very real community spirit around this wonderful and worthwhile event. It seemed to me to be celebrating three things. First, it heralded the upcoming Olympic Games. It was a preamble to what is perhaps really "The Greatest Show on Earth". Second, it was a national celebration of Australia. Among the torch runners were some of South Australia's most famous and accomplished people. Showcased by the relay were some of the State's most potent icons, both old and new: the India Pacific railway, the Glenelg tram and the Annesley solar car, to mention a few. Third, it was a celebration of community. The torch runners were known to many of the spectators and the feeling of goodwill was thick in the air. That there were Adelaide-designed insides to that elegant torch reminded me of the great community in which I work. I wouldn't have missed it for anything. My children were delighted.

But it missed the point. Completely.

It was an outward celebration of an inward event that lies beyond its grasp, an event that is cleverly scheduled but once every four years. For most Olympic athletes, that timing means once in a lifetime, for a sporting career is short. The Olympics are a peak experience, the

culmination of years of honing knowledge, conditioning, technique and especially resolve. The experience of success in elite competition is one of intense focus—mind and body are entirely dedicated to one goal. Every aspiring Olympian must surmount enormous obstacles to gain his or her place on the team. The process of getting there is akin to a forge—it takes innate talent and transforms it into tough ability. You are a different person for having gone through it.

This story too misses an important point.

Behind most Olympians stand mentors. Coaches, friends, elders and family share in and are a crucial part of the Olympic experience. Young people may be at their athletic peak. They are seldom at the peak of their wisdom. They need support from those with more knowledge and wisdom. They need mentors. The lucky ones get such support. Luckier are the mentors fortunate enough to give it and to return trust with trustworthiness. Such partnerships and the people in them go through the Olympics and emerge on the other side with a greater potential than before. The Olympics put a sharp edge on character, friendship and community and this is, ultimately, more important than any national medal count.

Something is still awry.

In the process, Olympians themselves become mentors. It is not a function of age, but of relative experience handled wisely. At the same time a coach is politely suggesting (for the 27th time) that an athlete needs to stay focused

throughout an event, a 12-year-old is rapt in the awesome performance that such focus can produce. That 12-year-old takes in more than athleticism: she sees character and models on it. Olympians carry responsibility beyond themselves and they gain from this apparent burden. Reputation and trust—the external things that endure after the close of an athletic career—are built much more on bearing than accomplishment.

It comes full circle. Olympic achievement forms a lasting web of community where all involved contribute and benefit. The Olympians themselves are the most visible manifestation of this web, but are only a part of it.

Kerouac wrote that comparisons are odious. Comparing one peak experience to another is fraught with difficulty and risk. But that won't stop me. There is another, less rare, though by no means common, experience that more than echoes Olympia. This is the realm of academic excellence. Like the Olympics, the pursuit of knowledge takes preparation, joyful effort and intense resolve. A new discovery transforms not only knowledge, but the discoverer as well. Fortunate scholars work in living communities of people and ideas. Both scholar and community gain with each success.

We have no shortage of either aspiring Olympians or excellent academics. What seems to me to be in too short a supply in both enterprises are mentors. It is strange to me that this is so. Perhaps we see mentoring as altruism, an unpopular quality in this illiberal



“Olympic achievement forms a lasting web of community where all involved contribute and benefit.”

age. If so, we are blind to an important reality. Good mentors raise the standard for all, including themselves. I wonder how much more effective we would be as an institution and community of scholars and learners if our already significant culture of mentoring went into serious training.

Rob Woodbury was a member of the 1980 Canadian Olympic Team.

Welcome to the Games issue

Throughout this issue of the *Adelaidean* you'll find a number of stories relating to the Olympics as well as other non-Olympic games and sports (such as our Page 1 story on extreme sports and our Page 7 story on two successful alumni who've set up their own computer game company).

The staff of the *Adelaidean* hope you enjoy the issue and all it has to offer. In some ways it is both a companion to, and offers some relief from, all the mainstream media attention surrounding the Olympic Games.



—David Ellis

Adelaidean

Volume 9 Issue Number 16

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Research and Teaching



In "Teaching & Research Excellence—do they go together?" (*Adelaidean*, 28/8/2000) the Vice-Chancellor notes the 80% overlap

between the top five UK universities in research and in teaching. Such a relationship would almost certainly also hold for Australia, where the top universities are noted for both research and teaching while others are denigrated for lack of scholarship.

Yet the penultimate paragraph, dealing with incentives to promote teaching excellence within this university, is concerned only with the mechanics of teaching and rewards for teaching, while ignoring recognition of research performance which would fuel teaching excellence.

The Stephen Cole the Elder Prizes send a great signal, but why are there no prizes for the year's best research or the most promising researcher under 40?

Professor Richard Pomfret
School of Economics

Chancellor's Committee



The Honourable Justice Perry, (*Adelaidean*, 28/8/2000), suggests that I and others have misunderstood the resolution concerning the Chancellor's committee passed at the 31 July Council meeting, and argues that the Council's powers and responsibilities remain completely unaffected.

On 14 August, the *Adelaidean* reported "As part of the proposal, the University Council also agreed to delegate to the Chancellor all its powers and responsibilities under the University of Adelaide Act 1971." Whether and how often the delegated powers are exercised is surely beside the point: the *Adelaidean* has reported that the Council has agreed to delegate its powers to the Chancellor. If this report is correct then the Council's powers and

responsibilities have certainly been affected.

Perhaps one of the Council Members who voted against the motion can explain her/his understanding of its meaning.

Dr Bob Clarke
Department of Pure Mathematics

Nuclear Waste



Your expert panel on nuclear waste in South Australia has presented a very jaundiced, and at times erroneous, view of the nuclear waste issue (*Adelaidean*, 14/8/00).

The panel has simply reiterated the standard pro-nuclear position, including a number of misleading statements, and has ignored counter arguments.

By appearing to be uninformed about arguments against a national radioactive waste dump in SA and generally appearing to be insensitive to views other than its own the expert panel has unfortunately reinforced the ivory tower image of universities.

One of the experts is reported to claim that the National Radioactive Waste Repository Study has been seeking suitable locations for a repository for "low-level waste". In fact the study has been looking for a site for low and intermediate level waste. That the repository is only for low-level waste is a misconception promulgated by certain Federal Government officers and ministers. That a member of your expert panel should uncritically accept this misconception does no credit to the panel.

The proposed national repository is for low and intermediate level waste that will remain dangerous for hundreds of years. There is also a need for an aboveground store for longer-lived and more dangerous wastes. The latter is claimed to be a separate issue but most observers expect that the repository and the store will end up at the same location. In both the case of the repository and of the store, most of the waste comes from one single location, Lucas Heights in Sydney.

The amount of radioactivity in stores such as that at Adelaide University is comparatively trivial.

A member of your expert panel seems to be under the impression that the waste will not be buried at the repository. In fact the repository is a shallow burial system, which most people refer to as a dump. Use of the word repository appears to have confused even an expert.

Your interview with the expert panel overlooked an important point. Radioactive waste at Adelaide University has, according to one member of the panel, been stored in a basement which was flooded and which was bucketed into the drains (*Today Tonight*, Channel 7, 18/8/2000; *The Advertiser*, 21/8/2000).

Allowing the storage of radioactive waste in a flood-prone basement and then bucketing possibly contaminated water into drains are actions that to me appear to be inconsistent with the term expert.

The panel appears unanimous that it is unsafe to store the waste at the University. Unfortunately, even if a central repository is constructed, interim storage at the University is still part of the waste management plan. This suggests that the University has some work to do in ensuring safe storage facilities for its radioactive wastes. Alternatively, they might consider not using radioactive materials so that the problem of managing radioactive waste becomes academic.

Dr Dennis Matthews
Blackwood

Letters to the Editor

Please send your letters to the editor, David Ellis, Media, Marketing & Publications Unit, Room G07, Mitchell Building, Adelaide University, South Australia 5005, or email to: <david.ellis@adelaide.edu.au>.

Kuching a tough act to follow

THE second Australian Universities International Alumni Convention in Kuching, Sarawak last month (24-27 August) was an outstanding success, with more than 1000 delegates from some 20 countries attending. (The inaugural convention took place in Adelaide two years ago.)

Held under the joint patronage of Sarawak's Chief Minister, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Haji Abdul Taib bin Mahmud (an Adelaide University graduate), and Australia's Governor-General, Sir William Deane (who was represented by the Governor of South Australia, Sir Eric Neal), the convention drew widespread praise from delegates.

Under its broad theme of "Globalisation and a new World Order", the program offered a diverse and stimulating choice of 28 papers by Malaysian, Australian and international speakers.

The quality of the offerings was established in the thoughtful opening plenary address by the Chief Minister, which was described by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane, as "a brave speech, which set the tone for the rest of the conference".

The Chief Minister's call for a new world order based on a greater sense of distributive justice found a consistent echo in many other papers at the convention, as they explored the positives and the negatives of globalisation under sub-themes of Education, Economics & Business, Governance/ Geopolitics, Tech-

nology, and Environment/ Biodiversity.

It was a comprehensive program whose speakers included the Federal Minister of Employment, Training and Youth Affairs, Dr David Kemp; the United States Ambassador to Vietnam, the Hon Pete Peterson; Malaysia's Minister of Agriculture, YB Datuk Effendi Norwawi; Professor Alastair Davidson from the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton University; Tan Sri Dato' Musa Hitam, Chairman of the Malaysian National Commission on Human Rights; Dr Elizabeth Bennett, Director of Malaysia Programme, The Wildlife Conservation Society; and commentator and futurist Richard Neville, who gave the closing plenary.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane, was one of five Australian Vice-Chancellors who addressed the issues which globalisation raised for universities in the 21st century.

But the convention was not confined to its program of formal talks. It also featured social functions which enabled delegates to meet old friends and make new ones, facilitating that informal networking which is such an important part of every conference.

There was a welcoming reception, a formal convention dinner hosted by the Sarawak State Government at the Sarawak Stadium, and a final night street party on the Kuching Waterfront. Cultural performances by artists from the acclaimed Sarawak Cultural Village and from Western Australia's Black Swan Theatre company added to the sense of warm hospitality which pervaded the convention.

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From left: Sarawak's Chief Minister and the Governor of South Australia at the luncheon for South Australian alumni, hosted by the Governor.



Celebrations at the final night party at the Kuching Waterfront. Photos: John Edge.



Globalisation and the new world order, the new university order

What does globalisation mean for universities? Over the past few weeks I've had an opportunity to explore this question both in practical and theoretical terms.

On the practical side, our University hosted a most productive meeting of the four partners in one of our global consortia—Adelaide University, the University of Canterbury (New Zealand), Waseda University (Japan) and Universiti Putra Malaysia. The meeting focused on how we could best deliver new multi-university Masters degree courses in areas of high demand. Different languages, different cultures, and different communication systems are among the big challenges of practical globalisation in higher education.

