

# Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

May 2006

Volume 15 | Number 3

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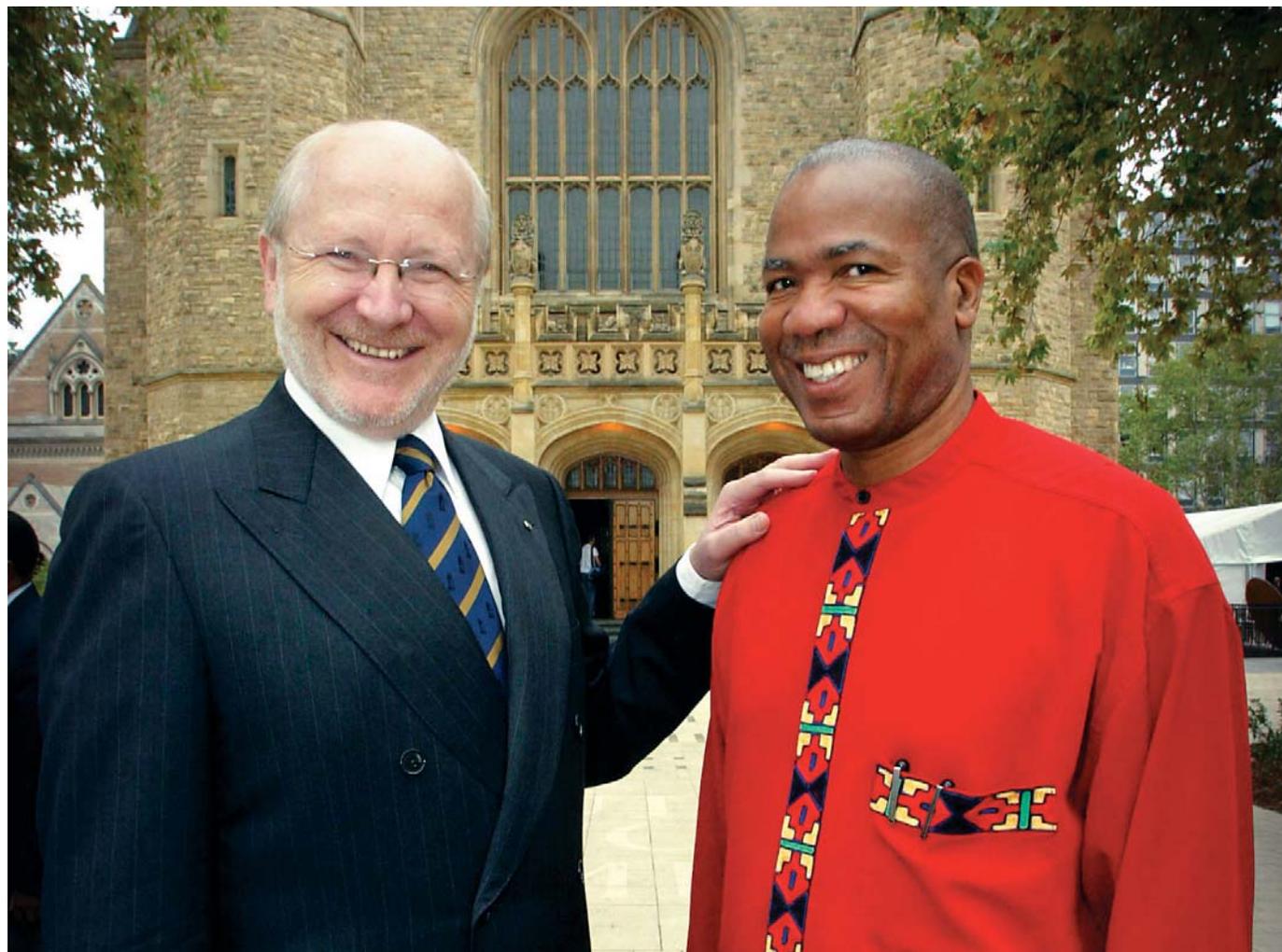


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## Uni leaders look to the future

### Conferences

The 2006 Association of Commonwealth Universities Conference of Executive Heads hosted by the University of Adelaide has been hailed a success.

Nearly 300 university leaders from 30 countries attended the four-day conference, which had the theme of University Futures.

