

Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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Photo by Ben Osborne

Building a bridge through Sharjah dental link

Dentistry

The recent visit to the University of Adelaide by the Ruler of Sharjah and Supreme President of the University of Sharjah, His Highness Dr Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al-Qassimi, has further cemented links between the two institutions.

Earlier this year, the University of Adelaide entered into a contract valued at more than \$6 million with the University of Sharjah to provide the Bachelor of Dental Surgery curriculum, the intellectual property and associated expertise to Sharjah's new College of Dentistry.

Associate Professor Viv Burgess, who is Director of the School's dedicated Sharjah project team, said the contract represents a very important milestone for the School.

"We are honoured that the University of Sharjah has chosen us to help them with their dentistry program," he said. "It further underlines that our teaching and learning facilities are world-class and highly regarded.

"It's important to realise that we're not setting up a dental school, as they've established their College of Dentistry on their own.

His Highness the Ruler of Sharjah (second from right) learns the finer points of didgeridoo playing from CASM student Matthew Johnson (left), with Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) Professor John Taplin (second from left), and Centre for Australian Indigenous Research & Studies Director Professor Roger Thomas

"What we have done is sign a contract selling them the curriculum from our Bachelor of Dental Surgery and giving them assistance with its implementation, as well as recruitment and development of staff and the development of facilities."

Stories and photos continue on page 13



Adelaidean

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Editor:

Ben Osborne

Design and Layout:

Chris Tonkin

Writers:

Lisa Reid
Ben Osborne

Media student writer:

Jasna Rojevic

Contributors:

Viv Burgess
Alison Beare
Di Kidd
Edna Bates
Joan Soon
Lana Guineay

Printed by:

Lane Print Group
Tel: +61 8 8179 9900
Fax: +61 8 8376 1044
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Tel: +61 8 8303 5414

Fax: +61 8 8303 4829

Email: ben.osborne@adelaide.edu.au

www.adelaide.edu.au/adelaidean

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From the Vice-Chancellor

The month of December is upon us, and with it some of the busiest weeks in the University's year. Most of our graduation ceremonies for 2005 will be held in the two weeks before Christmas, swelling by several thousand the ranks of our alumni as they go out to make an impact on the world. December also brings relief and relaxation to most of our final year students, especially after the rigours of November, full of revision and exams!

Conducting the graduation ceremonies so soon after the examination period is a huge academic and administrative challenge, and is made possible only by a mammoth contribution of many staff, and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank you for your efforts, both at this very busy time, and throughout 2005 as a whole. In a climate of increasing public accountability (not matched by increasing public funding) our staff continue to provide a quality learning environment for our students, and a research profile which demonstrably engages with and impacts on our society. We can be justly proud of our many achievements this year, and can look forward, with confidence, to another successful year in 2006.

The graduation ceremonies will also see the public unveiling of a revamped Bonython Hall, one of the many outcomes of the major investment in our buildings and associated infrastructure that we have made in 2005. Along with vital structural improvements, the Hall will now be air-conditioned and vastly more pleasurable for all graduands, staff and family and friends on those hot December days. Walking around our North Terrace campus at the end of 2005 reveals a changing and much improved campus, compared to one or two years ago. Rejuvenated facilities for the Elder Conservatorium and the progressive opening of the revamped Napier Building teaching areas represent a multi-year, \$15 million investment. Heritage buildings like Bonython Hall and the Mitchell Building are receiving much-needed attention; the revamped Goodman Lawn area is looking great; the new lift just off the Hughes Plaza finally connects the lower and upper levels of the campus in a safe and accessible way; and there is much more. All these

improvements are important ways in which we provide and maintain a good learning and teaching environment for our students and staff, and I thank all those involved for their contribution.

As we celebrate the achievement of our newest graduates, it is pleasing to note that the demand to follow in their place is increasing. The latest figures available to us indicate that the number of school leavers nominating the University of Adelaide as their first preference for study in 2006 has increased by around 4%. Put in the context of falling demand for many other universities, this is an excellent result which shows the value people place on our academic and research programs. Speaking of research, 2005 also saw further significant growth in our number of PhD students, and that, too, is welcome news in a market where competition for such places is increasing.

Some other quick acknowledgments: the University's many alumni and friends groups continue to play an active and important role locally, nationally and throughout the world. Our numerous volunteers donate valuable time and effort in helping make the University what it is. I would also like to acknowledge the members of the University Council and of its Committees, who give their time and expertise to the University community for no personal gain. To all of these people, and the entire University community, I thank you for your contributions in 2005.

I extend to you the compliments of the season, and hope you enjoy a well-earned break over Christmas and New Year. I look forward to working with you on the opportunities 2006 will bring.

JAMES A. McWha
Vice-Chancellor and President

New partnership helps students learn for life



The University of Adelaide and the Smith Family have joined together to help give students from disadvantaged backgrounds better opportunities to pursue a tertiary education.

The University will contribute \$90,500 to The Smith Family's Learning for Life program across three years. The funds will be directed specifically towards the personal and educational support

component program for students in the western and north-western suburbs of Adelaide who would otherwise face financial barriers to study.

Learning for Life provides disadvantaged students with financial and personal support to help keep them in the education system, increasing their chances of breaking out of the cycle of disadvantage.

University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha said the University sees this community partnership with

The Smith Family as a perfect alignment of two organisations that understand the importance of education in shaping people's destinies.

"The Smith Family's Learning for Life program dovetails with the objectives of the University of Adelaide's Fairway Scheme, designed to increase chances of university entry for students from regional areas and also schools that are traditionally under-represented at university level," he said.

In addition, the University will encourage students in The Smith

Family's Learning for Life program to attend specifically designed 'Aim for Adelaide' events, to familiarise students with university life. These events will include campus tours, academic talks, careers advice and tours of accommodation facilities.

"The aim of this partnership is not only to improve the educational outcomes and aspirations of these students and ultimately to increase their participation in tertiary education, but also to enhance the University's interaction with the broader community in a tangible way," Professor McWha said.

Entry changes boost SA health

● Medicine

The University of Adelaide has changed the process for admission into its Medical School by increasing South Australian students' chances of gaining entry into the course, with the ultimate goal of keeping doctors in the State.

The announcement has received positive feedback from the State Government and the Opposition, and the Australian Medical Association.

"The University of Adelaide's Bachelor of Medicine degree is one of the most highly sought-after courses in the country, with applicants from all around Australia pursuing 104 positions," University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor Professor McWha said.

"We have refined the admission criteria in order to increase the number of South Australian students likely to gain entry to the process and to help increase the number of qualified doctors staying in the State."

Entry into the Medical School is judged on a combination of Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER) score, Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admissions Test (UMAT) score and an interview.

"From the 2006 intake, the University of Adelaide will give greater emphasis to an applicant's TER in the rankings. Also, UMAT scores for South Australian applicants will be adjusted to align with other states as this has previously excluded a number of local applicants," Professor McWha said.

"We will also offer a second round of interviews in January, for students who achieved very high TER scores, but were not offered interviews in the first round due to lower UMAT scores.

"Over the next two to three years we will be also be increasing the number of places available for applicants wishing to transfer from other University of Adelaide science courses. These are usually South Australian students.

"The University believes these changes will create a greater number of opportunities for South Australian students to be offered places within the medical course.

"The changes take into account the Federal higher education legislation, which ultimately controls the number of funded places in the course that are available to Australian students.



"Unfortunately the University cannot simply increase the number of student places available, despite high demand for the course and a need for more doctors in Adelaide and regional areas of SA.

"The University of Adelaide is committed to helping provide constructive solutions to the problems faced by the health sector in South Australia."

Story by Lisa Reid



December graduations

An upgraded and airconditioned Bonython Hall will once again be host of the University of Adelaide's December graduations.

Spread across 12 ceremonies from December 15 to 22, thousands of students are expected to graduate.