Another practical step towards globalisation was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between our University and the new Singapore Management University (SMU) last month. SMU already has close links with the Wharton School of Management at the University of Pennsylvania, so the new agreement extends the international links of all three institutions. As it develops, the relationship between Adelaide University and SMU will involve student and staff exchanges and joint research projects.

So much for the practical side of globalisation. On the theoretical side, many Adelaide University representatives attended the convention on Globalisation and the New World Order in Kuching last month. When I encouraged people to go to this event—the second Australian Universities' International Alumni Convention—many were sceptical, despite the great success of the previous Alumni Convention in Adelaide two years ago. They argued that it was a generalist conference unlikely to lead to particular insights.

In his address at the Memorial Service for Sir Mark Oliphant in Boynton Hall last month, Barry Jones warned that the public intellectual in Australia was an endangered species. I agree. Similarly, the generalist conference dealing with issues of major public importance is also an endangered species (the sad demise of the ANZAS conference is a case in point).

I'm delighted to report that the large contingent from Adelaide University was impressed by the whole Convention experience in Kuching—the organisation, the hospitality and the opportunities to participate in stimulating debate. The conference theme of globalisation was explored thoroughly in speeches that emphasised the role of smart partnerships and networking in meeting the challenges of the 21st century. The event enabled people from many countries to express forthright opinions, in a public-spirited way, about the future of universities in the new world order. Again and again, speakers underlined the importance of government and communities continuing to support education. Many pointed to the Colombo Plan as an example of the enormous social and economic benefits that result from government backing for universities.

It was wonderful, also, to catch up with people who had been educated at Adelaide University and who have gone on to make their mark in a wide variety of fields. Among them were the former president of Singapore, the Honourable Ong Teng Cheong, and our host, the Chief Minister of Sarawak. Hearing these and other alumni speak with such affection about their alma mater was quite inspiring. It was another reminder of the immense reservoir of goodwill that exists for our University and of the importance of fostering closer links with graduates.

Well done to all concerned. The conference advertised as "the Great Aussie Do in the Land of the Hornbills" wasn't half bad.

MARY O'KANE

Call for staff input at academic forum

A FORUM is to be held at Adelaide University to discuss how the University can achieve an optimal structure for its teaching and research.

The Academic Structures Working Party was recently established to advise the Vice-Chancellor on courses of action needed, where required, to enhance academic structures. The move is aimed at helping Adelaide University meet its objective of becoming a world-class university by 2022.

One of the main strengths of the Working Party is that it has no pre-conceptions about what it might take to achieve the very best in academic structures. This will enable

submissions from and discussions with the University community to guide the way.

Members of the Working Party, most of whom are senior academic staff, urged staff and students to attend the coming Forum on Wednesday 13 September.

"While the University's biological scientists, geographers and environmentalists are well advanced in their appreciation of these issues, other parts of the University have hardly considered the implications of change," said Working Party member Professor Margaret Sedgley (Horticulture, Viticulture & Oenology).

"The period of consultation and the open forum provide the opportunity for open and

frank discussion, and for exchange of ideas and views. The Academic Structures Working Party will advise the VC by the end of the year on overall Faculty structures and facilitation of excellence in teaching and research across the University. It is essential that the University community as a whole drive the discussion."

Fellow member Professor Phil Barter (Medicine) said: "The establishment of an Academic Structures Working Party provides an opportunity to ask whether our existing structure is appropriate for our development or whether our future will be better served by an alternative structure."

Continued Page 4

Singapore success for Adelaide education

ADELAIDE University's strong educational ties with Singapore have been further strengthened by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Singapore Management University (SMU).

The MOU provides for a unique collaborative degree structure between the two institutions. Students at either institution may complete two years at one institution and the last two at the other, gaining two business degrees in four years (one from SMU, the other from Adelaide University).

A number of senior staff from both universities attended the signing, including Professor Mary O'Kane, Vice-Chancellor of Adelaide, Professor Tan Teck Meng, Deputy President of SMU, and Professor Lee Parker from Adelaide's School of Commerce, who first initiated discussions with SMU regarding a link with Adelaide.

The City of Adelaide's Lord Mayor, Mr Alfred Huang, was also among the guests attending the signing ceremony at the Westin Stamford Hotel.

Adelaide is the first Australian university to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with SMU.

The events also coincided with last month's highly successful education fair in Singapore, organised by Education Adelaide and attended by both Adelaide and Flinders universities.

Around 2000 people visited the fair, gaining more information about the study opportunities and lifestyle available in Adelaide.

Ms Elizabeth Geddes, Director of Adelaide's Prospective Students



Professor Tan Teck Meng, Deputy President of SMU, with Professor Mary O'Kane. Photo: Mike Geddes.

Office, said the weekend in Singapore was an invaluable marketing opportunity.

"Adelaide University has never had that amount of exposure in Singapore before. Education Adelaide has done an excellent job of putting Adelaide on the map," Ms Geddes said.

Meanwhile, the former President of Singapore, Mr Ong Teng Cheong, was the recipient of a Distinguished Alumni Award from Adelaide University. For more details, turn to page 7.

Indigenous housing offers architectural insights

WHY has Aboriginal housing in remote areas attracted such little interest from architects?

Is it a case of out of sight, out of mind? Or does it reflect a reluctance to tackle a so-called "problem area"?

Adelaide University lecturer Liz Grant is unsure of the answer. But at the School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urban Design she is working to ensure that the next generation of architects is more knowledgeable on the subject.

Ms Grant coordinates a pilot program that introduces second and third-year architecture students to studies in remote Aboriginal housing across Aboriginal Australia. It is the first program of its kind at an Australian university.

Students use ethno-architecture in Aboriginal Australia to discover the diversity in Aboriginal cultures. Guest lecturers speak on topics such as the concept of Aboriginality, the impact of government policy on Aboriginal people and the origins and characteristics of homelands. Among the lecturers has been Associate Professor Paul Memmott from Queensland University's Aboriginal Environments Research Centre.

During the forthcoming semester break, the 10 participating students will go to Umoona (Cooper Pedy) to live and work in an Aboriginal

community and undertake research.

"It's important for students to get out to remote areas and experience the life of the communities," said Ms Grant. "The whole thrust of the course is that we need to design for the way people live. You can't separate housing from health and social issues."

"The students will be participating in a Community Development Employment Program. They'll work on landscape projects, arts and crafts, construction and maintenance. This will help them to improve some practical skills and, at the same time, learn more about Aboriginal communities. The idea is that this will feed back into the course."

Student Paul Herzich said the pilot program provided a good introduction to Aboriginal cultures.

"It's important for us to learn Aboriginal people's ways of living happily and comfortably, just as we learn the ways of non-Indigenous people. Architects need to design to fit people's lifestyles."

Ms Grant said the pilot program would be evaluated by academics and participating architects with a view to developing a model for incorporating Indigenous education into architecture.

—John Drislane



Students Josephine Neldner and Paul Herzich with a wiltja constructed with the help of Wilto Yerlo. A wiltja is a form of ethno-architecture still in use in Anangu Pitjantjatjara Lands. Photo: John Drislane.

Oliphant awards a fitting memorial

A MEMORIAL service for Sir Mark Oliphant took place in Bonython Hall on 18 August. Almost immediately afterwards, the hall began to fill with hundreds of entries in the competition that bears his name and for which Sir Mark himself fashioned the trophy.

The Oliphant Science Awards are an annual event, which encourages students to explore, question and probe the world around us and to appreciate the links between school science and the greater scientific enterprise.

As a major sponsor of the Oliphant Science Awards, Adelaide University displayed 700 entries—the combined work of 3000 students. The entries were then moved to the Investigator Science Centre until the announcement and presentation of prizes at the Australian Mineral Foundation on 8 September.

The entries are a diverse collection of resources, with categories for models, inventions, computers, games, essays, experiments, photographs, posters, videos and webpages.

Sir Mark was the patron of the South



A model of environmental farm improvement, from Jemima Raymond of Scotch College.

Australian Science Teachers' Association (SASTA), which organises the awards each year.

"The Oliphant Awards are the premier science competition in the State, involving students across all age groups," said Mr Donald Bramwell, the Executive Officer of SASTA.

"By promoting science at all levels of



Donald Bramwell inspects a wind-powered numbat. Photo: Rob Morrison.

school we are ensuring that all students in South Australia have the opportunity to explore, question and probe the world around us.

"In addition, the awards enable teachers and parents to develop their own skills and expand their own experiences in collaboration with their students."

—Rob Morrison

English program to benefit international students

A NEW program aims to help international students, and some local ones, get "up to speed" on English language and communication.

The Pre-Enrolment English Program (PEP) has been designed specifically to assist international students whose English skills are just below Adelaide University's requirements to gain entry to the University.

Students who otherwise would miss out on entry to Adelaide can complete the Pre-Enrolment English Program, studying for either 10 weeks or five weeks, depending on their English proficiency.

The program is also suitable for Australian students who do not have sufficient academic English language and communication skills, or knowledge about academic conventions.

The PEP curriculum has been devised and written by staff from the Advisory Centre for University Education and was specifically tailored for the designated student groups. The program is delivered by Adelaide University's Centre for Professional & Continuing Education.

"The PEP serves as an added attraction for both international students and Australian students from non-English speaking backgrounds to study at Adelaide University," said the Centre's Director, Ms Liz Pryzibilla.

"It provides them with an academic English learning pathway, continuity within the University and enhanced opportunities to succeed in tertiary study."

Prospective international students may apply for the Pre-Enrolment English Program on receipt of a conditional letter of offer from the University. Australian students may apply direct to the Centre. Additional information about the PEP, including course dates, fees and accommodation details, can be obtained from (08) 8303 4777.

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Professor John Maynard Smith
Professor of Biology – University of Sussex
"The Major Transitions of Biology"
Tuesday, 17 October 2000, 7.30pm, Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Building



Call for staff input – forum

From Page 3

"The Working Party welcomes ideas and suggestions from a wide range of people both inside and outside the University. This will ensure that whatever emerges draws on and is reflective of as wide an experience as possible. Ultimately, it is essential that whatever is decided is seen to be in the best interests of the whole University community and is embraced by all."

Dr Pat Buckley (Physiology), another member of the Working Party, said although the group's title specified structure, there were many other issues to discuss.

"We need to consider questions such as what are the best academic programs we can deliver, and how can student (and staff) interest in emerging disciplinary combinations be best facilitated. Then we can consider the structural issues that intersect with these questions, and advance some recommendations for useful structural change," she said.