University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha said he was delighted with the outcomes of the conference, which he described as "perhaps the single most important conference ever hosted by this University".

"Certainly the feedback I received from the delegates indicated that they felt issues of importance to their own universities and communities were addressed in a meaningful way," he said.

"There was universal agreement that education is the most important means by which we ensure equality of opportunity within our communities. What we've seen at this conference is a real willingness and desire to work together to take these issues forward.

"The aim was to address a broad agenda of issues, with global as well as local and national implications, around the role universities play in our society and the future direction of this role, and I believe the conference achieved that.

"Delegates also seemed impressed with what they saw of the University of Adelaide, and the overall organisation and running of the conference."

Topics covered by the conference included the responsibilities of universities in sustainable development, HIV/AIDS, and social disadvantage, while speakers included Australian Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs Amanda Vanstone,

University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha with Professor William Makgoba, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal

Photo by Dean Martin, courtesy of *The Advertiser*

the New Zealand Minister of Education and of Research, Science and Technology Steve Maharey, and South African Education Minister Naledi Pandor.

The conference was organised under the auspices of the Association of Commonwealth Universities, the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee and the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee. It was sponsored by Academic Search International, Deloitte, Oracle and *The Times Higher Education Supplement*.

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## Adelaidean

Adelaidean has a readership of more than 30,500 per month – 12,500 in print and 18,000 online

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Lane Print Group  
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Email: lane@laneprint.com.au  
Web: www.laneprint.com.au

### Distribution:

Lane Print Group  
Passing Out Distribution Co.

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### Coming Events:

All coming events must be University of Adelaide related and of public interest. Please send details of events via email to: ben.osborne@adelaide.edu.au

### Deadline for June issue:

Monday, May 8, 2006

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## From the Vice-Chancellor

The Association of Commonwealth Universities Conference of Executive Heads hosted by the University of Adelaide last month was perhaps the most important conference ever held by this University. Certainly it was a very busy time for a lot of people, with almost 300 university leaders from across the Commonwealth attending three days and nights of discussions and events.

One of the main features of the ACU gathering is the broad cross-section of nations it encompasses, particularly in the sense of developing countries such as Nigeria and Ghana to already-developed countries like Australia and the UK.

This interaction between developing and already-developed countries – particularly as it relates to the movement of students between the two – was one of the major overarching themes to emerge from the conference. Is it a help or hindrance to developing countries if their students – very often their best and brightest – are continually moving to already-developed countries for their university education? While this proved to be a very difficult question to answer, conference delegates did not shy away from discussing it. One theory suggested that while it is easy to think of this issue as a “brain drain” or “brain gain” one, it is perhaps more instructive to think of it as a “brain re-circulation”: that while initially it can be damaging for developing countries to “lose” such high-quality young people, such is the nature and internationalisation of modern global life that in the long term these people do return to their home countries to make a significant contribution.

The conference was very successful in giving delegates the chance formally to discuss issues important to them, but also giving them the opportunity to network in less formal circumstances than they might otherwise have had outside the conference. I have no doubt that many important collaborations and agreements between universities of all kinds had their germination at ACU 2006, and I am pleased that we could offer such a conducive environment for this to occur.

On a personal level, a number of ideas and issues from the conference really stood out.

The first of these was the extent to which a very large majority of Commonwealth universities – regardless of size or type – are grappling with funding issues. Most of the attending university leaders indicated that they are operating in an environment where governments were either unable or unwilling to provide an appropriate level of funding. It was interesting to hear their thoughts on how best to alleviate this problem, with many having to look to the students themselves providing more funding or through increasing engagement with industry or by fundraising.

Something else that made an impression was the issue of supply and demand for student places, particularly in developing countries. While universities in these countries are rapidly expanding the number of places they can offer to students, it is still slower than the increase in demand for these places. This also feeds into my earlier point about already-developed countries and “brain re-circulation”. By helping to meet this demand, already-developed countries can be of great assistance to developing countries, as the more students from a country who can attend university, the better off that country will be.

Lastly, the diversity of universities around the Commonwealth – particularly the types not prevalent in Australia – was also of significance. We had leaders from public universities, not-for-profit universities and private universities, and talking to them gave an illuminating insight into modern universities and the shared, and unique, issues and opportunities we all face.

The conference was a resounding success, and my sincere thanks go to all of those people from the University of Adelaide and the ACU who helped to make it the success it was.