For more information, visit:
www.adelaide.edu.au/student/graduations/

Thursday, December 15 – 10am
Engineering
All Engineering programs

Thursday, December 15 – 2.30pm
Engineering, Mathematical and Computer Sciences
All Mathematical and Computer Sciences Programs PLUS B Engineering (Computer Systems, Electrical & Electronic, Information Technology & Telecommunications, Petroleum)

Friday, December 16 – 10.00am
Commerce
PhD and Masters Commerce Programs, B Commerce (Accounting, Corporate Finance)

Friday, December 16 – 2.30pm
Commerce, Economics
B Commerce Hons, B Business Info Tech, B Commerce, B Commerce (Int Bus, Management, Marketing), all Economics Programs

Monday, December 19 – 10am
Medicine, Architecture
All Nursing Programs, all Honours Programs, all Bachelor Programs except MBBS, all Architecture Programs

Monday, December 19 – 2.30pm
Medicine, Education
MBBS, all remaining postgraduate programs, all Education programs

Tuesday, December 20 – 10am
Humanities and Social Sciences
PhD and BA and Dip Lang (A - L), B Env Studies, B Labour Studies, B Media

Tuesday, December 20 – 2.30pm
Humanities and Social Sciences, Music
All Honours degrees, Grad Cert, Grad Dip, Masters, Prof Cert, All Music Programs

Wednesday, December 21 – 10am
Humanities & Social Sciences, Wilto Yerlo
PhD and BA and Dip Lang (M - Z), B Int Studies, B Soc Sci, All Wilto Yerlo programs

Wednesday, December 21 – 2.30pm
Adelaide Graduate School of Business, Law
All AGSB programs, all Law programs

Thursday, December 22 – 10am
Sciences
All Sciences programs except Agriculture Programs, B Env Sci, B Env Mgt, B Food Tech & Mgmt

Thursday, December 22 – 2.30pm
Sciences, Dentistry
All Dentistry Programs, all Agriculture Programs, including B Sc (Ag Sci, Animal Sci, Nat Res Mgmt, Sustainable Env, Viticulture) plus B Env Sci, B Env Mgt, B Food Tech & Mgmt

\$12 million funding boost aids research

Research

The University of Adelaide has received more than \$12 million in funding from the Australian Research Council, with a heavy focus on earth, environmental and fundamental sciences.

In all, the University was awarded 33 Discovery Grants worth \$9,789,557, with total funding achieved across all grant areas amounting to \$12,871,992.

Of the 33 Discovery Grants, 21 were in the Faculty of Sciences, with 47% of those going to

environmental science research. There was also a strong concentration of funding to fundamental science research projects.

“Our understanding of the natural world and how it has evolved to this point is vital to understanding our impact as humans, and the impact our environment can have on us,” said Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha.

“The University of Adelaide’s success across earth, environmental and fundamental science areas marks us as a leader in these areas, working on research with practical implications for society.”

As well as receiving strong funding for its environment-based research, the University also performed well in the fundamental sciences underpinning all science-based research.

Linkage grants were awarded to nine University of Adelaide researchers, tying their research to industry interest areas in partnerships with companies including Lend Lease, Dupont-Pioneer, Australian Olive Oil Brokerage and Flinders Diamonds Ltd, as well as a number of government departments and authorities.

Professor Alan Cooper, Professor Steve Tyerman and Professor Tony Williams were all successful in achieving grants across Discovery and Linkage areas, worth \$585,999, \$410,000 and \$1,070,000 respectively.

A number of early-career researchers from the University of Adelaide were also recognised by the ARC.

Story by Lisa Reid

Eastwood shaping a symmetrical vision

Mathematics

The recipient of the single largest individual ARC grant, Professor Michael Eastwood from the Discipline of Pure Mathematics, is no stranger to funding success.

He will receive \$800,000 over five years in an Australian Professorial Fellowship – his fourth such consecutive ARC fellowship since 1991.

He will use the funding to continue his research into symmetry in the field of differential geometry – the study of shape using calculus and differential equations.

“Calculus is to do with rates of change, and using it as part of

differential geometry helps to make precise the idea of curvature,” Professor Eastwood said.

“Curvature underpins a lot of things, including much of mathematical physics – Einstein’s Theory of General Relativity is based on curvature, for example.

“What I’m doing is looking at how symmetry affects our understanding of shape, and the curvature of various objects.”

Professor Eastwood said using mathematics to understand curvature was not a new idea, and has already had a major impact on everyday life.

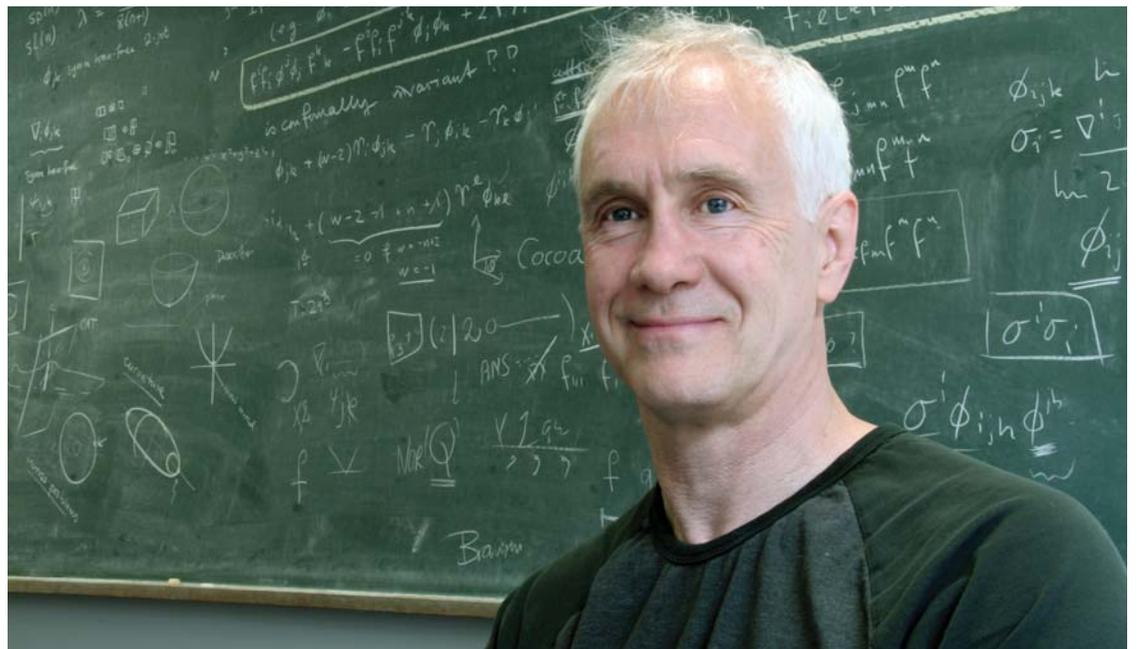
“Medical imaging is a good example: the interior of the human body has lots of curvature and tissue of different densities and yet almost 100 years ago we began to work out how to make sense of information we received from transmitting various types of energy through the body in things like X-rays,” he said. “Anytime that anyone gets a CAT scan today, that’s mathematics at work.

“Seismology is another example: working out what is going on underneath the surface of the Earth, another curved object, using various detection points spread across the world.”

With international collaborations in many countries across Europe, North America, Asia and the Pacific, Professor Eastwood said his research, while theoretical in nature, was part of a field which was far from an abstract pursuit.

“The things that pure mathematicians work on today don’t necessarily translate into everyday applications overnight,” he said. “But people talk, and ideas percolate, and eventually developments which are important for large numbers of people can result.”

Story and photo by Ben Osborne



Melinda's kelp is on its way



● Environmental Biology

Dr Melinda Coleman, joining the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences in 2006, is an early career researcher who has just been awarded her first Australian Research Council grant, worth \$335,000 over four years, to study gene flow of the seaweed, *Ecklonia radiata*.

Ecklonia radiata, also known as common kelp, is the species that we see in piles along the beach in large quantities after storms. It forms extensive "forests" on subtidal reefs along much of the temperate Australian coast and is the most common seaweed found in Australian waters.