"The work of this group will of necessity be finite and bounded, its outcomes being more of a stepping stone to optimising our core business of education and research training. What will matter to the quality of the outcome is the nature and quality of the input, and that will require as many people as possible to contribute their thoughts on the terms of reference of this group."

Submissions to the Working Party are now open, with all submissions to be received no later than Friday 29 September.

For the Working Party's terms of reference and other information, go to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) webpage: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/DVC/reviews/academic_structures.html>

The Forum will be held in Napier Lecture Theatre 102 from 1.00-2.00pm Wednesday 13 September.

Space future is in safe hands

AT the start of October, Kimberley Clayfield will be travelling into space. Metaphorically, at least.

Ms Clayfield, a postgraduate student at Adelaide University's Department of Mechanical Engineering, is the Program Director of SpaceFutures 2000, a conference which will run from October 4-7 in Canberra, bringing together youth from all over Australia to discuss the promotion of space for the future of Australia.

"Australia can have a future in the global space industry," said Ms Clayfield, "and the key things that the space industry needs for success are education and collaboration."

"SpaceFutures 2000 is about bringing together young people who are passionate about the development of a strong Australian space industry, and giving them a chance to meet, to exchange ideas, to have their enthusiasm noted by industry and government representatives, and make a positive

difference to space policy in this country."

The conference is being presented by the Australian Students' Space Association (ASSA), which was founded in Queensland in 1998. Its first achievements were a successful youth space forum and the launch of the national magazine *Aurora Australia*.

As the association expanded nationally, Melbourne became the site for a second forum in 1999, involving a live video conference with Andy Thomas. That year, five ASSA delegates also represented Australia at the United Nations Space Generations Forum.

The link with the United Nations continues. SpaceFutures 2000 will be held in conjunction with UN World Space Week, ensuring international interest in the forum's outcomes, one of which will be the launch of ASSA National, a body responsible for coordinating further activities in all States.

"In the past, the Australian space industry has suffered from fragmentation and a serious lack

of funding," said Ms Clayfield.

"Many young people with the skills and enthusiasm to make a positive contribution to the Australian industry have moved overseas to work in more established space programs.

"There is no better time for young Australians to come together to show their support for an Australian space industry."

The three days of the conference include addresses, technical sessions, round table discussions and public forums. Sponsorship is being sought, especially from government departments, corporations and educational institutions with an interest in the development of an Australian space industry.

For more information on SpaceFutures 2000, contact Kimberley Clayfield: (08) 8303 3157, <kcclayfi@mecheng.adelaide.edu.au>.

—Rob Morrison Kimberley Clayfield. Photo: Rob Morrison.



Scan Optics celebrates an export milestone

A TINY French island in the Indian Ocean is responsible for the latest milestone in the history of a company based at Adelaide University's Thebarton Campus.

Reunion, located 700km east of Madagascar and with a population of some 700,000, became the 100th country to which surgical microscope manufacturer Scan Optics exports its products.

The State Treasurer and Minister for Industry and Trade, Mr Rob Lucas, visited Scan Optics recently to present Scan Optics founder and CEO Dr Rod Watkins with a certificate to

commemorate the occasion, as well as taking a tour of the Scan Optics premises.

Scan Optics was established in 1986, and has the primary aim of producing high-quality, low-cost portable microscopes for cataract surgery.

Due to their quality, robustness and ease of use, these microscopes have become the standard for many of the world's major aid organisations, predominantly in developing countries.

"We are very pleased to reach the milestone of exporting to 100 countries," Dr Watkins said. "There are some 200 countries in the world so to be reaching approximately half of them is a very significant achievement for us."

"Certainly we are focusing our export efforts on countries with bigger populations and with large numbers of cataract blind, such as China and India, but we also take pride in the fact that we can help the smaller countries of the world, such as Reunion."

The Reunion microscope purchase was arranged by Mr Claude Doussineau, president of the Rotary Club of Etang-Salé in the south of the Reunion, to donate to the Association Sanitaire Réunionnais which organises humanitarian missions to the Indian Ocean about three times a year.

—Ben Osborne



State Treasurer and Minister for Industry and Trade Mr Rob Lucas (right) presents a plaque commemorating Scan Optics' achievement of exporting to 100 countries to founder and CEO Dr Rod Watkins.

Olympic torch – it's personal

THE Olympic Torch Relay is now on the home stretch to Sydney for the 2000 Olympic Games.

While engineering researchers at Adelaide University have paid close attention to the relay, another group—students devoted to science communication—has also been watching the relay with enthusiasm.

Marijke de Weerd is studying for a Graduate Diploma in Science Communication at the ANU and is a scholar with the Shell Questacon Science Circus. Her study requires her to undertake a range of activities which explain science to a wider audience, while the Science Circus has given her the chance to travel with the torch relay.

Attached to Adelaide University's Media, Marketing & Publications Unit for a week, Ms de Weerd described her recent torch experience:

As the torchbearer runs into the celebration site, the gathered crowd cheers, claps and screams. The interest in the torch has been tremendous, with thousands of people flocking to the Shell Questacon stage to look at, touch and even take a photo of the torch.

The Science Circus aims to give people a closer look at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Torch, informing the public about the science and technology behind the torch.

The system used in the torch was designed here at Adelaide University and is a first in many ways. It can withstand winds up to 65km per hour, torrential rain and is environmentally friendly. It is the first torch to use a liquid fuel and it is also the first torch to be curved in shape.

Following the torch around is hard work. The scholars set up the stage, give presentations, speak to the public, pack up the stage and drive to the next celebration site twice a day. There is also the problem of having to leave the lunchtime site before the torch does—nobody wants us to pack up, but the torch convoy doesn't stop and pull over for anyone, even performers running late. Touring is all part of life for the scholars who, when not taking part



Members of the Shell Questacon Science Circus who have been travelling Australia to educate the public about the torch.

in the torch relay, spend 12 weeks of the year touring regional Australia presenting science shows to schools and community groups.

The highlight of each celebration site is seeing the community cauldron lit. The cauldrons were also designed here in Adelaide and as the flame burns brightly on the stage for 50 minutes the crowd again gathers, hoping to get a chance to take their photo with a torch. For many people the torch relay is the closest they will get to the Olympics and they want to remember their experience of holding the torch.

Of course, there are always those who want to light their barbecues with the torch, but they are soon told that the flame is sacred and can only be used to light the official torches and cauldrons.

Most people are not just interested in the torch relay but also want to know who will run into Homebush stadium with the torch and how the cauldron will be lit. With the last two Olympics setting a high standard, Sydney has a lot to live up to. Considering this year's torch relay is the longest in history, the lighting of the main stadium cauldron will be something Australia will never forget.

—Marijke de Weerd

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Human reproductive technology in the next 20 years

GENETICS is a relatively young discipline, but it has become an *enfant terrible*. While controversy rages about the wisdom or otherwise of genetic engineering and its use in commercial crops, reproductive medicine has dilemmas of its own.

In-vitro fertilisation raised a mass of ethical issues, as did the possibility and then the achievement of cloning. The ability to detect genetic abnormalities in young embryos has raised even more ethical questions, and Australia is now about to embark on highly significant research involving embryonic stem cells.

The research is expected to lead to new treatments for Parkinson's disease, stroke, Alzheimer's disease, cancer and a host of other diseases associated with cell dysfunction or damage.

But stem cell technology has ethical problems, too, as the cells must be harvested from human embryos.

All of these issues are to be explored in the Inaugural Lloyd Cox lecture on Saturday 16 September, entitled *Reproductive Technology in the next 20 years—embryonic stem cells, cloning and genetic diagnosis*.

Speakers will cover a range of topics, such as ethics and the law, reproductive immunology and its potential to reduce pregnancy loss, and ways in which genetic assessment will change pre-implantation outcomes.

The keynote speaker will be Professor Alan Trounson from Monash University. Professor Trounson, a pioneer in human reproductive research, was the first in the world to produce a baby from frozen human embryos, the first to introduce donor eggs into human IVF, and has recently become the first person in Australia to undertake embryonic stem cell research.

"Professor Trounson is probably the most outstanding world expert on the growth and development of human embryos," said Professor Rob Norman, Head of Adelaide University's

Reproductive Medicine Unit (Repromed). "This meeting will point to where reproductive technology is headed for the next 20 years, and Professor Trounson is the most visionary leader anywhere in the world in this controversial area," said Professor Norman.

As part of the seminar, Professor Norman will himself lead a discussion on how the sometimes highly technological processes of reproductive medicine can be made more natural.

The seminar is named in honour of Professor Lloyd Cox, Adelaide University's first Professor of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, who initiated the Reproductive Medicine Unit at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

The seminar has been designed for medical specialists, general practitioners, scientists, nurses, students and the general public. It will be held in the Main Lecture Theatre, Women's & Children's Hospital (North Adelaide) from 9.00am until 1.00pm.

—Rob Morrison



Professor Alan Trounson.

Registration is free, but bookings are essential. Contact Helen Holmes: (08) 8222 7654, <helen.holmes@adelaide.edu.au>.

Biotechnology research to grow from embryonic start

From Page 1

"The early-stage embryos used for the isolation of human stem cells are no more than six days old and are invisible to the naked eye," said Dr Tolstoshev, Manager of the Cell Reprogramming Division at BresaGen. "Furthermore, these embryos are composed of around 100-200 unspecialised cells and contain no specialised cell types such as those that make up the central nervous system, including the brain," he said.

The isolation of stem cells from human embryos is legally difficult in Australia, but researchers here are permitted to import cells that have been legally isolated in another country. A research group led by Professor Alan Trounson at the Monash Institute of Reproduction and Development recently obtained human ES cells in this way. Once isolated, stem cells can be handled in the laboratory under guidelines similar to those governing other human cell types.

Because stem cells at present must be harvested from embryonic tissue, there is the possibility of an immune reaction when they are implanted into a recipient—an outcome associated with many organ and tissue transplants. There is also difficulty in obtaining sufficient donor cells. Both problems could be overcome if

stem cells could, instead, be harvested from the patient that they are used to treat.

Dr Tolstoshev sees the possibility that stem cell technology may develop to this point, at which embryonic cells will not be required. "There is strong evidence for stem cell populations in adult tissues such as skin, blood and brain," he said. "These may have the potential to form many of the specialised cells in the body, but they are very difficult to isolate and grow using current technologies."

However, there are strong indications that researchers may be able to reprogram normal adult cells to form cells of an earlier developmental stage, possibly even to the ES cell stage.

"If we can develop such technology we can avoid the moral and ethical issues, but it is critical at this stage that we have access to human embryonic stem cells so that we can study the complex biology involved and assess their potential for cell therapy applications."

BresaGen is attempting to derive stem cells from normal adult cells, which would overcome the ethical issues associated with the isolation of embryonic stem cells and provide an immune-compatible source of cells for therapy. The research is following two separate paths.