**PROFESSOR JAMES A. McWha**  
Vice-Chancellor and President

# Healthy Development oration

## Health Science

Healthy Development Adelaide's annual oration will be presented by the University of Adelaide's Professor Alastair MacLennan from the Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

HDA is a University of Adelaide-based research cluster focusing on physical, psychological and social health of Australian infants, children and adolescents. The cluster fosters research from across the University's five

faculties, and is the only research centre in South Australia to focus on multidisciplinary research relating to the healthy development and wellbeing of Australia's future generations.

Professor MacLennan's oration – “Who will deliver the next generation? Cerebral palsy causation and litigation” – will take place on Thursday, May 25 at the State Library of South Australia's Institute Building.

Professor MacLennan specialises in reproductive endocrinology and feto-maternal medicine, and

is an international expert on the menopause with a special interest in the causation of cerebral palsy.

His excellence in research contributing to healthy development will be recognised with the presentation of the Healthy Development Adelaide Award by University Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha.

Healthy Development Adelaide will also hold its annual Research Day the day following the oration (Friday, May 26), focusing on four priority health areas relevant to

healthy development on a global level: cerebral palsy, chronic diseases – asthma and diabetes, mental health, and families, work and health: key issues.

There will be a special Highlight Lecture in the afternoon to be presented by HDA Co-Convenor Professor Caroline McMillen on “Women in Research - A level playing field?”

Further details on both events can be found at [www.adelaide.edu.au/hda/events](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/hda/events)

# North Terrace precinct receives premier attention



Premier Mike Rann speaking in Bonython Hall  
Photo by Mark Trumble

## Heritage

Premier Mike Rann officially launched the University of Adelaide's new-look North Terrace frontage at a special celebration recently.

The University has begun restoring and refurbishing its three beautiful sandstone heritage-listed buildings on North Terrace – Bonython Hall, Elder Hall and the Mitchell Building.

It has also upgraded and landscaped the Goodman Crescent region, opening it up for safe pedestrian access and enjoyment by students, staff and the wider community.

This redevelopment feeds into and complements the overall North Terrace Redevelopment Project and reflects the University of Adelaide's commitment to become more accessible and to engage more with the local community.

University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha said: "These three of our heritage-listed buildings stand at the centre of a remarkable set of buildings which stretch half a kilometre along North Terrace.

"The whole set of buildings is unquestionably a built environment of national heritage significance and adds significantly to the attractions of Adelaide as a visitor destination.

"We are proud to be part of this heritage and are very conscious of the responsibilities it entails.

"We want the local community to be able to enjoy this area and are delighted to be able to provide this wonderful landscaped open space to complement the heritage buildings and enhance their ceremonial character."

Story by Robyn Mills

# Laura's full and bright US scholarship

## Scholarships

A University of Adelaide postgraduate student has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to research an area that could help boost Australia's defence capabilities.

Laura Brooks, who has a first class Honours degree in Mechanical Engineering and a University of Adelaide Medal for Outstanding Academic Achievement, is one of 20 recipients of this year's Fulbright Scholarship – and the only one from South Australia.

Laura will spend 12 months at the University of California, San Diego, conducting research on the seafloor and determining how it affects the transmission of sound in the ocean. She will be based at the Marine Physical Laboratory (MPL) in the Scripps Institute of Oceanography.

Laura's research will help scientists to accurately model the sea floor to predict sonar performance.

"There is potential for the establishment of defence applications within the areas of seafloor exploration and underwater sound transmission. When we are considering communications between defence vessels we need to know how far sound travels," Laura said.

"This research will directly benefit both Australia and the US through an increased understanding of seafloor properties and their impact on sound transmission."

On her return, Laura will be equipped to advise Australian-based mineral and petrochemical companies, as well as defence organisations.

"By knowing more about acoustic interactions with the sea floor we may be able to find out what is actually down there and whether there is evidence of petroleum or other minerals," she said.

The quality of facilities and expertise at the Marine Physical Laboratory is one of the best in the world, and Laura will also work with an



Laura Brooks  
Photo by Candy Gibson

internationally renowned expert in marine acoustics, Dr Peter Gerstoft, at the University of California.

Laura's University of Adelaide project supervisors are Dr Anthony Zander, Professor Colin Hansen

and Dr Michael Kidner and her co-supervisor is Dr Yong Zhang from the Defence, Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO).