Dr Coleman has a PhD from the University of Sydney, and has just returned from a three year post-doctoral

fellowship at the University of Maine in the School of Marine Sciences. Whilst there, she learnt new genetic techniques which, when combined with her strong ecological background, will be used to test novel ecological hypotheses on dispersal and gene flow in habitat-forming algae.

Her project will look at *Ecklonia radiata* populations around the temperate coast of Australia, examining to what extent populations are connected by looking at variability in specific portions of their genetic material. Dr Coleman's research will also use ecological experiments to look at how far the reproductive output (eggs, sperm, spores, etc) travel, to see if populations are isolated or connected.

This detailed study of seaweed may seem obscure, but *Ecklonia radiata* is an important habitat for an extraordinary diversity of sea creatures ranging from invertebrates through to commercially important species

of fish. The knowledge gained from this research will have important implications for the understanding of marine biodiversity and also for industries like commercial fishing.

Dr Coleman said investigating how these very important habitats persist in nature is critical if we are to effectively conserve and manage our marine environment.

"There are only a few published papers at the moment that look at dispersal and gene flow of seaweed species in Australia and they're done on very small spatial scales. This will be the first major study," Dr Coleman said.

"I will travel right around the temperate coast of Australia examining the connectivity between seaweed populations. It's a novel and exciting project and I can't wait to get started."

Story by Lisa Reid

Qantas helps early researchers check in

● Research

Qantas and the University of Adelaide have joined forces for an exciting new scheme that gives emerging researchers the opportunity to travel internationally to increase their knowledge and skills.

The Qantas Researcher Travel Support Scheme will enable Early Career Researchers (academics within their first five years of receiving their PhD) at the University of Adelaide to travel overseas to attend important conferences

and/or collaborate with international researchers in their field.

As a part of the University's commercial arrangement with Qantas, Qantas will provide funds for up to 35 international airfares to successful applicants in the coming year, with similar support anticipated in the next two years.

Convenor of the University's Research Career Development Committee, Professor Julie Owens, said she is delighted by Qantas' support for the scheme, particularly as the funds have come as a result of the University's use of the carrier as a preferred supplier.

"Early Career Researchers have limited opportunities to attend and participate in international and other major conferences overseas, and to visit and collaborate with overseas researchers," Professor Owens said.

"The generous support of Qantas will now make this possible for these researchers at the University of Adelaide. It is the first initiative of many our committee is developing to support researchers in their career planning and development, in partnership with the five University Faculties, its research commercialisation arm (Adelaide

Research and Innovation) and other areas in the University."

Chair of the University's Early Career Researcher Taskforce, Dr Nicole Morcom, said the scheme is a fantastic opportunity for researchers to further their careers and boost their international research profile.

"Early Career Researchers are the next generation of research academics and this is clear evidence of the importance that the University and Qantas place on fostering our best and brightest," Dr Morcom said.

Story by Ben Osborne

iPod, therefore I learn – podcasting a high-tech education

 Learning & Teaching



It's been an action-packed year for online education expert Allan Carrington from the University's Centre for Learning and Professional Development.

From May to August, he was the driving force behind "Educating the Net Generation", a series of three online seminars (or "webinars") featuring more than 230 participants online simultaneously from 14 universities across Australia, Singapore and New Zealand. These interactive webinars examined how universities throughout the world need to adapt to the way today's IT-savvy students learn.

In October, Mr Carrington travelled to the US to take part in the International Educause Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Educause is a major not-for-profit global association based in the US, with 15,000 active members across 2000 universities and other

educational organisations, which aims to advance higher education through the intelligent use of Information Technology.

Mr Carrington was invited by Educause Vice-President Diana Oblinger, who had been involved in the webinar series earlier in the year, to be part of the small team – and the only person from outside the US – who would podcast the conference.

(Podcasting is a term used to describe capturing and distributing audio over the Internet, primarily for use in personal digital devices such as Apple's iPod.)

"The Educause conference is a big event, with more than 7000 people from all over the world attending," Mr Carrington said.

"The podcasting experience was amazing – it was the first time that podcasting had been used for a major conference.

"Podcasting makes it possible to tap into the wisdom and experience from the conference floor. We had 7000 good people at the conference with 7000 great stories and at least 14,000 even better ideas. Podcasting helps people share knowledge and learn."

A particular highlight at the conference was learning that the University of Adelaide's "Educating the Net Generation" webinar series had won a prestigious Live Online Award, or LOLA.

"We received the LOLA for the category 'Creativity in Synchronous Design'," he said. "The webinars were based around contributions from Diana Oblinger and Educause, and it was special to be able to share the announcement of the award while at the Educause conference."

As part of his overseas trip, Mr Carrington also visited universities in Hawaii, Wisconsin and Virginia

Main picture: Allan Carrington (right) interviewing Randy Meredith from Spring Arbor University in Michigan

Inset: Mr Carrington with Educause Vice-President Diana Oblinger

Beach in the US, and Ireland and England to meet with leading educational technology figures.

"Universities are working hard to harness the power of technology and integrate it into learning and teaching," Mr Carrington said. "The challenge is how to direct this power towards the needs of students and be agile enough to adapt to rapid changes in the teaching and technological landscapes."

To learn more about Mr Carrington's trip and the world of educational podcasting, visit his web log (or "blog") at:

connect.educause.edu/blog/allanadl

Story by Ben Osborne

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Dr Jaksa with a device that uses *Thunderbirds* nemesis "The Hood" to demonstrate the effects of quicksand
Photo by Ben Osborne

Jaksa engineers teaching excellence

● Learning & Teaching

Dr Mark Jaksa, Senior Lecturer in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has a dual celebration this month – being awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Learning and Teaching during graduation celebrations, and the birth of his fourth child (due December 22).

Dr Jaksa has been at the University of Adelaide for 18 years. After studying at Adelaide in the late 1970s and early 1980s he entered the workforce and worked in two consulting engineering practices. In 1988 he returned to the University to get his PhD and started his career in teaching.

Jaksa plans to take on the Graduate Certificate in Teaching (Higher Education) offered by the University of Adelaide once his newest family addition is settled into the world.

"I thought I'd come back, get my PhD and head back to the world of consulting engineering, but I worked as a tutor then landed a contract as a lecturer after a few people left, and I've stayed ever since," Dr Jaksa said.

"I love it. My workload is probably about 60% teaching and 40% research. I get to work across a whole range of subjects, probably about 20 to 30, teaching second, third and fourth year students, as well as supervising PhDs.

"My skills as a teacher have come mainly from my own experiences as a student, as well as working with student feedback on what works for them and what doesn't, as well as peer discussion. We often work in isolation, but there is a real focus on evolving our teaching and the need to constantly work on improving our game."

This dedication shows across the results for Dr Jaksa's faculty.

Dr Jaksa and Dr Matthew Sorell from the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering were the winners

of the Stephen Cole the Elder Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

Both winners in this category were from the Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences.

The Stephen Cole the Elder Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in the First Five Years of Teaching went to Dr Ben Cazzolato, from the School of Mechanical Engineering, in another success for the Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences.

The Award for Excellence in Postgraduate Coursework Teaching has been won by Dr Barbara Santich from the School of History and Politics in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

All prizewinners are presented with a certificate and a grant of \$5000. The grants are paid to the winners through the academic units and are to be used to help with the further development of their teaching activities.

Story by Lisa Reid

Supervise me! Postgrads' best of the best

● Learning & Teaching

Associate Professor Terry Williamson was more than a little surprised when he was told he'd won the University of Adelaide Postgraduate Students' Association Supervisor of the Year award.

Dr Williamson (pictured), from the School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design, was interstate on business while the awards night was on last month.

"I was honoured to be nominated, and really surprised to have won," he said. "I thought I didn't have much of a chance of winning it so I was in Melbourne and about to fly back to Adelaide when I got a call from one of my students telling me the good news!"

The success caps off a good year for Dr Williamson: earlier this year he also

received official recognition of having served on University staff for 25 years.