In the first, adult cells could be coaxed to form

stem cell populations by manipulating the cell culture conditions. The alternative route would involve using "nuclear transfer technology", which was used to produce Dolly, the world's first cloned sheep. This could be done by fusing an adult cell with either an egg cell, or with an ES cell, that has had its genetic material removed, and then using the resulting stem cells to derive specialised cell types for therapeutic applications.

Although nuclear transfer technology has been used to clone several species including sheep, pigs, goats, cows, and mice, there is no evidence to suggest that the technology can be extended to humans. Furthermore, there is a world-wide ban on human reproductive cloning, and the majority of scientists, government authorities and bioethicists agree that human cloning would offer no benefit to society.

A cell that is recently fertilised is termed *totipotent*, meaning that it has the unlimited capacity to develop into all postembryonic tissues. As the cell develops and divides repeatedly, this potential is briefly retained. Identical twins develop at the stage when the initial egg has divided into two cells, each of which forms a person.

Normally, however, the divisions occur repeatedly within the single embryo, and as they increase in number, some of the

developmental potential of the cells is lost. Once the developing embryo has formed a hollow ball of cells, a cluster of them inside are termed *pluripotent*. These pluripotent cells can not form a placenta and its supporting tissues, so they can not develop into a complete organism, but they can form virtually all the tissues of the human body.

Several private companies own patents protecting different aspects of stem cell therapy. Geron, a biotechnology company based in California, owns substantial intellectual property relating to the identification and use of human pluripotent cells, and methods for the isolation and regeneration of human embryonic stem cells.

It is likely that other complementary technologies will also be required to develop stem cell-based therapies. BresaGen has exclusive rights to a patent application which claims an intermediate cell type that shares most of the characteristics of embryonic stem cells, but can be more easily coaxed to form specific cell types. The therapeutic uses of this cell type and its derivatives are also claimed in the application. The patent application was filed by Adelaide University and was acquired by BresaGen in 1999.

—Rob Morrison

INTERVIEW

BENEFITS OF SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

THE ABC's Science Show marked its 25th birthday on Saturday 26 August.

Under the guidance of presenter Robyn Williams, the Science Show has been a major outlet for news about Australian science. It has helped to shape policies that affect research in Australia and explored the important scientific advances and controversies of this century.

In the face of ever-decreasing funding, universities are "spruiking" their research achievements in the media. Adelaide University's science journalist, Dr Rob Morrison, interviewed Robyn Williams on this growing trend.

Universities, CRCs and other organisations are increasingly hiring science communicators and journalists to publicise their science research. What really are the benefits in doing that?

I'll give you five reasons why the promotion of science is important for them. The first reason is that there is so much change in the world that, for democracies to work, it is essential that people know what is going on. I've just done an interview about stem cells. It's a tremendous ethical issue and also a tremendous issue in terms of investment, and for that immensely promising piece of medical research to have its effect it must be comfortably accepted by an informed populace—so the first reason is democracy.

The second reason is wealth. Again, using that example, if it comes off, the amount of money made and the amount of wealth, genuine wealth, created for the community will be immense.

Thirdly, science tells you who you are. In the old days, people used to say that women were inferior, blacks were inferior—now we know that this is not true. Science is a fantastic bullshit filter, and some of the work done on this campus about Aboriginal history has changed the face of Australia and how we look at ourselves. When I arrived in this country people thought the history of human presence was 5000 years. Now they know it's 60,000 and that's gigantically important for a world view from Australians.

The fourth reason to promote science awareness is that it's tremendous fun. There's great excitement. It's really one of the reasons that documentary programs are so popular.

The fifth reason is a sort of quarantine effect. Unless you have informed people on campus who say, "yes we know what that stem cell work is; we know what that bug is; we know that cane toads should not be imported", then you get swamped with the kind of science you don't need, so there has to be a sort of quality control for Australia.

Those are five major reasons why it's vitally important, and I think you can apply each one to a campus like this. Therefore you need to have the sort of science that you do made known

throughout the land, so that people can appreciate these qualities.

Academics have ever-increasing workloads. Where are the benefits to individual researchers in popularising their work in the media? Does it, for example, help them to get grants?

I'm not sure whether it does you any good professionally. I'm not sure whether it can get you more grants. I suspect it might because, as you know, (only) one in five propositions gets picked by the ARC. If it's a toss up, but they happen to know that you walk on water and glow in the dark and were on the Science Show last week—who knows?

I think that in an odd way that people don't recognise, it gives you confidence. I really do believe that an awful lot of us in these fields have had our knees shot away in the past few years, and many people have come to the end of their careers wondering, "What was that all for? Did it amount to very much? Yes I produced a few tweaks in the selection of the number of bristles on a particular group of flies, but will anyone ever remember?"

But if you talk about your work, and if you feel some sort of resonance—I've had this from so many scientists whom I've talked to—then they really do get very good feedback in the best possible sense, and I think it tells them something about why they did their work and



Robyn Williams.

“I'm not sure whether it can get you more grants. I suspect it might.”

what it means to their community. I found that some of the most confident and enduring scientists are those who have been out there doing that.

Robyn Williams's interview with Professor Peter Rathjen on stem cells will be broadcast in a future Science Show.

CAREER PATHS

RATBAG MAKES ITS MARK ON GAMING INDUSTRY

AS students at Adelaide University, Richard Harrison and Greg Siegele could only dream that one of their favourite pastimes would one day become a major business.

Today that dream is a reality—their computer game company, Ratbag, employs 35 people, has earned an international reputation and secured a \$5.5 million deal with one of the world's biggest video game companies, Sony.

Known mainly for its car racing games Powerslide, Dirt Track Racing and Leadfoot, Ratbag is now working on sprint car games for PC and Playstation 2, as well as other new projects.

Greg Siegele, who has degrees in Law and Economics from Adelaide University, is the CEO of the company, while Richard Harrison, a Science graduate, is Ratbag's Chairman and Technical Director.

The Adelaidean spoke with Richard about their success.

Why set up your own computer games company? What attracted you to this career?

Greg and I have known each other and been game fanatics since primary school. We started with Pong and moved on to an Atari 2600 bought for me in Grade 7. Then came the Intellivision, Commodore 64, Amiga and PC. Now we are fortunate enough to have all the current game systems to play with.

We saw that there were some games that we wanted to play and that we would be able to make better than anyone else and went for it. The ability to combine computer graphics with artificial intelligence and physical simulation and call it work was a big hook for me personally.

How difficult/easy was it to set up your own company? What were your setbacks (if any) and how did you overcome them?

It wasn't too hard to set it up though I look back now and realise that we knew next to nothing. In the early days there

were just two of us and some sporadic work by contractors so the pressure to keep money coming in the door wasn't there. Which is just as well because no money was coming in the door.

Our initial setback was creating a pretty left-field game concept without a strong vision of what the game experience and objectives would be. It was also running only on Silicon Graphics hardware since that was all I had experience programming on. When publishers came back and said "Very pretty but let's see it running on the PC and let's see some gameplay before we give you any money," we had to go back to the drawing boards. In doing so we decided to go with our second game idea which was for a futuristic, highly evolved variant of *Stunt Car Racer* written for the Amiga by Geoff Crammond. Thus Powerslide was born.

Having our publisher who was to fund our next two games after Powerslide run into financial difficulty and have to cancel was also very hard. We started work on *Dirt Track Racing* and the strength of this product and the ones we had in the pipeline saw us get publishing deals with Wizardworks and, of course, more recently with Sony.

I'm glad we made it to where we are but I'm not sure I'd like to go for the entire ride again.

What are the drawbacks and/or benefits of basing a computer game company in Adelaide, especially when the market is driven overseas?

We have a very good talent pool to draw from here. The exchange rate is generous. Costs for office space and living costs are low. The air is clean, the water drinkable and the people friendly.

On the negative side it takes some hard work and more than a little shouting to get noticed when you start out. Publishers are nervous about making a sizeable investment in a company based in a State which they can't locate on a map. Increasingly though this is changing as awareness of the potential of Australian developers is recognised.

What are the most attractive features of your job?

The variety of work is exciting, as is the opportunity to work with cutting-edge technology and have to extract the most from it. I value the room for artistic expression and enjoy working with friendly, easy-going people that have a passion for what they do.

How much of what you learnt at university has been directly or indirectly applicable to your career?

University extended the base provided by my schooling. It was also my first taste of the grand social experiment that fear had denied me at school. If you happen to be at university right now, make the most of it. Devour the knowledge, get the degree but also be aware of the fact that you may never be thrust into close proximity with so many potentially like-minded individuals again in your life.

Everyone learns in different ways and has their imagination sparked by different triggers. I like to believe I'm a visual thinker. I'm sure many of the seeds for what I have learnt since were provided at university but it all seems to come so much easier now when I realise I need to understand something before I can simulate it or before I can make pretty pictures on the screen.

What words of encouragement could you give to young Australians who want a career in the computer games industry?

There are numerous options for employment, with companies continually expanding because of their success and increasing overseas awareness of the potential for investing in Australian developers. The industry provides employment to programmers, modellers, texture artists, graphic designers, managers and business gurus alike.

As games merge with internet-delivered media the skills you learn are applicable across a range of short-staffed industries. Oh yeah, it's fun too: you get to make things bounce, sink, think and sing.



From left: Greg Siegele and Richard Harrison, co-founders of Ratbag. Photo by Dean Martin, courtesy of The Advertiser.



A screenshot from Ratbag's game, *Dirt Track Racing - Sprint*.

Former President receives Alumni Award

ONE OF Adelaide University's most prominent alumni, Mr Ong Teng Cheong, has been presented with a notable Distinguished Alumni Award.

Mr Ong, the former and first elected President of the Republic of Singapore, received the award from the Chair of the Adelaide University Alumni Association, the Hon Greg Crafter and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane as part of the lead up to the Second Australian Universities International Alumni Convention 2000, held in Kuching, Sarawak.

The ceremony was held in the Crowne Plaza Riverside and was attended by a select group of representatives from Adelaide University, the Alumni Association and members of the Malaysian Chapter. It was



a distinguished occasion which provided the opportunity for the Vice-Chancellor, on behalf of the Adelaide University community, to recognise Mr Ong's sustained and illustrious service to the alumni of the University and, auspiciously, to the people of Singapore.

South Australian Universities Alumni Convention

A COMBINED South Australian Universities Alumni Gathering was held at the Crowne Plaza Riverside to commence festivities associated with the opening of the Second Australian Universities International Alumni Convention.

The reception was attended by His Excellency Sir Eric Neal, Governor of South Australia and the Chief Minister of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud as well as graduates and friends of Adelaide University, the University of South Australia and Flinders University.