"Exploration of our oceans, in particular the sea floor between Australia and Antarctica, presents vital economic and defence opportunities for the nation," Laura said.

The prestigious Fulbright program, created in 1946, is the largest educational scholarship of its kind, operating between the US and 150 other countries. The Australian-American Fulbright Commission has awarded scholarships to more than 2500 Australians and 1800 Americans to study, research and travel in the respective countries.

Laura will travel to Brisbane on May 18 for a National Awards Dinner, attended by the US Ambassador and an Australian Government representative. She leaves for the US in September.

Story by Candy Gibson



# New barley varieties export smart science to the world

## ■ Plant Science

Two new barley varieties being released by the University of Adelaide's Barley Breeding Program – Flagship™ and Fleet™ – promise to significantly boost exports for the Australian barley industry and provide major gains in yield and disease resistance.

The new malting barley variety Flagship is expected to set a new standard for malting quality for the Japanese, Chinese and South-East Asia malting and brewing markets.

University of Adelaide Barley Program Leader Dr Jason Eglinton said: "These new barley varieties

are very different but together offer major benefits for the Australian barley industry and barley growers.

"In breeding these varieties, the University has taken advantage of the cutting-edge research at its Waite campus in plant biotechnology and plant genetics for significant scientific outputs which will have substantial commercial impact for the industry and barley growers."

Flagship has been developed specifically for the large brewing and malting markets in South-East Asia, China and Japan.

It should set a new international benchmark standard for these markets in terms of its malting quality profile. Brewers in these countries use a different method to that of Australian brewers.

The new variety also has major agronomic improvements, showing a 7% increase in grain yield over the current industry standard and improved disease resistance.

Using plant biotechnology techniques has seen the variety developed for commercial release in eight years, well short of the traditional 12-14 years.

Fleet is a feed barley with improved disease resistance and a 5% yield advantage over the established variety Barque.

Fleet also shows improved adaptation to poor soil types, producing even higher yield gains in the sandy soils common in major barley growing areas in South Australia and western Victoria.

The University of Adelaide's commercialisation arm, Adelaide Research and Innovation, has appointed leading Australian agribusiness ABB Grain Ltd as its commercialisation partner for the new varieties.

The University of Adelaide Barley Program developed the new varieties with support from the Grains Research and Development Corporation and private sector investment by the Australian barley industry, including the Malting Barley Quality Improvement Program.

"The commercial launch of the new varieties demonstrates the value of combining university-based research and development with strong industry partnerships," Dr Eglinton said.

Story by Robyn Mills



# Medical student is SA's top young achiever

ABOVE LEFT: Amanda Sferruzzi-Perri in the lab  
Photo by Ben Osborne

ABOVE: Former Faculty of Sciences Executive Dean Professor Peter Rathjen with the University of Adelaide's three finalists in the Science and Technology category: (from left) Amanda Sferruzzi-Perri, Danny Eckert and Sarah Crook

## ■ Obstetrics & Gynaecology

A University of Adelaide graduate has been named the 2006 South Australian Young Achiever of the Year – the third successive graduate of the University to win this prestigious award.

Amanda Sferruzzi-Perri, 25, of Para Hills West, was awarded the honour last month for her work investigating the growth and function of the placenta in pregnancy. Her groundbreaking research, which is laying the foundation for future therapies, is designed to stimulate placental development and improve pregnancy outcomes.

Winners were announced at a special function at the Hilton Hotel last month for each of the eight categories, including science and technology, outstanding young indigenous achiever, the arts, regional initiative, the environment, sports, career achievement and community service.

Amanda said she was not expecting to win the science and technology category, sponsored by the

University of Adelaide's Faculty of Sciences, but was merely honoured to be a finalist.

"I really hope to inspire others with this award," she said. "Regardless of your career choice, I believe that you need to seek out the opportunities to succeed in life because 'luck' will only get you so far. You can achieve your dreams if you persevere."

Amanda completed a Bachelor of Science degree with First Class Honours and is currently undertaking her PhD at the University of Adelaide under the supervision of Dr Claire Roberts from the Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Amanda has been investigating the mechanisms that govern the growth and function of the placenta, which feeds the growing baby.