He currently supervises four PhD students, with another four completing their PhDs under him in the last 18 months. He also serves as Associate Dean of Postgraduate Coursework in the Faculty of the Professions.

"I think a large part of what makes a good supervisor is sharing that passion, that sense of the chase, that the student does," he said. "At the same time, you have to be dispassionate and be able to take a critical view towards what they are doing, but if you can also share in the excitement of learning new knowledge then I find it can really help.

"I also think being available as often as possible helps students as well, and not treating them the same: each



student and each topic are different and bring their own challenges."

Awarded annually, the PGSA awards recognise the contribution and effort made by staff and departments towards assisting postgraduate students.

Other winners were:

Supervisor of the Year runner-up: Professor Lee Parker (Commerce)

Lecturer of the Year: Dr Georges Baume (Adelaide Graduate School of Business)

Lecturer of the Year runner-up: Mr David Knight (Computer Science)

General Staff of the Year: Dr Peter Apoefis (Chemistry and Physics)

General Staff of the Year equal runners-up: Ms Lena Mastrogiacomo and Ms Kankana McPherson (both Office of Industry Liaison)

Department of the Year: Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology

Department of the Year runner-up: Public Health

Story by Ben Osborne

Branka our Young Investigator

● Immunology

Adelaide PhD student Branka Grubor-Bauk estimates she has already lived three lives in one – and her recent success in a prestigious competition could well be the start of life number four!

The 28-year-old won the final of the Young Investigator Award, conducted jointly by the University's Faculty of Health Sciences and the Children, Youth and Women's Health Service for her research into the herpes simplex virus.

The Award, now in its sixth year, rewards research excellence by young Adelaide health researchers and their ability to "sell" their science in lay language.

It's another major step in Branka's journey that has seen her come to Australia as a Serbian refugee from the 1990s Balkans War.

"In a way it's like I've lived three lives," she said. "The first one was growing up in Sarajevo, the second was becoming a refugee through the war and then the third one was having the opportunity to come to Australia and make a fresh start.

"What I like about Australia is that if you're willing to work hard, then the opportunities to succeed will come.

"I was very nervous on the Finals night. I had a cold and wasn't feeling well, but it was a great opportunity to present my research and my findings to a wider audience, and it was very exciting and surprising to win."

Branka is undertaking her PhD through the University's School of Molecular and Biomedical Science, and the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science's Infectious Diseases division.

She is studying how the body's immune system reacts to and fights the herpes simplex virus, which is estimated to affect 95% of the world's adult population at some stage in their lives and is the world's second most common cause of blindness.



Right: Branka Grubor-Bauk
Photo by Ben Osborne

Above: State Minister for Science and Information Economy the Hon. Karlene Maywald (second from left) with the three finalists (from left) Brooke Summers, Adeline Lau and Branka Grubor-Bauk
Photo courtesy of Children, Youth and Women's Health Services



"The immune system treats foreign invaders it finds in the body in two ways: what it does first is send out non-specific immune cells, cells that are designed to destroy any foreign invader.

"After a while it then begins to send out specific cells, once it has determined what the foreign invader is.

But this can take a long time and what we are trying to do is work out how to improve the communication between these two types of immune cells, the non-specific and the specific."

Using mice, Branka has studied a particular type of specific immune cell known as a natural killer T-cell (or NKT) and its effect on herpes.

"For the first stage of the study, we looked at mice who didn't have NKT cells and their resistance to herpes.

"Their survival rate went from the 90% of a normal mouse to 33%, and they were affected much more by the virus, getting much bigger lesions on their skin and more of the virus in their body.

"For the second stage, we gave normal mice extra NKT cells to see what would happen. They went from an average of 70% having skin lesions to only 20%, and the amount of the virus in their system was reduced by 100 times.

"Both findings strongly suggest that NKT cells have a major role to play in controlling the herpes virus."

The other two finalists in the Young Investigator Award were also both University of Adelaide PhD students.

Brooke Summers, through the IMVS's Clinical Biochemistry division and the Hanson Institute, is researching whether zinc can protect foetuses against the effects of a mother's binge drinking, while Adeline Lau, through the Women's and Children's Hospital's Lysosomal Diseases Research Unit, is studying whether a modified virus can direct a treatment protein into the brains of mice suffering from a lysosomal storage disorder.

Story by Ben Osborne

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● Coming events

Friday, December 2

1.10pm Ren Potts Memorial Concert
Lunch hour concert in memory of the late Professor Ren Potts, featuring works of J.S. Bach. Elder Hall. Tickets \$5, available from the door.

2.10pm Ren Potts Memorial Symposium
Colleagues and students of the late Professor Ren Potts will give a series of short talks and reminiscences. Room G08, Mathematics Building – all welcome.

Sunday, December 4

11am Waite Arboretum guided walk:
Discover one of Adelaide's botanical treasures in the company of a knowledgeable guide. Waite Arboretum, Waite Campus (meet in front of Urrbrae House – enter from Fullarton Road. Free car park available).

Monday, December 5

International Volunteer Day
The University celebrates the enormous contribution given to it by its volunteers. North Terrace Campus.



Identification a matter of record for tsunami dentists

Forensic odontologists (from left) Dr Giacomo Cirillo, Dr Tony Lake and Dr Helen James
Photo by Lisa Reid

Dentistry

DNA evidence might reign supreme on prime-time TV, but it was dental identification that was the dominant method of identifying victims of the Boxing Day Tsunami – with the University of Adelaide playing its part.

By May 2005, forensic odontology (or forensic dentistry) had contributed to 87% of identifications, 9% of victims had been identified by their fingerprints and only 0.5% by DNA evidence, which is called into play later in the identification process due to cost factors.

Forensic odontologists from the University of Adelaide’s School of Dentistry have spent eight months across 2005 travelling to Thailand to identify tsunami victims through their dental records.

From January, the team – Dr Helen James, Dr Giacomo Cirillo, Dr Tony Lake and Dr Kain Rowlings – joined other Australian and international forensic odontologists at the coalface of the tragedy, putting in 12-hour shifts at temporary mortuaries,

comparing dental structures to records held in an international database (Plassdata, based in Denmark).

Dr Helen James, Acting Director of the Forensic Odontology Unit, described it as a “surreal experience”.

“From the first report of 4,500 victims, the bodies to be identified just kept on coming,” she said. “We were working with teams of forensic dentists from Thailand and other Asian countries, New Zealand, Europe, UK and Canada. We had to create a mortuary and implement a number of processes for disease control as well as information management systems under very difficult situations.

“Identifying the victims is a process of pattern association and you quickly discover the search is only as good as the data that has been entered. Identification of very young victims who were yet to have seen a dentist was particularly difficult, but we could estimate their age from the stage of dental development.

“Australian involvement in the operation is now winding down. There were very few Australian victims from here, but, like a number of other countries, we stayed on for the long haul and this has been greatly appreciated by the Thais and other countries more greatly affected. Australian teams made a huge contribution to the identification effort, which still continues, with about 1,000 bodies still to be identified.

“Every disaster is different and we have learnt a lot from working in such large teams from all over the world. We have developed new techniques and we’ve gained important experience for the future.”

The University of Adelaide’s Forensic Odontology team usually works on about 100 cases every year, mostly local identification problems, but also bitemark analysis from crime scenes, age estimates and photographic superimpositions.

“The job requires lateral thinking, an awareness of procedural aspects

of the work and the potential legal outcomes from your results,” Dr James said.

“The fact that CSI can sort it out over an ad break is not realistic. This style of TV show has, however, increased student interest in all areas of forensic science. To my mind it is the most interesting area of dentistry, but in no way is it the most lucrative.”

The Forensic Odontology Unit has been involved with most major crimes or disasters that have taken place in South Australia over the past 25 years, including this year’s bushfires on the Eyre Peninsula, the “Bodies in the Barrels” cases and the Truro Murders.

Forensic dentistry makes up part of the undergraduate course at the School of Dentistry, with lectures to all years of study and a one-week intensive selective for final-year dental students. There will be three postgraduate students pursuing the specialty in 2006.