Guests were invited to mingle in a warm and welcoming atmosphere which created a fitting beginning to the Convention. The Chair of the Alumni Association, the Hon Greg Crafter expressed that "the informal gathering of so many South Australian alumni provided a valuable opportunity for alumni to catch up with old friends



From left: Sir Eric Neal, Mr Ong Teng Cheong, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud and Michael Abbott QC.

and to meet with new friends". The presence of the Chief Minister and the Governor of South Australia created an appropriate sense of occasion reflecting the importance of the ties between South Australian Universities and our international alumni.

Alumni Association sponsored delegates



ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY Alumni Association and Education Adelaide sponsored three members of Adelaide University's alumni to attend the Second Australian Universities International Alumni Convention held in Kuching, Sarawak on 24-27 August. The sponsored delegates (pictured left) were Aaron Witthoef, Honours Student in the Politics Department, Farley Wright, PhD Student in the English Department and Kate Wright, Bachelor of Arts graduate.

CORNELL CHAPTER

This year's Annual Dinner of the Cornell Chapter will be held at St Mark's College on the evening of Thursday, 3 November 2000. Guest speaker will be Mr Greg Mackie. Watch this space for further details in September. Two round table discussion evenings are also being planned for the first half of 2001. Each will focus on the present state, role and importance of the Humanities and Social Sciences in 1) the University and 2) secondary school education in South Australia. More details about both these discussion evenings will appear in the *Adelaidean* near the end of the year.

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ASO's tribute to music pioneer

THE Adelaide Symphony Orchestra will honour Adelaide-based electronic music pioneer Tristram Cary's 75th birthday with a special tribute concert to be held later this month.

Conducted by Graham Abbott, the ASO will perform a program devoted entirely to the works of Cary, ranging from a suite from his score to the 1958 film *Tread Softly Stranger* to the world premiere of his autobiographical piece *Scenes from a Life*.

Tristram Cary was born in Oxford in 1925, and began his pioneering work in electronic music from the late 1940s. He was also a composer of both instrumental and electronic music for films, radio, television and theatre, and in 1967 he founded the first London teaching studio for electronic music at the Royal College of Music.

He moved to Australia in 1974, where he began a long and productive association with Adelaide University. He came as a Visiting Composer and stayed on as a Senior Lecturer, and was then promoted to Reader and also Dean of Music before leaving full-time teaching in 1986 to devote more time to teaching.

He became an Australian citizen in 1990, and was awarded the OAM in 1991 for his services to music. A double CD, *Soundings*, which celebrated 40 years of his music, was released in 1995.

—Ben Osborne

Tristram Cary: A 75th Birthday Tribute will be held at the Norwood Concert Hall on Saturday, 27 September from 8pm. Tickets are available from BASS (phone 131 246), and are \$27 adult/\$22 adult concession/\$16 tertiary concession.



Tristram Cary. Photo: Ben Osborne.

Kuching a tough act to follow

From Page 3

Many Australian universities also took advantage of the occasion to hold reunions for their own alumni. The three South Australian universities joined forces under the banner of Education Adelaide for two functions, including a luncheon hosted by Sir Eric Neal at which three alumni (one from each university) were presented with Outstanding Alumni Awards for their contribution to bilateral relations between their country and South Australia.

They were the Chief Minister of

Sarawak (Adelaide), Adrian Lim Ken Yean (Flinders), and Singaporean Oh Bong Leng (UniSA).

The next convention will be held in 2002 under the theme, "Networking in the Knowledge Economy". It will be hosted by the Government of Victoria and Victoria's universities.

If the response of delegates in Kuching to the completeness of the program and the hospitality shown to them is anything to go by, Melbourne will have a tough act to follow.

—John Edge

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Our 'Olympic team' heads to Sydney

THE Olympic torch team led the way—now it's our athletes' turn.

As well as helping to develop the flame technology for the Sydney 2000 Games, Adelaide University has other close links with the world's greatest sporting carnival.

Three members of the University Boat Club—Kate Slatter, Alison Davies and Carmen Klomp—are members of the Australian rowing squad at the Games. Kate, a gold medallist at Atlanta, will compete in the Women's Pairs, Alison will row in the Women's Eight, and Carmen is a reserve for the Women's Quad.

Judo is the other sport with an Adelaide University connection. Anthony Lawrence Clarke, a member of the University Judo Club, will be attempting to retain the gold medal he won in the under 90kg title at the Paralympics in Atlanta four years ago.

Another club member, Chung Jae Lee, was selected for the Australian team but cannot compete. His Australian citizenship papers did not come through on time and he has been forced to miss out.

In the lead-up to the Games, the Judo Club hosted more than 20 Olympic judo players and officials from Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Cameroon and Mali. The club worked closely with Judo SA and the Office for Recreation and Sport in their Prepared to Win program to ensure that the African teams received the sparring practice they needed.

—John Drislane



Kenyan officials visit

ADELAIDE University forged another link with the upcoming Sydney Olympics when it played host to a group of Kenyan Olympic officials recently.

The officials, who were in Adelaide with the Kenyan team as part of its preparations for the Games, visited the University at its recent Open Day, and were sufficiently impressed to request another visit.

Community relations officer Mr Ben Yengi (pictured far right), took the group on a quick tour of the North Terrace campus, where they were addressed by International Promotions & Marketing head Mr Jay Jayatilaka on what Adelaide University could offer Kenyan students.

—Ben Osborne



Pictured with Mr Yengi are Kenyan officials (from left) Alfred Khangati, Jackson Tuwei, Alfred Kenyanito and David Okeyo.

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COMPUTER: Pentium 200MMX, Intel, 15" digital SVGA, 4.3GB HDD, 32MB RAM, CD,sound, speakers, perfect condition, \$640 neg, Ph 83384152.

DINNER SERVICE: Bone China, Royal Albert, as new, 50 pieces, all white with rose relief. \$699. Ph: 8265 4028.

FISHING DINGHY: Kingfisher 12 foot, fibre glass, complete with new oars and on trailer with 6 hp Johnson outboard motor, crab nets. All in very good cond. \$1500 ono. Ph Helene 8357 4798.

KITCHEN TABLE: Baltic pine, 115 cm X 75 cm, \$40 ono. Ph Jennifer 8303 3706 or email: <jennifer.osborn@adelaide.edu.au>.

MISC: TV, 51 cm, remote, stereo. VCR, remote, 4 head, long play, pal/NTSC. Dryer. Ph 8338 4152.

MISC: Babies cradle, rocking, "Jenny-Lyne" style, including accessories, \$150 neg. Lounge suite, 1x2.5 seat & 2x1 seat, \$900 neg. Ph Evan 8303 6738 (w) or 8271 3184 (h).

MITSUBISHI MAGNA: Sedan, 1991, grey, auto, electric windows, low kms, exc cond. VBY 654. \$4,990. Ph 8303 8745.

SAILING DINGHY:

International cadet (13ft), 2 sets of sails and trailer cradle. Ideal for beginners or advanced, exc cond. \$650. Ph Bruce 8332 2795 (ah).

TRAILER/SAILER: Austral 20' great boat for cruising/racing, many extras - inc 6hp Johnson o/b motor. Trailer avail. Currently moored N/Haven. New Mast. Recently ant-fooled. \$9,750 ono. Ph Helene 8357 4798.

TROPICAL FISH: Young Swordtails 50 cents each. Ph Wednesday/Thursday 8303 3057 or 8332 0002 (ah).

Bulletin Board

SEPTEMBER 11, 2000

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY

PAGE 1

Smart Card Refunds

NOTICE TO ALL STAFF AND STUDENTS

The three-year trial of Telstra smart cards at Adelaide University is coming to a close. Telstra has announced many changes in its smart card operations and as a consequence, in 2001 the University will enter a period of review.

From 9 October 2000 the electronic purse function on the University Card will cease to operate and Telstra will remove all reload terminals from the campus. The electronic purse is the only function affected.

All other functions on the card will continue to be valid, such as:

- library borrowing
- building access
- identification
- transport and other student concession

Telstra will make cash refunds available to those University card-holders who have value remaining on their electronic purse. The Telstra Refund Station will be located on the Hughes Plaza, adjacent to the Security Office and the Card Centre. Cash refunds will be available upon presentation of the value laden card from 10am-4pm in the week of 9-13 October 2000.

Questions can be directed to the Card Centre Manager by phone on 8303 3442, or by email at <cardcentre@adelaide.edu.au>.

Academic Women's Forum

Invites all academic women to a seminar on: **Promotion at the University of Adelaide** to be held on Tuesday 12 September, 12.30 - 2.00pm in the Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library.

Speakers include: Sue Turner (Human Resources), Professor Chilla Bulbeck, Professor Margaret Sedgley, Associate Professor Nalini Joshi and Kathy Harrington (NTEU).

Topics to be addressed include:

- promotions procedure
- what a Promotions Committee looks for in an application
- seeking advice and selecting referees
- making use of the Appeals process.

Lunch will be provided at 12noon. RVSP: Andi Sebastian <andi.sebastian@adelaide.edu.au> if you will be attending the lunch.



FORGET the one-sided grand final at the MCG—the real battle during this year's AFL season was waged at Adelaide University.

The Adelaide University Footy Tipping Competition attracted more than 90 participants from staff at the North Terrace, Waite and Roseworthy campuses, as well as family and friends, all eager to prove their football knowledge.

The best—and worst—tippers were recognised at a recent barbecue held on the Goodman Crescent lawns.

Extrastaff employee Craig Ridley (centre) was the winner, with 123 correct tips, with Property Services' Greg Badger (left) second with 120.

Security's Bevan Humphrys (right), and ITS's Tony Licul (not pictured) tied for third with 119, while Joan Zilm (not pictured) of Cleaning won the wooden spoon with 51 tips.

Fundraiser

The Don Dunstan Foundation aims to achieve Don Dunstan's vision of a more caring, tolerant and just society through fostering research and education on a broad range of issues concerning social development. Located at Adelaide University, the Foundation is national in focus and relies upon public donations and support for its work. The foundation is intended to continue and extend Don's work—not looking to recreate the past, but by giving vision and direction to those committed to building a better Australia in the 21st century.

Help make the vision a reality.

We seek a dynamic individual to assist the Foundation in working towards achieving our fundraising goals. It is expected that the Fundraiser will have the ability to make an innovative contribution to the determination of the Foundation's goals and objectives.

We seek an individual who has:

- a thorough understanding of fundraising techniques, principles, procedures and practices
- an understanding, and most importantly, ideological empathy and commitment towards the aims and objects of the Foundation
- highly effective interpersonal skills with an ability to communicate and interact successfully with individuals from varying backgrounds
- a high level of initiative and an innovative and pro-active team approach.