"Failed placenta development causes many pregnancy complications for which there are currently no treatments," she said. "These complications include miscarriage,

pre-eclampsia, premature birth, fetal growth restriction and still births. All of these can threaten the life of the mother and the baby.

"My research work shows that certain hormones can stimulate placental function and fetal growth and improve pregnancy outcomes," she said.

Amanda praised the University of Adelaide for its outstanding research facilities and thanked the Obstetrics and Gynaecology discipline for its support.

Dr Roberts said Amanda's research work had been recognised internationally for its excellence.

"The fact that she has presented 15 papers at conferences reflects her dedication to high quality research and scientific communication," Dr Roberts said.

Amanda is heading to Boston on May 5 for a six-week world-renowned course to learn more about the latest scientific technologies in her field.

In 2007 she hopes to attend Cambridge University to gain experience, which will enable her

to establish her own research laboratory on her return to Australia.

Other finalists in the science and technology category, both graduates of the University of Adelaide, included Danny Eckert for his work on sleep disorders and respiratory diseases, and aerospace engineer Sarah Crook for her work on space travel.

In addition, University of Adelaide Civil Engineering and Arts graduate Katherine Daniell was the winner of the environment category, receiving the SA Water Environment Award.

The 2005 South Australian Young Achiever of the Year was Mr Patrick Lim, an Honours graduate from the Elder Conservatorium at the University of Adelaide. Patrick was recognised for his contribution to the arts as a performer and a leader.

In 2004, the first year the awards were run in this form, University of Adelaide graduate and Life Impact star Dr Erin Symonds was recognised for her medical research work in developing non-invasive breath testing for gastro-intestinal disease sufferers.

Story by Candy Gibson

# Rachel caps off trio of creative writing awards

## ■ Creative Writing

When Rachel Hennessy won the 2006 Adelaide Festival Award for best unpublished manuscript by an emerging South Australian writer, she was following in familiar footsteps.

Rachel is a graduate of the University of Adelaide's Masters in Creative Writing, and is now undertaking a PhD in the same discipline as well as working on her second book.

Her path to success almost mirrors that of the previous two Festival winners for best unpublished manuscripts in emerging South Australian writers, Stefan Laszczuk and Corrie Hosking, who were also studying Creative Writing at Adelaide.

Rachel received the \$10,000 Award at this year's Festival for *The Quakers*, a novel based on the strange story of her high school classmate, Anu Singh, who was convicted of the manslaughter of her boyfriend. The novel will be published by Wakefield Press

"Winning the award has been a huge boost to my confidence in regarding myself as a 'real' writer," Rachel said. "The fact of future publication, as opposed to the dream, has allowed me to say at dinner parties, quite loudly, that I am a writer, something I'd always mumbled into my chin previously or avoided saying altogether.

"I don't have any illusions that the magic wand has been waved and now everything comes easily.



Still, it is great to have your work recognised and I can only hope that people like the book when it is finally out there in the world."

Stefan Laszczuk, who won the 2004 award, has also completed the Masters in Creative Writing and is doing a PhD in Creative Writing. His winning novel, *The Goddamn Bus of Happiness* was also a Big Book Club selection and he is now working on a third novel as part of his PhD in the Creative Writing Program.

"I have a great deal of respect for the people I have dealt with so far in the course," Stefan said. "I find they provide an excellent environment not only in which to grow and learn as a writer, but to make genuinely strong contacts within the industry."

2002 winner Corrie Hosking's educational path hardly needs telling. She also completed her Masters and PhD with the Creative Writing group. Her novel *Ash Rain*,



published in 2004, was widely noticed.

"I had pretty much given up hope on my first manuscript ever becoming a real book," Corrie said. "It had been long-listed for The Vogel prize twice, I'd worked and re-worked, years had passed and I had just decided that it was going to be a learning experience in writing and that was OK.

"Being awarded the prize and the subsequent launch at the following Festival was so fine. I couldn't have hoped for a better initiation into the world of writing."

Her second manuscript *Eating Lolly* is in its final stages.

The run of Festival success reflects the calibre of the course - recognised as among the most successful Australian creative writing programs - and which has students from all over the world, some of them already published authors. There are more than 30 PhD students, 20 doing graduate

ABOVE: Rachel Hennessy

ABOVE LEFT: Stefan Laszczuk

coursework and six undertaking honours.