Story by Lisa Reid



Bill Cook, *The Guru*, acrylic on canvas, 1981.
Adelaide University Union Collection, copyright of the artist.



Arthur Streeton, *View from Barrett's Point, Portsea*, oil on canvas, 1921.
University of Adelaide Visual Arts Collection.



Professor Kerr Grant's suitcase, awaiting further research.
University of Adelaide Historical Collection

State of the art

Collecting for the future



Unknown object, awaiting identification.
Scientific Apparatus Historical Collection,
University of Adelaide.



Unknown object, awaiting identification. Scientific Apparatus Historical Collection, University of Adelaide.



Typewriter, awaiting further research. University of Adelaide Historical Collection.



Clifford Frith, *Floral Pasquinade*, wire mesh sculpture, 1988. University of Adelaide Visual Arts Collection, copyright of the artist.



Charles Blackman, *Chequered Dress*, oil on canvas, 1964. Adelaide University Union Collection, copyright of the artist.

● Art and Heritage

The paintings and sculptures around the University of Adelaide help create a sense of place – but sometimes we hardly notice what's there until it's gone.

The removal of Bill Cook's *The Guru* from the Union Bar earlier this year provoked a campaign to get it back. The day it arrived in the bar after cleaning and re-framing was like the arrival of the Beatles at Adelaide Airport – security reporting its progress across the campus and a mass of students waiting to have their photo taken with the bar's own guru at the end of his trip.

Whether the work is of quality to justify this level of worship is a matter for the art critics of the world, but the story illustrates the level of attachment the students and staff at Adelaide have for the artwork and other collections on our campuses.

Ms Mirna Heruc, Manager of Art and Heritage Collections, along with Anna

Gardner, the Collections Officer, are the caretakers of the University's art and other collections.

The Art and Heritage Collections team was expanded to two this year and this reflects the University's growing commitment to custodianship of its art and artefacts, and a desire to see them properly managed and cared for. This occurs alongside the collections managed by faculties.

Generous assistance is also provided by Tupp Carmody, Executive Assistant for Corporate Information, and Julian Tremayne, Art and Heritage Installation Technician.

"The University has 19 collections that we have identified so far, and this is growing as we work through to identify and organise the various items and create a thorough database," Ms Heruc said.

"We have a modest visual arts collection, but there have been magnificent bequests throughout our

history and there are some significant works, including pieces by Henry Moore and Arthur Streeton.

"While the visual art and sculpture is easily identified as part of the collection, we also have what we believe is a quite unique collection for this state, of scientific apparatus.

"We have equipment that was used by Florey and also Bragg in the Physics Museum, as well as a lot of other equipment that dates back through the University's history. Eventually we will need to call for some volunteers to help us identify many of the older items.

"There is also a lot of furniture. It is amazing to work with it because it is always very clear where it sat in the University – you can see the level of wear and tear that items have had and the quality of the pieces. They all indicate something about the furniture's use and where it belonged.

"Unfortunately, a lot of the old pieces don't fit in with our modern, ergonomic

requirements so they mainly sit in storage, but from time to time we get requests from people who prefer the warmth and patina of desks and bookshelves that have been a part of the place for a long time.

"We are also tagging pieces currently in use that we think should be added to the collection in the future. Whenever Property Services renew an area of the University, they work in close consultation with us regarding the preservation of appropriate items."

The University has now established an art storage area for the collections.

"All of the visual art was once stored 'on the walls' but everyone needs a rest, and we now have proper facilities for this to happen. It has been a very rewarding time to work with the collections," Ms Heruc said.

"One day I would love to see a museum space to showcase our art and artefacts."

Story by Lisa Reid

Keeping the flow for Murray trees

Environmental Biology

Ensuring that there are young and healthy eucalyptus trees along the lower River Murray is a better long-term solution for the river's health rather than only focusing on old and sick trees, according to new research.

Dr Amy George studied eucalypts along the Murray River in South Australia as part of her PhD thesis with the University of Adelaide's School of Earth and Environmental Studies.

Dr George, who now works as a Senior Ecologist with the State Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation, researched the regeneration of river red gum and black box tree populations at Banrock Station about 200km north-east of Adelaide.

She found that not only was there a disproportionate number of older trees compared to younger ones, but that most of the trees in these areas were in a severe state of decline. The concern is that older trees are not replacing themselves sufficiently to keep trees along the river.

Some of the work identified that river flows are essential for tree regeneration (the natural process by which plant populations are maintained over time), and under the current river regime moderate sized flows are not happening often enough to stimulate expansive germination of new trees.

"The focus needs to shift away from mature and old trees to include the development and growth of young trees along the floodplains," she said.

"The continuous rejuvenation of young trees is vital, because unhealthy trees are less likely to flower and produce seeds which reduces the potential to produce new and healthy ones."

She said that the current flow regimes are inadequate for maintaining continuous tree replacement. Environmental flows – water that is allocated or delivered along the river that attempts to reinstate a more natural flow pattern – may address the need for water, but a programmed sequence is required for these environmental flows to be effective.

However, currently there is little understanding of the "right conditions" for regeneration and reproductive processes in floodplain vegetation.

Dr George's study also shows that unhealthy trees will not provide sufficient seed supplies to make up for population losses throughout River Murray basin.

"Regeneration can't occur if seeds are unavailable, and seed availability begins with the parent trees," she said. "At this stage, the population of the black box is in decline because they do not have the ability to live,



function and grow. There is a strong need for ecologically significant environmental flow allocations to prevent further tree losses and promote naturally sustainable populations.

"If South Australia continues to lose valuable floodplains, there could be wider implications for the river. Rivers and floodplains are interconnected and the health

of both systems depends on these connections. If the connection is broken or the floodplains are lost, then the health of the river suffers.

"This highlights the need for further studies to identify not only the physiological triggers, but also the ecological conditions that initiate germination and growth."

Story by Jasna Rojevic and Ben Osborne

Limited edition print

Merchandise

The University of Adelaide is pleased to announce the first of a new range of high quality merchandise products from the University. The new limited edition print of Bonython Hall was painted by Adelaide architectural artist Malcolm Bartsch. Each of the 250 high quality Giclee prints has been individually hand-signed and numbered by the artist. These prints (which would make a beautiful gift for visiting friends or relatives from interstate or overseas as well as a graduation gift) are available from the following approved retailers:

Development & Alumni office

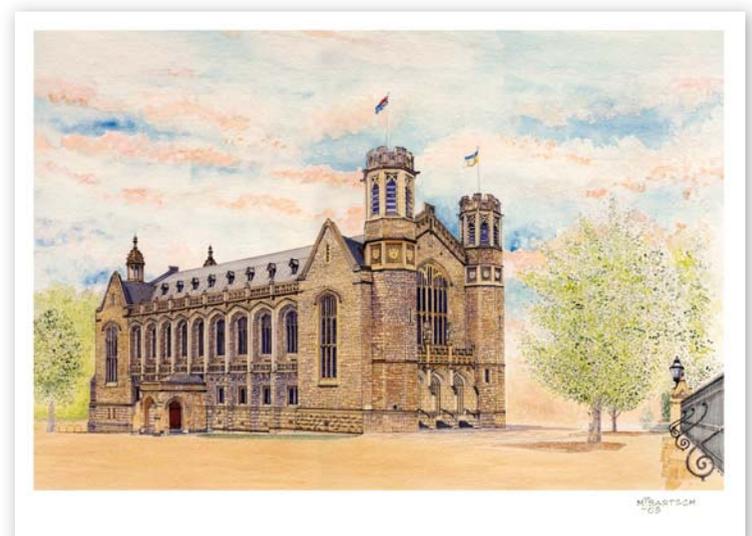
Level 1, 230 North Terrace
University of Adelaide, SA 5005
Phone +61 8 8303 5800

Contact: Rachael Penning
rachael.penning@adelaide.edu.au

Essence of Australia

Shop 39 Adelaide Arcade
Adelaide SA 5000
Phone +61 8 8223 3467

Contact: Mike Bell
bells@chariot.net.au





Associate Professor Viv Burgess giving a lecture to Dental students in the University of Sharjah's College of Dentistry earlier this year

Photo courtesy of Viv Burgess

Right: Talking with Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha over coffee in the Dental School's Sharjah Room

Far right: Learning about the research undertaken at the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics from Research Fellow Yusef Genc

Photos by Ben Osborne



United Arab Emirates students (from left) Anson Abraham (Petroleum Engineering), Rawya Alkabeel (Science), Ayan Mohamed (Nursing) and Mukhtar Issa (Biomedical Science) had the unique opportunity of meeting His Highness

Photo by Ben Osborne



Building a bridge through Sharjah dental link

story continued from page 1

Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Professor Justin Beilby, said there would be additional support to establish an on-site clinical training facility of 48 simulators and 12 dental chairs – scheduled for opening in February next year – and a 120-chair dental hospital on the Sharjah campus in September 2007.