An honorarium commensurate with the part-time nature of this contract position is offered. The role is available immediately and is for a period of one year in the first instance. If you would like to discuss this role further, please contact Michelle White, Executive Officer, The Don Dunstan Foundation on (08) 8303 3364.

The Don Dunstan  Foundation

MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

10.00am Politics Postgraduate/Staff Seminar: Brazilian (Post)Colonialism: Race & Nation in the History of Brazil by Benito Cao; Reproduction and Reproductive Technologies: Giving Bodies Weight by Bronwyn Donaghey. Room 420, Napier Building.

1.10pm Student Workshop: Learn Deep Relaxation by Mark O'Donoghue. Counselling Centre, Ground Floor, Horace Lamb Building.

2.00pm English Staff/Postgraduate Seminar: Hindmarsh Island (Kumarangk): Challenging Australian Mythologies by Steve Hemming (Australian Studies, Flinders University). Room 618, Napier Building.

3.30pm Advisory Centre for University Seminar: Accessing Research Funds by Simon Brennan & Rod Jewell (Research Branch). Seminar Room 2, Level 2, Schulz Building.

6.00pm Centre for Intercultural Studies & Multicultural Education Seminar: Multiculturalism and the Opal Industry by Mrs Sophia Provatidis (Managing Director, Majestic Opals/Member of the Council for Multicultural Australia). Council Room, Level 7, Wills Building.

TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

12noon Child Health Research Institute Seminar: Regulating mRNA stability with a view to promoting blood vessel development by Dr Greg Goodall (Hanson Centre). CHRI Seminar Room,

COMING EVENTS

11th September — 22nd September

WCH. Light refreshments will be provided by Interpath Services.

WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

1.00pm Postgraduate Conference on Environmental Research: Eight postgraduates from six departments speaking on their research. Benham Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, Benham Building. No registration fee. (See boxed notice on page 3 of bulletin board for more information).

1.10pm Genetics PhD update: Lillian Allen (third year). Seminar Room, Ground Floor, Fisher Building (southern entrance).

THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

12noon Hanson Centre for Cancer Research Seminar: Regulation of Interleukin-3 gene transcription by Mr Abbas Hawwari (Human Immunology, IMVS). Robson Theatre, RAH.

12.05pm Psychology Seminar: Issues relevant to the development of mental health services in South Australia by Dr Margaret Tobin (Director, Mental Health Services in SA). Room 527, Hughes Building.

7.00pm Field Geology Club of

SA/Royal Society Lecture: Lessons from the last 65,000,000 years by Dr Robert Hill (Environmental Biology). Mawson Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, Mawson Laboratories. Supper served.

FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

11.30am Social Inquiry - Gender Studies Seminar: Muriel's Wedding: A reading of 'white wedding' narratives by Christyana Bambacas. Seminar Room, 3rd Floor, 10 Pulteney Street.

12.45pm Dentistry Seminar: The professional development of dental hygienists by Margie Steffens. Lecture Theatre 1, 6th Floor, Adelaide Dental Hospital.

1.10pm Elder Conservatorium Lunch Hour Concert: Tessa Miller - soprano, Glenys March - harpsichord, Zoë Barry - baroque cello. Early Italian and English Baroque. Admission \$3 (including GST) at the door. Elder Hall.

1.10pm Asian Studies Seminar: Title to be advised, by Dr Gerry Groot. Room 518, Level 5, Ligertwood Building.

1.15pm Inaugural Lecture: Japan: the paradoxical power by Professor Purnendra Jain (Centre for Asian Studies). Lecture Theatre G04, Napier.

4.00pm Obstetrics & Gynaecology Seminar: Reducing perinatal mortality in southern Africa by Professor

David Wilkinson (Centre for Rural & Remote Health, Whyalla, UniSA). Seminar Room, 6th Floor, Medical School, North Wing.

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

9.00am Obstetrics & Gynaecology Seminar/Lloyd Cox Lecture: Reproductive Medicine: The Next 20 Years by Professor Alan Trounson (Institute of Reproduction & Development, Monash University). Main Lecture Theatre, 1st Floor, Queen Victoria Building, WCH. RSVP Essential: H Holmes, tel 8222 7654 or email <helen.holmes@adelaide.edu.au>.

TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

5.00pm North Terrace Neuroscience Discussion Group: Clocks, mice and melatonin: Molecular aspects of biological timing by Associate Professor David Kennaway (Obstetrics & Gynaecology). Seminar Room, 6th Floor, Medical School, North Wing.

FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

12.45pm Dentistry Seminar: Management of chronic orofacial pain by Tom Wilkinson. Lecture Theatre 1, 6th Floor, Adelaide Dental Hospital.

1.10pm Elder Conservatorium Lunch Hour Concert: Ashley Hribar - piano. Works by Scriabin and Rachmaninov. Admission \$3 (including GST) available at the door. Elder Hall.

SITUATIONS VACANT

For further information about the following vacancies please refer to Human Resources' Web page at <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/HR/advpos.htm>> or the contact person named in the advertisement.

Please note that applications, in duplicate, addressing the selection criteria and quoting the relevant reference number should include names and full addresses of three referees. The address for applications is C/- the Department or Officer named in the advertisement. Selection criteria and applicable duty statements may be obtained from the contact officer named in the advertisement.

Applications for the following vacancies are not restricted to members of the University.

PROFESSOR OF PAEDIATRIC SURGERY (Ref: 10368) (Fixed-Term) Base Salary: \$93,572

The Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Health Sciences, Adelaide University, and the Division of Paediatric Surgery at the Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide, South Australia have established this new position with funding from the Women's and Children's Hospital, to support and enhance academic activity in paediatric surgery and paediatric surgical research at the Hospital and the University.

The position is available from 1 January 2001. Further information concerning the duties and academic responsibilities of the position are available from Mr A Sutherland, Chief (Medical), Division of Paediatric Surgery, Women's and Children's Hospital, North Adelaide, South Australia 5006, telephone 8204 7223, facsimile 8204 7057, and Professor D Robertson, Head, Department of Paediatrics, Adelaide University, Women's and Children's Hospital, North Adelaide, South Australia 5006, telephone 8204 7452, facsimile 8204 7031. Information about the Women's and Children's Hospital is available on its website at <<http://www.wch.sa.gov.au>>, and on the Department of Paediatrics on its website at <<http://www.health.adelaide.edu.au/paediatrics>>.

Applications close 2 October 2000.

TENURABLE SENIOR LECTURER (Ref: 1567)

Department of Medicine
Salary: \$60,329 - \$69,564 + clinical loading of \$16,197 may be applicable

The position is located at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, which is a major teaching hospital of the Adelaide University and is amalgamated with the Lyell

McEwin Health Service.

This tenurable position is available from October 2000. Further information including the selection criteria may be obtained from Professor Ruffin, telephone 8222 6740 or facsimile 8222 6042.

Applications close 29 September 2000.

TENURABLE LECTURER/ SENIOR LECTURER (Ref: 8236)

Department of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology
Salary: Lecturer Level B \$49,249-\$58,484/
Senior Lecturer Level C \$60,329-\$69,564*

The Department of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology wishes to employ an academic pharmacologist or toxicologist, preferably with a strong teaching and research record in cell and/or molecular biology, to complement the Department's research strengths, which are in the basic and clinical pharmacology of drugs of abuse and dependence, and molecular toxicology.

*The successful applicant will be appointed at an appropriate level depending on qualifications and relevant experience.

This tenurable position is available immediately. Further information including the selection criteria may be obtained from Professor F Bochner, telephone 8303 5571 or email <felix.bochner@adelaide.edu.au>.

Applications close 4 October 2000.

DIVISIONAL ACCOUNTANT (Ref: 4689) (Continuing) Division of Student and Staff Services Salary: HEO6 \$39,402 - \$42,664

This continuing position is available immediately.

Further information, including the duty statement and selection criteria may be obtained from Barry Porter, telephone 8303 6303, or email <barry.porter@adelaide.edu.au>.

Applications close 18 September 2000.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEADLINES FOR ADELAIDEAN

For the *Adelaidean* of 25 September, advertising paper work must be received in Human Resources by 8 September.

For the *Adelaidean* of 9 October advertising paper work must be received in Human Resources by 22 September.

GENERAL NOTICES

University Teaching Development Grants 2000

The aim of the University Teaching Development Grants is to promote the enhancement of learning and teaching at Adelaide University.

The aim of the University Teaching Development Grants is to promote good learning and teaching practices; to encourage and foster innovation in higher education teaching; and to provide staff development opportunities.

The Selection Committee, consisting of representatives of the University Learning and Teaching Committee, considered the applications to be of good quality and selected a total nine applications for the 2000 round of the Adelaide University Teaching Development Grants. Information in relation to the successful applications can be found at <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/DVC/quality/teaching_development_2000_winners.html>.

The successful applicants presented proposals which will effect practical advances in learning and teaching by, among other things, developing tools for interactive learning, role-play simulations, student participation in large tutorials, mapping transferable skills and the development of student portfolios at the University. The University Teaching Development Grants vary in size according to the scale and nature of the projects funded.

Further information in relation to the University Teaching Development Grants can be obtained from Marie Reitano, Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education), Room G04, Mitchell Building, telephone: 35511, fax: 34873, email: <marie.reitano@adelaide.edu.au> or downloaded from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor's web-site: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/DVC/quality/teaching_development_l&t_grants.html>.

PENNY BOUMELHA
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Education)

Special Studies Program

Special Studies commencing in the period July-December 2001.

Applications are now invited for Special Studies commencing in the **second half of 2001**. Applications from Human Resources (ext 35666 or 35177) or from: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/HR/services/f_sspapp.htm> and should be returned to Human Resources through the Head of the Department **no later than 30 September 2000**.

Following a recent review of the SSP, the University has revised

the rates of financial support for staff undertaking SSP activities from 2001 as follows:

1. Calculation of airfare assistance will be simplified and related more closely to the actual cost for the staff member and dependents, to provide reimbursement of the economy-class, advance-purchase return airfares up to a maximum figure as set out below for the staff member and each dependent charged an adult fare, with an appropriate fraction for dependent minors based on actual fares charged.

- for travel to UK, Europe or North America up to \$2,800;
- for travel to Asia, Africa or South America up to \$2,000;
- for travel in Australia and the Pacific up to \$1,000.

2. The travel grant may be awarded once for each three years of employment and the present complexity under which a staff member elects to use a certain number of "fare days" will be eliminated.

3. The allowance as a cost of living subsidy will be doubled, ie based on 14.4% of the daily salary of a Level C at step 6 for travel in Australia or the Pacific.

The revised policy and associated documentation are available on the HR web page. The payment procedures with regard to taxation arrangements are currently under review and will be finalised shortly.