The course benefits from the input of a string of highly successful writers. Among them are 2003 Nobel Prize winner for Literature, Professor JM Coetzee; well-known author and former Chair of Creative Writing at Adelaide Professor Thomas Shapcott, who is retired but maintains an involvement with students; and award-winning writer Dr Eva Sallis.

"The outstanding outcomes of these graduates in winning these three successive awards really reflects the quality of the people we have associated with this course," says current Chair, Professor Nicholas Jose, who also has a list of acclaimed novels and other writing to his name.

Story by Robyn Mills

# Getting the right fit for Antarctic jobs

## ■ Psychology

A University of Adelaide Psychology Lecturer has been undertaking research into what it takes to “fit in” to one of the most extraordinary workplaces on earth: Antarctica.

Dr Aspa Sarris received her PhD from the University of Adelaide in 2002 and has continued her research in organisational culture and the behaviour of groups in isolated and confined environments.

Her latest work examined the environmental and organisational demands and stressors of living and working in the Antarctic, and whether it is possible to assess the degree of “fit” of individuals to the culture in order to identify those more likely to do well.

“The recurring themes in the responses of men and women toward Antarctic station life included references to the beauty of the Antarctic environment, and to the social and work-related demands of station life in this remote, frozen location,” Dr Sarris said.

“The results showed that person-culture fit was an important consideration. For areas like Antarctica, research that may contribute to effective selection and recruitment is vital given that people are required to live and work away from home for extended periods of time with limited access to

RIGHT: Dr Aspa Sarris  
Photo by Robyn Mills

FAR RIGHT, AND ABOVE:  
Scenes from Antarctica  
Photos courtesy of  
Robin Tihema

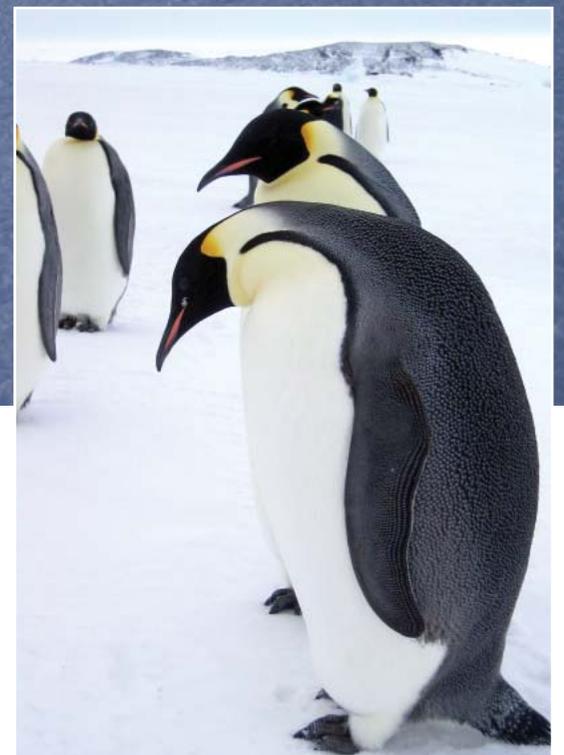


family and friends, and without their regular social support systems. Research of this kind is also important because of the social and economic cost of individual and group failure resulting from poor recruitment choices.”

Dr Sarris interviewed 117 men and women who lived and worked on Australian Antarctic or sub-Antarctic stations between 1950 and 2000. The sample included over 100 “winterers” who remained in the Antarctic for between 12 and 15 continuous months, including scientists, plumbers, diesel mechanics, technical staff, doctors, station leaders and chefs.

The concept of person-culture fit suggests that individuals and organisations are attracted to each other based on the extent to which they have similar values.

“Traditionally, personnel recruitment has focused on job relevant skills and abilities and past work experience,” she said. “Those characteristics



are considered to predict if a person will do well in any context. However, research on values suggests that when the values of new recruits match those of an organisation, then the person will be happier at work and more likely to fit in and do well.”

Dr Sarris’s research showed that for the Antarctic good person-culture “fit” predicted better job satisfaction and group cohesion.

There is potential for “values congruence” to be used to improve selection procedures, not just for remote environments like the Antarctic but for more general recruitment.

“Consideration, however, needs to be given to the extent to which good fit with an existing culture is always desirable,” said Dr Sarris. “For instance, it may be argued that, in many instances, cultural change may be the preferred option.”