He said the Online Education team within Adelaide's Centre for Learning and Professional Development had played a pivotal role in helping the project meet its contractual obligations.

"They are providing various types of support for the Dental School, including online curriculum design and integration of materials into Sharjah's learning management system," Professor Beilby said. "They are also producing various multimedia resources, including videos and audio-narrated lectures and tutorials.

"CLPD has also made available its virtual classroom facilities to allow for live tutorials between Adelaide lecturers and Sharjah students. It provides the technical support to the project for its range of IT activities."

Story by Ben Osborne

Sharjah Ruler's diverse Adelaide experience

International

The diverse range of the University of Adelaide's education and research has received positive feedback from the Ruler of Sharjah, who visited the University last month.

His Highness Dr Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al-Qassimi and his delegation visited two campuses of the University of Adelaide last month as part of his Australian tour.

His Highness, who is also Supreme President of the University of Sharjah, had a busy schedule but saw many aspects of Adelaide, including:

- Touring the University's Dental School (including its dedicated Sharjah offices), Colgate Australian Clinical Dental Research Centre and Adelaide Dental Hospital;
- Visiting the South Australian Virtual Reality Centre, based in the Australian School of Petroleum;
- Having lunch with the Governor, Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-

Nelson, Deputy Premier the Hon. Kevin Foley, and University senior management, including Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha;

- Attending the official launch of the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music's recording and rehearsal studios;
- Touring the Indigenous collections of the South Australian Museum;
- Examining the facilities at the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics at the University's Waite Campus, as well as meeting with several United Arab Emirates students.

Director of the Sharjah project, Associate Professor Viv Burgess from the Dental School, said he had received positive feedback from His Highness' delegation upon their return to Sharjah.

"They have expressed how much they enjoyed the visit, and are particularly keen to return and visit the University of Adelaide in the near future," he said.

"His Highness is a very well educated and well-spoken man. He has two PhDs, one in arid-zone horticulture from the University of Arizona and the other in History from Exeter University. He has a vast range of professional interests and we were able to show him a diverse range of the different programs and research we provide, which he took a strong interest in.

"We are delighted that we can help the University of Sharjah with its dental program, and hopefully this trip by His Highness can lead to further collaborations."

One of the UAE students who met with His Highness, Rawya Alkabeel (who is studying for a Bachelor of Science) said it was a great honour to meet one of the rulers from her homeland.

"I don't think I would have much of a chance to see him if we were both in Sharjah, so to meet him here was a big thrill," she said. "He was very nice, easy to talk to – it's something I'll never forget."

Story by Ben Osborne

Adelaide, wine and



● Wine Marketing

“The University of Adelaide has world-class lecturers with international experience – so students are provided with cutting-edge information on global wine markets.”

Two University of Adelaide Wine Marketing students are set for the experience of a lifetime after winning prestigious internships in the United States and United Kingdom.

Monique Katchor and Jennifer Lynch, who have just completed their studies, are travelling to New York and London respectively.

Monique has been awarded a 12-month placement with the Australian Wine Bureau in New York City beginning in January, and becomes the sixth University of Adelaide student in seven years to receive the honour. The internship is designed to provide the recipient with a broad understanding of Wine Australia's position in the US market, which is arguably the most important export market for Australian wine.

“I'll be part of a team of six people, and I'll be involved with the research, educational and promotional programs the Bureau does with Australian wine in the US, and I'll also assist with website development,” Monique said.

Jennifer has just left for London to take up the inaugural three-month Philglas & Swiggot Wine Retail Internship. The internship was established by Philglas

& Swiggot owner Mr Mike Rogers and University of Adelaide Wine Business Group lecturer Mr Trent Johnson.

“Philglas & Swiggot have three fine wine stores in London and I'll be spending time working in each of them,” Jennifer said. “They have a very good reputation in the UK and I'm lucky to be working there straight out of university.”

Both Jennifer and Monique praised the University of Adelaide's Wine Marketing degree, saying it had given them a thorough grounding for a successful career in the wine industry.

“You learn about the entire process – from the moment the plant goes in the ground to when the consumer buys the finished product,” Jennifer said. “It's a lot more than just marketing – we study all wine-related topics, like sensory analysis of wine and winery operation.”

“The University of Adelaide has world-class lecturers with international experience – so students are provided with cutting-edge information on global wine markets,” Monique said. “There is also a strong research focus, and in some courses we study alongside the oenology and viticulture students, which helps our overall understanding of the wine value chain.”

Mr Johnson said these are wonderful opportunities for the two students to kick-start their careers in wine marketing.

“It reinforces the very important role that the University plays in providing well-trained wine marketers for the industry,” he said.

“That the University has supplied six of the seven New York internship winners is not only a credit to the students, but a testament to the ‘whole of value chain’ approach adopted here, where the wine marketing students are exposed to not only the latest in wine marketing theory and practice, but also to viticultural and oenology subjects. This is a point of difference that other universities cannot offer.

“I wish both Monique and Jennifer all the best in their upcoming endeavours.”

The internships also align with the State Government's Strategic Plan objective of increasing the annual exports of the SA wine industry to \$3 billion by 2010, by developing and maintaining international links and partnerships and boosting promotion of local wine with key export markets.

Story by Ben Osborne

the world



Far left: Wine marketers Jennifer Lynch (left) and Monique Katchor
Above: Winemakers (from left) Kathy Cooney, Angelina Mondavi,
Irit Boxer-Shank and Kate Payne
Photos by Ben Osborne

Oenology

These four talented young women represent the global reach of Adelaide winemaking.

Irit Boxer-Shank from Israel, Kathy Cooney from New Zealand, and Angelina Mondavi and Kate Payne from the United States are all studying for postgraduate qualifications in Oenology at the University's Waite Campus.

The four have had contrasting pathways into their winemaking studies, but are more than happy with the skills and knowledge their time in Adelaide is giving them.

For Irit, studying winemaking is a continuation of life back home on her family's winery, situated 20 minutes out of Tel Aviv.

"I've always been surrounded by wine and winemaking, and wanted to make it my life too," she said.

"I did my undergraduate studies in science back home, but wanted to go overseas for my postgraduate study to get more experience.

"I know of a few winemakers that studied here and in France, and they were very positive about Adelaide so I chose to come here."

Kathy, who hails from Rotorua in New Zealand's North Island, comes from much less of a winemaking background.

"I studied science in school, but didn't really know what I wanted to do," she said.

"At one stage I talked with three winemaking women, and to hear them talk about it and what they do, it was like, 'This is what I want to do'."

"I really want to travel and experience as many places as I can, and winemaking definitely allows you to do that. I couldn't have a job where I sit behind a desk all day!"

Like Irit, Angelina comes from a winemaking family, but one that is among America's most well-known and respected, the Mondavis in California.

It is a family history which Angelina said she initially tried to push away rather than embrace.

"When I was at high school, I wanted to be anything but a winemaker," she said. "But I got a bit older and knew it was pretty much in my blood.

"I wanted to get away from California and learn more about winemaking on my own, and then go home once I had

“Winemaking has that bit of creativity, culture and art to it, as well as the science – it’s just the whole package.”

the experience and build up my own name as a winemaker, rather than always staying within the family business."