The supporting statement on page 6 of the application must be completed by the Head of the Department and Heads are reminded that in accordance with Para 2.1.6 of the Special Studies Program Policy they are asked to comment specifically on both the academic justification for the program and itinerary, and the implications in terms of the teaching, examining and administrative needs of the Department. All applications should be considered by the Departmental Committee before submission.

Under the terms of Paragraph 2.1 of the Policy all applicants will be required to justify the period of Special Studies sought, irrespective of the length of the period involved. Questions should be directed to the Julie Raeck, ext 35177.

STEVE DAYSH
General Manager
Human Resources



September Meeting

Please note changes for the September meeting; it will be a joint meeting with the Field Geology Club of SA.

What we have learnt from the last 65 million years by Professor Robert S. Hill, 7.00pm, Thursday 14 September, Mawson Lecture Theatre, Dept Geology & Geophysics, Adelaide University.

The fossil record is now regarded as a primary data source in our quest to understand the world and how it came to be the way it is. We have the good fortune to live in or near two of the great natural experiments in life on this planet: the massive extinction caused by climate change on Antarctica and the massive radiation of unique life forms on Australia as it survived tens of millions of years of isolation. The fossil record tells us much about these two events and a consideration of them also provides some lessons of global significance. The focus for the history of life is shifting towards the subtle and complex interactions among catastrophic events, extinctions and evolutionary radiations. It is now clear that we are not only the products of a catastrophic history, we are the beneficiaries of it.

Professor Hill completed his BSc and PhD at the Botany Department, Adelaide University. He worked briefly at James Cook University before accepting a lecturing position at the University of Tasmania in 1980. He was professor and Head of the School of Plant Science. In 1997 he received his DSc from Adelaide University. In 1999 he began a senior research fellowship at Adelaide University, researching the effect of the onset of aridity in Australia on the vegetation. He is a Fellow of the Linnaean Society of London, a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Biology and Emeritus Professor at the University of Tasmania.

New Internet Dialup Service for University Staff

As part of the rollout of Project Odyssey, we are pleased to announce the official launch of the dial-in service for staff. We at ITS are confident that the service will enable staff members to access the University network remotely with improved reliability and speed. We'd also like to thank those people who have taken part in the testing phase of the service and especially those who have provided invaluable feedback to ITS.

Instructions on how to access this service can be found from the ITS Home Page at <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ITS>>.

Postgraduate Insight: The Environment 2nd Conference on Postgraduate Research on the Environment

The conference is designed as a means of promoting collaboration between the many groups involved in the environment within the university with a particular emphasis on the insight that postgraduates gain as part of their research. This year eight postgraduates from six departments will present talks ranging from the necessity of losing control in order to rehabilitate wetlands on the lower Murray river, to an exploration of various points of intersection between recent Australian literature, ecology and the environment.

The keynote address will be given by Associate Professor Rob Fowler from the Law School.

The conference will be held from 1.00pm on Wednesday 13 September 2000 in the Benham Lecture Theatre. This year the conference is free and a limited number of proceedings will be available on a first come basis.

Details of the program and speakers can be found at the conference web site: <<http://www.civeng.adelaide.edu.au/pgenvc/>> or by email from Dr Walker <david.walker@adelaide.edu.au>.

Student Evaluation of Teaching

The Advisory Centre for University Education provides a service to all University teaching staff who wish to evaluate their teaching. This service is known as Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET). Staff wishing to use SET for the first time should call the Evaluation Service Office, ext 33496/33023, for a copy of the package.

The SET package contains a User Manual, appropriate evaluation request forms, and some information concerning applications for promotion and tenure. The service is free of charge and is available to all teaching staff of the University.

Due to high demand for SET questionnaires, and to the fact that the Evaluation Service is currently staffed by one full-time person only, please send your evaluation request forms to the ACUE at **least four weeks prior to the planned date of your evaluation.**

It is ACUE policy that all requests are placed in a queue determined strictly by date of receipt. Requests which do not allow sufficient lead time may not be processed. We recognise that occasionally there will be circumstances where a staff member will need to request an evaluation service but cannot give the required minimum notice. In these cases a service will be provided within 5 working days and a priority fee of \$75 charged.

Adelaide University Council Elections

On Wednesday, 8 November 2000 there will be an election of three members of University Council elected by the Senate, three members of the Academic staff elected by the Academic Staff and two members of the General staff elected by the General Staff for the period 6 March 2001 to 5 March 2003.

The following members, who are all eligible for re-election, are retiring: ML Abbott, JTB Linn and EH Medlin (elected by the Senate); PM Gill, S Richardson and RJ Crewther (elected by the Academic Staff); and JD Cecchin and JA Dibb-Smith (elected by the General Staff).

A nomination must be made on the prescribed form, and must reach the Returning Officer at the University before 12 noon Friday, 29 September 2000. Nomination forms and further information may be obtained from University Reception, Mitchell Building, North Terrace Campus or by phoning 8303 3408.

Council members elected by the Senate are not themselves required to be members of the Senate, but they may not be either a staff member or a current student of Adelaide University. All graduates of the University are members of the Senate and are eligible to vote in elections of Council members by the Senate. Any Adelaide University graduate who wishes to receive ballot papers for the election by the Senate and is not on the Senate postal address list should phone 8303 3408.

SUSAN GRAEBNER
Returning Officer

Postgraduates Vote for 2000 Staff Awards

On line nominations for: Supervisor, Lecturer and General Staff Member of the Year.

Nominations close 5.00pm Friday 15 September 2000. Voting by postgraduate students only.

Nomination forms are available from the PGSA office and on line via the noticeboard on the front page of the PGSA website at: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/PGSA>>.

The awards will be presented by Professor Mary O'Kane, Vice-Chancellor, at 5.00pm on Friday 29 September in the Wills Refectory, Union House.

RSVP by Friday 22 September via the PGSA Office on 8303 5898.

Women's Professional Development Network (WPDN)

The WPDN is a development initiative for all women general staff of the University of Adelaide. It focuses on issues affecting the professional and personal development needs of women general staff.

The WPDN runs a variety of activities including breakfasts, lunchtime speakers and workshops. For more information and instructions on how to join our listserver, visit our web site at:

<<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/wpdn>>

or contact Danielle Hopkins (danielle.hopkins@adelaide.edu.au, 33937) or Catherine Edis (catherine.edis@adelaide.edu.au, 36151).

Coming Events

Social Breakfast: 8.00am Monday 16 October, Union Gallery, L6 Union Building, North Terrace Campus.

Join your colleagues for a pre-work breakfast. Come and make a few new friends (or become re-acquainted with your old ones!).

The Friends of Urrbrae House present

A Blast from the Past

A grand ball in the 1920s style in the Ballroom of Urrbrae House featuring Ken Way's Jazz Allstars and Nick Crispe (Celebrity dance Studios).

Saturday 7 October, 8.00pm - midnight. Dress optional, but 20s if you can!

Tickets \$30 each (inc GST) includes buffet supper, fun dance lesson, door and best dressed prizes.

Bookings essential: Peggy on 8303 7497.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE LIBRARY

Barr Smith Library tours

Join a free 30 minute guided tour on the first Thursday of every month.

Ideal for students, staff or alumni unfamiliar with the layout, collections, resources and services of the Barr Smith Library.

RSVP to Jennifer Osborn (Reference Services). Max of 12 per group. Tel: 8303 3706 Email: <jennifer.osborn@adelaide.edu.au>.

Plant Nematology Research Award

The Grains Research and Development Corporation through the Department of Applied and Molecular Ecology is offering a PhD scholarship for research in plant nematode ecology.

The scholarship is available as either a full (APA Industry rate of \$22,030 pa) or supplementary (\$10,000 in addition to an APA or AUS) scholarship for up to 3 years.

For further information please contact Dr Ian Riley on 8303 7259 or email: <ian.riley@adelaide.edu.au>.

Closing date: 31 October 2000.

Research Branch: Special Notices

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY SMALL RESEARCH GRANTS SCHEME 2001

Following the discontinuation of the ARC Small Grants Scheme, applications are invited for funding under the Adelaide University Small Research Grants Scheme for 2001. The Application Form, the scheme guidelines and other information are available on the Research Branch web site at: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/electronic.html>> or by clicking on "What's New" on the Research Branch home page. Prospective applicants should note that the closing date for applications is Monday 18 September.

AUSTRALIAN-GERMAN JOINT RESEARCH CO-OPERATION SCHEME

The Australian-German Joint Research Co-operation Scheme is a two year pilot scheme which is jointly funded and managed by Adelaide University, Australian National University, the Commonwealth Government Department of Industry, Science and Resources, and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The scheme aims to foster international scholarly and scientific cooperation through funding of researchers who participate in co-operative research projects between Australia and the Federal Republic of Germany. We envisage that up to 100 staff exchanges will be funded during the course of the pilot scheme.

Please note: The first call for applications has been postponed until late September/early October 2000. The Research Branch will forward

further information to Departments once the details have been finalised. In the interim, for information contact Lynette Kelly on 35175.

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY AND CSIRO HEALTH SCIENCES & NUTRITION COLLABORATIVE GRANTS PROGRAM 2001

Adelaide University and CSIRO Health Sciences & Nutrition are offering grants to encourage collaborative research projects between members of the two organisations and, where appropriate, industry or international collaboration. Projects with the potential to forge links with international research institutes in food, nutrition and health are strongly encouraged, as are those with the potential to lead to more significant research programs, which would have the capacity to attract funding and support from sources external to the University and CSIRO. An amount of up to \$20,000 for one year will be awarded to successful applicants.

Applications are to be submitted on the official Application Form available on the Research Branch web site at: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/electronic.html>>. Further information and instructions for applicants are available at the same address. Enquiries to: Daina Shaw or Simon Brennan in the Research Branch ph: 8303 5051 or email: <daina.shaw@adelaide.edu.au> or <simon.brennan@adelaide.edu.au>. Closing Date: Friday 29 September 2000.

Missed the deadline?

For all the latest news see the online bulletin boards at <<http://online.adelaide.edu.au>> available to staff and students of the University.

<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB>

RESEARCH GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

AND OTHER FUNDING SCHEMES

Research Grants & Fellowships

The following is a sample of grant, fellowship and other research funding schemes currently available for application. The complete listing, together with guidelines and application forms for some of the major schemes, are available at: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/>>. For hard copy application forms and guidelines for the funding schemes listed below, contact the Research Branch, ext 35137; or email <kelly.parish@adelaide.edu.au>.

Sponsored Programs Information Network (SPIN): SPIN Australia - A database containing current and comprehensive information on over 2,600 government and private funding opportunities. The SPIN web site is accessible via the Research Branch web site.

Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs - Local Commemorative Activities Fund: Internal closing date: Apply at any time. Web site: <<http://www.dva.gov.au/health/grants/grants.htm>>.

Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC) - Research Projects Grants, Scholarships, Awards: Applications may be submitted at any time (however, main funding round occurs in January). Web site: <<http://www.crdc.org.au>>.

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation - Max Planck Research Awards for International Cooperation: (any academic discipline): Applications may be made at any time. Web site: <http://www.avh.de/en/programme/stip_au/stip_01.htm>.

National Research Council (USA) - Resident Research Associateships for the NASA Ames Research Center: Internal closing date: 15 September 2000. Web: <<http://www4.nas.edu/osep/rap.nsf>>.

Dept. of Health and Human Services (USA) / National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke Research / National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Disorders / National Institute of Child Health and Human Development / National Institute of Mental Health / National Centre for Research Resources - Project Grants: Internal closing date: 15 September 2000. Web site: <<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide>>.

Korean Association of Science & Technology in Australia (KASTA) - 2nd Korean Brain Pool Program in 2000: (scientists and engineers from overseas to work in various research institutes in Korea): Internal closing date: 15 September 2000. Web site: <<http://www.kasta.org.au>>.

Perpetual Trustees - Grants: Internal closing date: 15 September 2000.

Adelaide University Small Research Grants Scheme 2001: Internal closing date: 18 September 2000. Web site: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/>> (click on Electronic Application Forms).

Dept of Education, Training and Youth Affairs - Research Fellowships 2001: Internal closing date: 18 September 2000. Web site: <<http://www.detya.gov.au/about/index.html>>.

Gastroenterological Society of Australia Awards For 2000: Grants, Travel Awards and Postdoctoral Fellowship for 2000 and 2001: Internal closing dates: 20 September, 29 September and 20 October. Web Site: <<http://www.gesa.org.au>>.

Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering (AINSE) - Grants 2001: Internal closing date: 22 September 2000. Web site: <<http://www.ainse.edu.au>>.

Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) - Various programs include: Honeybee;

Egg Industry; Chicken Meat; Global Competitiveness; Resilient Agricultural Systems; Human Capital, Communications and Information Systems; New Plant Products; New Animal Products; Asian Foods; Deer; Essential Oils and Plant Extracts; Rare Natural (Animal) Fibres; Tea Tree Oil; Wildflowers and Native Plants; Agroforestry and Farm Forestry; Pasture Seeds; Fodder Crops; Horses; Rice: Internal closing date: 22 September 2000. **Travel Conference Funding:** Closing date: 3 month prior to planned travel date. Web site: <<http://www.rirdc.gov.au>>.

Australian Academy of the Humanities - Overseas Program with the Former Soviet Union: Internal closing date: 22 September 2000

Australian Academy of Science - Maxwell Ralph Jacobs Fund: (forestry science): Internal closing date: 22 September 2000. Web site: <<http://www.science.org.au/awards/jacobs.htm>>.

Canadian High Commission: Canada-Asia-Pacific Award in Canadian Studies (CAPA): Faculty Research Program (FRP): Faculty Enrichment Program (FEP): ACSANZ Postgraduate Award for Canadian Studies: Internal closing date: 22 September 2000. **International Council for Canadian Studies - Program for International Research Linkages:** Canadian Studies Academic Internship Program: Internal closing date: 8 November 2000. Web site: <<http://www.powerup.com.au/~acsanz/>>.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - Australia Indonesia Institute - Project Funding: Internal closing date: 22 September. Web site: <<http://www.dfat.gov.au/aia>>.

Perpetual Charitable Planning Services - Clive and Vera Ramaciotti Foundations: General Grants/Medal for Excellence/Travel Grants for Biomedical Research: Internal closing date: 22 September 2000 (Travel Grants). Web site: <<http://www.perpetual.com.au>>.

Pig Research and Development Corporation (PRDC): Training and Development Awards: Internal closing dates: 22 September 2000. Web site: <http://www.prdc.com.au/travel_conference_and_distinguished_visitor_awards.htm>.

Dried Fruits Research and Development Council - Research and Development Projects: Internal closing date: 23 September 2000. Web site: <<http://mildura.ozland.net.au/dfrdc>>.

Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) - Travel/Conference Attendance 2000/2001: Internal closing date: 23 September 2000. Web site: <<http://www.grdc.com.au>>.

The Commonwealth Fund-Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy: Internal closing date: 25 September 2000. Web site: <<http://www.cmwf.org>>.

Australian Academy of Science - Scientific visits to Europe in FY2001 - 2002: Internal closing date: 25 September 2000. Web site: <<http://www.science.org.au/internat/exchange/eurovis.htm>>.

Australian Academy of Social Sciences - Call for Workshop Proposals: Internal closing date: 25 September 2000. Web site: <<http://www.assa.edu.au>>.

Asthma South Australia - 2000 Research Grant: Internal closing date: 26 September 2000.

Rebecca L. Cooper Medical Research Foundation Ltd - 2001 Research Grants: Internal closing date: 6 October 2000.

The Garnett Passe & Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation Awards for 2001: (for research in Otorhinolaryngology or the related fields of biomedical

science): Senior / Principal Research Fellowship, Project Grants, Sabbatical Fellowship, Overseas Research Fellowship: Internal closing date: 6 October 2000.

AMRAD Corporation - 2001 Postdoctoral Awards (biomedical): Internal closing date: 13 October 2000. Web site: <<http://www.amrad.com.au>>.

Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE) - Research Proposals: Internal closing date: 17 October 2000. Web site: <<http://www.rite.or.jp>>.

International Society of Arboriculture Research Trust - John Z. Duling Grant Program: Internal closing date: 18 October 2000. Web site: <<http://www.isa-arbor.com/ISAResearchTrust/duling.html>>.

University of Calgary, The Calgary Institute for the Humanities - Postdoctoral Fellowships 2001-2002: Internal closing date: 23 October 2000. Web site: <<http://www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/Others/CIH/CIHApplication.html>>.

The Ditchley Foundation - conferences: Internal closing date: 24 October 2000. Web site: <<http://www.anu.edu.au/cabs/general/ditchley.html>>.

Australian Academy of Science - Scientific visits to the United States of America, Canada and Mexico: Internal closing date: 25 October 2000. Web site: <<http://www.science.org.au/internat/exchange/usavis.htm>>.

National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute, USA - Supplements for Embryonic Cryopreservation of Rats in Hypertension Research: Internal closing date: 26 October 2000. Web site: <<http://www.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-98-009.html>>.

University of Jerusalem - Golda Meir Fellowships: Internal closing date: 30 October 2000.

Rockefeller University - Rockefeller Archive Centre Residencies and Grants-in-Aid: Internal closing date: 17 November 2000. Web site: <<http://www.rockefeller.edu/archive.ctr/ac.giap.html>>.

Scholarships

Unless otherwise indicated, further information and application forms are available from the Student Centre, Level 4, Wills Building. Please lodge all applications with the Student Centre unless otherwise stated.

Adelaide Postgraduate Coursework Scholarships: Available to students intending to enrol in a Masters by coursework at Adelaide University in 2001. Applicants must be Australian citizens or Permanent Residents; have completed four years of tertiary study and have been awarded a First Class Honours or equivalent. Awards are not available to those who will be receiving in 2001 another equivalent scholarship/award to undertake the proposed program. Applicants should apply separately for admission into the proposed course. Closing: 31 October (Student Centre)

American Association of University Women - Charles and June Ross International Fellowship: Open to women scientists (natural and physical sciences) who are Australian citizens and are graduates of an Australian university. Available for full-time graduate or post-graduate study or research in the USA for one academic year. Value: approx \$US16,860. Applications only available from AAUW Educational Foundation, Fellowships & Grants, North Dodge Street, Dept 141, PO Box 4030 Iowa City, Iowa 52243-4030 USA. Further details from Professor June Ross, Department of

Biology, Western Washington University, email: <rossjrp@cc.wvu.edu>. Closing: 15 December.

Australian Postgraduate Awards/ Adelaide University Scholarships 2001: Available to students intending to enrol in a PhD or Masters by research at Adelaide University in 2001. Applicants must be Australian citizens or Permanent Residents, have completed four years of tertiary study and have been awarded a First Class Honours or equivalent. Awards are not available to those who will be receiving in 2001 another equivalent scholarship/award to undertake the proposed program. Closing: 31 October (Student Centre).

British Federation of University Women: A booklet providing details of awards provided by the Federation is available on request to the Student Centre.

Cambridge Australia Trust Scholarships 2001 (including Packer and Poynton Scholarships): The Trust in collaboration with the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust in the UK are offering 12 scholarships annually for PhD, and others for one-year professional masters students. Total value of PhD scholarships is more than \$140,000. Enquiries to: the Honorary Secretary, Cambridge Australia Trust, GPO Box 93, Canberra ACT 2601, tel: (02) 6248 7744, fax: (02) 6248 6287. Full details available from <<http://www.anu.edu.au/cabs/scholarships>>.

Commonwealth Scholarship & Fellowship Plan 2001 - UK Awards: Open to Australian students wishing to undertake postgraduate study at Masters or Doctoral level in the UK commencing October 2001. Applicants should hold a bachelors degree or equivalent with upper second class honours or above. Closing: 29 September (Student Centre).

Dairy Research & Development Corporation Postgraduate Study Awards 2001: Open to Australian citizens or Permanent Residents commencing in 2001 for research degrees to PhD level, training in extension and related disciplines. Available areas include manufacturing, farm research, industry analysis, agricultural extension. Closing: 23 October (Student Centre).

DR Stranks Travelling Fellowship: Open to Adelaide University postgraduate scholars to provide assistance for travel and other unavoidable research costs in relation with their research and investigations outside South Australia. Value: up to \$5000. Closing: 23 October (Student Centre)

Epilepsy Association of NSW Research Scholarships 2001: Open to medical, nursing and allied health professionals who have experience in the care of people with epilepsy and/or are working in epilepsy research at universities, colleges or teaching hospitals in Australia. Value: \$35,000pa plus up to \$2,500 travel and conference expenses. Tenable for one year. Applications from Mr Keith Roberts, tel: (02) 9856 7090, email: <researchschol@epilepsy.org.au>. Closing: 29 September (NSW).

George Murray Scholarship: Open to Adelaide University graduates who wish to undertake postgraduate study or postdoctoral research in approved universities or other institutions outside of Australia. Postgraduate study tenable for up to three years, postdoctoral research tenable for one year. Closing: 31 October (Student Centre)

Gowrie Research Scholarships: When awarding the scholarships, consideration will be made to the character and other activities of the candidates, and special attention shown to lineal descendants of a member of the Forces who was killed on active service or who died as a result of any occurrence which happened during period of enlistment. Value: \$4000 pa. Closing: 31 October (Student Centre).