Story by Robyn Mills



# UNIVERSITY FUTURES

## CONFERENCE OF EXECUTIVE HEADS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

GLOBAL WARMTH...Conference delegates leaving a session in Elder Hall

FOREIGN CHALLENGE...Foreign Affairs Minister Alexander Downer giving his address on "Higher Education: Challenges in a Golden Era" at a gala dinner at the Convention Centre

DRESSED FOR SUCCESS...Four well-dressed delegates at the Convention Centre gala dinner

## Nobel Laureate presents student art prize

Nobel laureate and University of Adelaide staff member Professor J.M. (John) Coetzee was present on the first day of the University Futures conference to present the winners' prizes in a special visual art exhibition and competition for tertiary student artists from across Australia.

Professor Coetzee, who won the 2003 Nobel Prize for literature, is an Honorary Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Adelaide's Discipline of English.

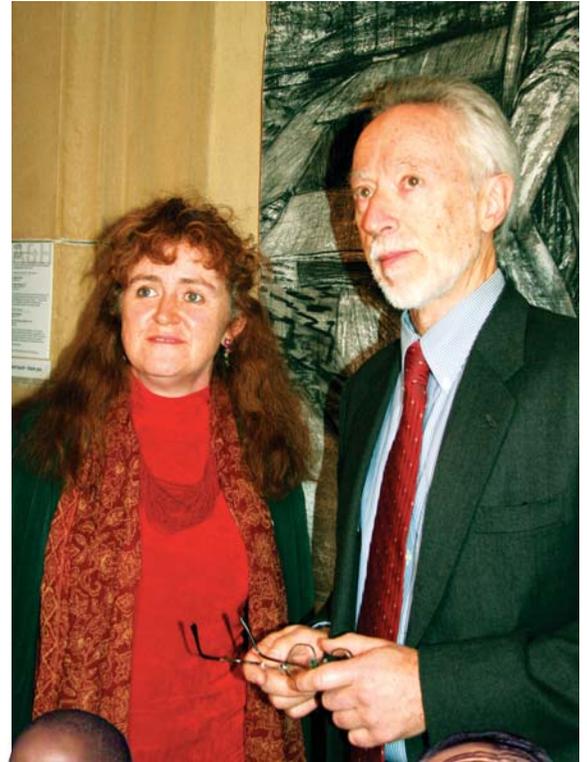
He presented the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) prize of \$5000 to Adelaide Central School of Art (affiliated with Flinders University) Master's student Lauryn Arnott for her work "Journey Home".

The \$3000 University of Adelaide runner-up prize was awarded to La Trobe University PhD student Donna Bailey for "The Ideal".

Thirty-one artworks were selected for the exhibition by a panel of judges from 64 entries. The exhibition – A Place in the World – was shown in Bonython Hall before and during the conference. The People's Choice Award for \$500 later went to University of Adelaide student Sarah Minney for her artwork "Five Different Ways to Stitch a Heart".

University of Adelaide Art and Heritage Collections Manager Mirna Heruc said: "Visual arts and other cultural activities with universities play an important role in their interaction with the broader community. Such activities have a significant impact on the social and cultural capital of society. The enthusiasm and variety of artworks is stunning and will give viewers an insight into the way in which we perceive our own place in the world."

Story by Robyn Mills



(TOP) ART PRIZE... Professor J.M. Coetzee (right) with art prize winner Lauryn Arnott