Kate's hometown of Portland, Oregon has a cooler climate and much less of a wine industry than further south on America's West Coast. It's a background which saw her a much later starter in her winemaking career.

"I had a science background and worked in a completely different science area for a few years before I realised I wanted to do something different.

"I ended up working in an urban winery in Portland and basically fell in love with winemaking. I could have studied in California to get the skills I needed but I wanted a bit of adventure and to get a different perspective, so after a bit of

research I decided to come to Adelaide and have thoroughly enjoyed it."

Oenology lecturer Dr Sue Bastian said apart from being a pleasure to mix with, it is an asset to the oenology and viticulture programmes to have such a culturally eclectic group of students enrolled here.

"The students from overseas contribute their global knowledge to the class discussions," Dr Bastian said. "These are dynamic individuals – you can sense their energy – and I guess that's why they've travelled so far to further their studies.

"Personally, I look forward to watching them make their mark in this industry."

The attraction of winemaking is that it is more than just a science, according to Kate.

"We all come from a science background but winemaking has that something extra in it, which is why we all attracted to it," she said.

"It has that bit of creativity, culture and art to it, as well as the science – it's just the whole package. It's a lot of hard work but it's really gratifying when you get the final result."

Story by Ben Osborne

One-stop ethics shop opens

● Ethics

The Ethics Centre of South Australia (ECSA), launched late last month, sees the University of Adelaide working together with the State's other two universities to develop focused, high profile and socially-oriented research in a field that is central to contemporary Australian society.

"Universities are uniquely placed to provide leadership to stimulate community debate on ethical matters. It is the role of our researchers and educators to create new knowledge, communicate that knowledge and to serve the community," said University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha at ECSA's launch.

With an agenda of research, education and community engagement, ECSA's researchers will explore ethical issues in seven broad research areas: healthcare; professional practice; public policy; science and technology; research ethics; ethical theory; and Indigenous ethics," he added.

Dr Annette Braunack-Mayer (pictured), Interim Joint Director of ECS and Senior Lecturer in Public Health at the University of Adelaide, said: "ECSA's aim is to develop a leadership role in the field of ethics within South Australia and to achieve prominence both nationally and internationally.



"We have worked hard across the creation of the centre to keep a balance between the three member institutions in order to create an environment where collegial debate and collaborative education and research can take place.

"We see ECSA as a great resource for business and government, as

well as a place that recognises the importance of training in ethics both within and outside of the University environment."

For more information about ECSA, visit: www.ecsa.edu.au

Story by Lisa Reid

RADIO ADELAIDE hits number one

● Media

University radio station Radio Adelaide was named as the Radio Station of the Year for 2005 and also collected two other prestigious accolades at the recent Community Broadcasting Association of Australia national awards presentation.

The award recognises service and innovation by a community radio station in meeting the needs of the community.

"Winning this award is hugely significant," says Radio Adelaide Station Manager Ms Deborah Welch. "The community radio sector comprises more than 350 stations nationally,

so collectively we provide more services than either the commercial or national radio sectors.

"In this political climate, community media and freedom of speech are more important than ever, and we're doing well at meeting the needs of people who feel dissatisfied by what the mainstream and commercial media is serving them."

Radio Adelaide also won the award for Contribution to Indigenous Broadcasting in recognition of Radio NAIDOC, which provided special five-day coverage of NAIDOC Week in July.

A third commendation for Radio Adelaide at the CBAA Awards came in being named Finalist in the category Excellence in Music Programming for Womadelaide 2005 Live.



December 2005

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Media

Yun Zhang (left) and August Boehm
Photo by Jasna Rojevic

Two University of Adelaide Bachelor of Media students' filmmaking talents have recently been on international display.

Yun Zhang and August Boehm joined other international artists having their films shown at the annual Australia-Japan Student Film Forum, which features films by emerging filmmakers in both Japan and Australia.

Yun Zhang's *Crossing Cultures* is a short documentary about the

experiences of two Chinese overseas students at the University of Adelaide.

"Studying at Adelaide Uni is great because I had a chance to do a variety of things, including making my own documentary!" she said.

"Here at Adelaide Uni, overseas students really get all the support they need. Studying Media has given me the opportunity to develop my skills and also get hands-on experience."

August Boehm's *Colliding Temporalities* is an experimental music video clip using images and sounds from the computer game, *Live for Speed*.

"Experiencing media is similar to driving a fast car. What we visually perceive in the media is very similar to manoeuvring a car, because both give you a surge of ecstasy," August said.

"My film will be included in the 2005 Australian Short Film publication

DVD, which is used by film festivals and distributed at film markets by the Australian Film Commission."

Yun and August produced their films as part of their final project for Video Production, a course offered in the Bachelor of Media at Adelaide.

Both productions were screened at the Australia-Japan Student Film Forum in Sydney and subsequently at the 2005 Cine Vis Cinema International Film Festival in Japan.

Story by Jasna Rojevic

Guild's heady mix for 2006

Theatre

Ambitious rakes, cross-dressing colonials, political assassination and interfering theatre critics make up a heady mix for the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild's 2006 season, announced on 22 November.

March sees a two-night season of a moved play-reading of Edward Ravenscroft's bawdy 1681 romp *The London Cuckolds*. The production also features music of the age performed by students of the Elder Conservatorium.

May brings Caryl Churchill's classic 70s political satire, *Cloud Nine*. It mixes 19th century colonial Africa and swinging 70s London in a witty analysis of gender, race and politics.

Shakespeare's great political drama *Julius Caesar* takes the stage in August, with Theatre Guild Chair John Edge in the title role.

Then in October it's time for *The Real Inspector Hound*, Tom Stoppard's sparkling comic send up of theatre conventions and the Agatha Christie country house murder mystery.

The Guild is also undertaking a script development project in 2006 with Adelaide

student Kate Mandalovic for her full-length play, *Rebecca's Story*. That will have a public airing during the year, with further details to be announced.

And there's a new, special discount ticket price for University of Adelaide staff and students, which is available on the Tuesday night performances of the May, August and October productions.

Further information from
Melanie Hibberd on (08) 8303 5999 or
www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

Summer School 06



School is cool this summer

● Lifelong Learning

Not looking forward to a long and hot summer? Freshen up with a cool and vibrant course from the University of Adelaide's Summer School.

There is a wide range of Professional and Continuing Education (PCE) short courses and University Award and Non-Award courses available to everyone, including members of the University community and the general public.

Whether you wish to learn a new language, improve your business skills or perhaps prepare for future tertiary studies, PCE's short courses will equip

you with new skills for the New Year in areas ranging from language and culture to personal and professional development.

Award and Non-Award courses are available from four University faculties, and range from Pig Production to studying the Kurna language.

Enjoy your summer by taking a splash with the University of Adelaide's Summer School – for more information, visit:

www.adelaide.edu.au/summerschool

Sydney Alumni chapter launch

● Alumni

The Sydney Chapter of the University of Adelaide Alumni Association was launched on Wednesday, November 16 at the University of Sydney's Nicholson Museum. The Museum was an exceptional venue for the meeting with an interesting collection of archaeological displays that provided fascinating talking points, along with the Socceroos' chances that night.

Mr Anthony Roediger from the Sydney Chapter spoke about the Chapter's aims and welcomed everyone to participate in future events. Chair of the Alumni Association Mr Michael Llewelyn-Smith presented the Chapter with a gift and officially launched the Chapter.

The theme of the evening was South Australian wines with guest speaker Ms Toni Paterson, who graduated with a Master of Oenology from the University of Adelaide and was awarded the prestigious Madame Lily Bollinger Medal for wine tasting. She provided an animated and very entertaining presentation on South Australian wines and local New South Wales wines.

If you reside in Sydney, or will be travelling to Sydney the Chapter invites you to attend one of their future events.

For more information, visit:
www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/chapters/sydney_chap.html

Friends get close-up of medical facilities

● Alumni

A group of Friends of the University recently enjoyed an afternoon going behind the scenes of medical research at the University of Adelaide. As part of an ongoing series of events for Friends and Benefactors, the tour provided a rare view of the research laboratories in the Faculty of Health Sciences, with the latest information on brain trauma research with the NRF Chair of Neurosurgical Research Professor Bob Vink one of the highlights. Attendees also gained insight into the pioneering research into breast and prostate cancers being undertaken at the Dame Roma Mitchell Cancer Research Laboratories, and visited the Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology Laboratory.

For more information on events and tours organised by the Development and Alumni office, please contact the University's Bequest Officer, Mr Jon Russack, on (08) 8303 3234.



Mrs Margaret Scott and Dr Bill Murphy enjoy a cup of coffee after a busy afternoon touring the University's medical research laboratories.

Alumni Benefits

Parking Permits

The Alumni Association After Hours Parking Permits for 2006 will be available soon!

This permit allows you the convenience of parking on campus before 9:15am and after 4:30pm Monday to Friday as well as all day Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays.

Alumni who purchased a permit in 2005 will automatically receive a renewal letter in December. For those alumni that didn't take up the opportunity in 2005 but would like to register their interest in a parking permit for 2006, please contact us on (08) 8303 5800.

December Graduations

The December graduation ceremonies are fast approaching. Development and Alumni offers a range of official merchandise to keep your memories of the University of Adelaide alive. You can purchase a Graduation Bear with a hood in your faculty colours for \$45.

For further information visit www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/merchandise/, or come in and see us at Level 1, 230 North Terrace, Adelaide, opening hours 11.30am - 3.30pm.

Hayley's top of the hour

● Music

A stunning concert by four of the Elder Conservatorium's top students ended a very successful year of Lunch Hour concerts at Elder Hall.

The Allans Classical Music Awards, sponsored by Allans Music, was the culmination of a competition open to all undergraduate and Honours students at the Elder Conservatorium.

First prize was awarded to Hayley Radke (flute), with second prize going to Fleur Green (marimba). Finalist prizes were also awarded to Katrina Hermman (French horn) and Sky Ingram (soprano).

The Manager of Allans Music, Tony Jeffries was on hand to present the

prizes, which were announced by Elder Professor of Music and Dean of the Elder Conservatorium, Professor Charles Bodman Rae, who chaired the judging panel.

Hayley Radke (pictured) and Fleur Green are both Honours students who have just returned from overseas study tours. Hayley attended masterclasses in London, Paris and Switzerland as part of the Flutes of Adelaide tour led by Head of Woodwind Elizabeth Koch, while Fleur attended a short study course at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and a percussion conference in Ohio, Columbus as part of Adelaide's renowned percussion ensemble led by Head of Percussion Jim Bailey.



The new series of lunch hour concerts will be launched by Macquarie Trio Australia in Elder Hall on Friday March 17, 2006. Detailed concert brochures will be available in mid-January.

Elder stars set to shine for ASO in 2006

● Music

A host of prominent Elder Conservatorium staff and graduates will feature as part of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra's 2006 season.

Two of Australia's finest young cellists and recent Conservatorium graduates, identical twins Pei-Sian and Pei-Jee Ng, will return from their studies in England for a special ASO performance.

Among their repertoire will be the world premiere of a piece by Graeme Koehne, the Head of Composition

at the Conservatorium, entitled *The Sleep of Reason*. Regarded as one of Australia's leading modern composers, a second Koehne premiere, *On the Beach* (inspired by Nevil Shute's iconic novel), promises to be one of the many highlights on offer in 2006.

Composer Jamie Messenger, another Conservatorium graduate, will present *The Edge*; a concert series that seeks out the sounds of contemporary culture fusing the music of the X and Y generations

to the classical. Jamie's project will feature Adelaide's rising young percussionist and star of the University of Adelaide's award-winning Life Impact brand advertising campaign, Nick Parnell.

etpejazz, Australia's magnificent and most acclaimed jazz band, will lead a concert suffused with traditional Christmas tunes, as part of the ASO's Christmas Lounge. The members of the quintet are all University of Adelaide graduates who met while studying, and who have

since been twice voted Australia's best live jazz act.

Keith Crellin, Head of the String Department and Conductor-in-Residence at the Elder Conservatorium, will lead the ASO's Studio Sessions – a project which introduces young music students to the professional world of a symphony orchestra.

For more information, visit:
www.aso.com.au





Caption: Adelaide researchers (from left) Mark Hutchinson, David Lupton and Nathan Gianneschi with Rupert Murdoch
Photo courtesy of Mark Hutchinson

Science graduates' US formula for success

Alumni

Going from studying science at the University of Adelaide to mixing with the likes of Rupert Murdoch over dinner in New York isn't as big a leap as it seems – just ask three Adelaide alumni who recently got to do just that.

The scientists – Drs Mark Hutchinson, David Lupton and Nathan Gianneschi – earlier this year were awarded a total of \$270,000 in fellowship grants from the American Australian Association (AAA) to pursue research and studies in the US.

The Adelaide scientists officially received their awards at the AAA benefit dinner in New York in October, where they had the opportunity to meet Rupert Murdoch, whose family is patron of the Association. The AAA is the largest national not-for-profit group in the United States devoted to American and Australian and New Zealand relations, and its Fellowship program is the largest privately funded education program between Australia and the United States.

“Receiving my award from Rupert Murdoch was a great honour. I am very proud to be named a Sir

Keith Murdoch Fellow. This is an Australian who did much for the global profile of Australia in a variety of fields, so to be named after this man and receive the award from his son was a great honour,” said Dr Lupton.

“Meeting Rupert was great. He really supports the work that the Education Fund of the AAA does, which is fantastic,” said Dr Hutchinson.

“It was a pleasure to shake hands with him,” said Dr Gianneschi.

Dr Lupton, who was awarded the Sir Keith Murdoch Fellowship, graduated from the University of Adelaide with First Class Honours in Chemistry in 2000. Now based at Stanford University, near San Francisco, Dr Lupton is currently pursuing research that allows the development of efficient and clean ways of producing materials of interest within academia as well as industry. He lives in Palo Alto and says that life in the US is great.

“The studies that I undertook with Adelaide's Professor Dennis Taylor set me up to be successful in my current field. Adelaide chemistry has a very rich history and one that I am very proud to be associated with,” Dr Lupton said.

“The fellowship from the AAA has been fantastic and has provided me with opportunities to meet people within science and business that I would never have the opportunity to meet normally.”

Dr Hutchinson graduated from the University of Adelaide with a PhD in Medicine and a First Class Honours Science degree. He now lives in Boulder, Colorado and works in the Center for Neuroscience at the University of Colorado.

Dr Hutchinson was awarded the Merck Company Foundation Fellowship and is currently working in a new field that aims to solve a critical problem that agonises thousands of Australians.

“We are focusing on understanding the role the immune cells in the brain and spinal chord have in changing the way we feel pain,” Dr Hutchinson said.

“Pain persists long after the injured nerves have healed and we need to understand how our body changes our way of responding to pain killers.

“I am learning cutting-edge techniques from the best people in the field and then we have lively and amazing discussions about what it all means and where to go next. It

sounds kind of geeky, but you have got to love what you do – especially when it has such clinical relevance and could impact on the lives of millions of people.

“Without the funding we could not have done this. It means I am actually able to learn from the world's best,” said Dr Hutchinson.

Dr Gianneschi gained his science degree at the University of Adelaide in 1995, where he majored in physical chemistry, inorganic chemistry and biochemistry. Subsequently he earned an Honours degree in Chemistry and was awarded the Chemistry Thesis Prize in 1999. He now lives in San Diego, California and works at The Scripps Research Institute, developing new treatments for inexpensive and rapid detection of disease.

“I love it here. America is an extremely vibrant country. The scientists, colleagues and friends I've had the pleasure to know here are an inspirational and positive group of people,” Dr Gianneschi said.

“The fellowship is to a postdoc what a patron is to an artist. It allows a certain freedom to produce and a certain motivation to do so.”

Story by Jasna Rojevic