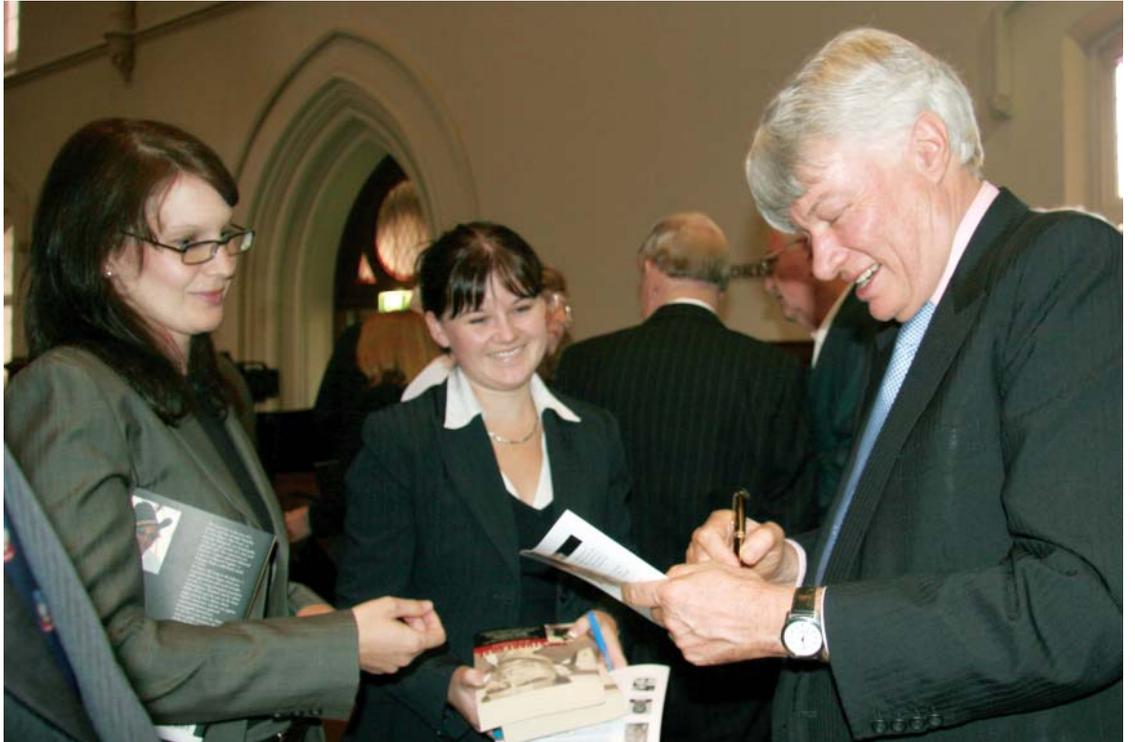
Photo by Brett Hartwig, courtesy of The Australian

(RIGHT) MAORI SPIRIT... Conference delegates were entertained by some New Zealand visitors as part of the gala dinner at the Convention Centre

(BELOW) LIGHT OF LEARNING... Delegates attending a session in the Napier Building



# Law who's who reviews Stuart case



## Law

A who's who of the legal and media world, including prominent human rights lawyer Geoffrey Robertson QC and High Court Judge Michael Kirby, and an audience of more than 500 people came to the University of Adelaide for an all-day review of the infamous Rupert Max Stuart trial and relevant contemporary legal and social issues.

The 1959 conviction of Rupert Max Stuart for the murder of Mary Hattam and the subsequent appeals and Royal Commission remain the most discussed criminal case in the State's history. Stuart was an itinerant Aboriginal from Central Australia, whose conviction was based on a typed confession in precise, educated English.

The case is regarded as a turning point in South Australian politics and launched Rupert Murdoch's rise to international fame and prominence.

"Politics, Power, Justice and the Media: controversies from the Stuart Case" took place in Elder Hall last month and included publishing

legend Richard Walsh; high profile editor Alan Howe; criminologist Professor Paul Wilson; author of *The Stuart Case*, Professor Ken Inglis; Walkley Award-winning investigative journalist Ms Estelle Blackburn; capital punishment opponent and daughter of Sir Thomas Playford, Dr Margaret Fereday; and Ms Helen Langley, first cousin of Mary Hattam.

The one-day seminar showed extracts from the films and documentaries made on the case, including Craig Lahiff's feature film *Black and White* starring Robert Carlyle. Lahiff assisted with

(ABOVE) Geoffrey Robertson QC meets some well-wishers in Elder Hall  
**Photo by Robyn Mills**

(TOP LEFT) Rupert Max Stuart

the editing of the extracts and also took part in the day.

The day was organised by the University of Adelaide's John Bray Law Chapter and Development and Alumni Office, the Law Society of SA and the University's Law School.

**Story by Robyn Mills**

# Board helps transform media education

## Media

Leaders from the media business community are working together to help transform media education at the University of Adelaide.

They are all members of a new Media Advisory Board, which includes some of Adelaide's most significant media players. All have agreed to give their time to help the University become a benchmark provider of media education in the country.

"I am delighted with the calibre of people that we have on the Media Advisory Board," says Professor James McWha, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide.

"The Bachelor of Media is a relatively new program in the University's 130-year

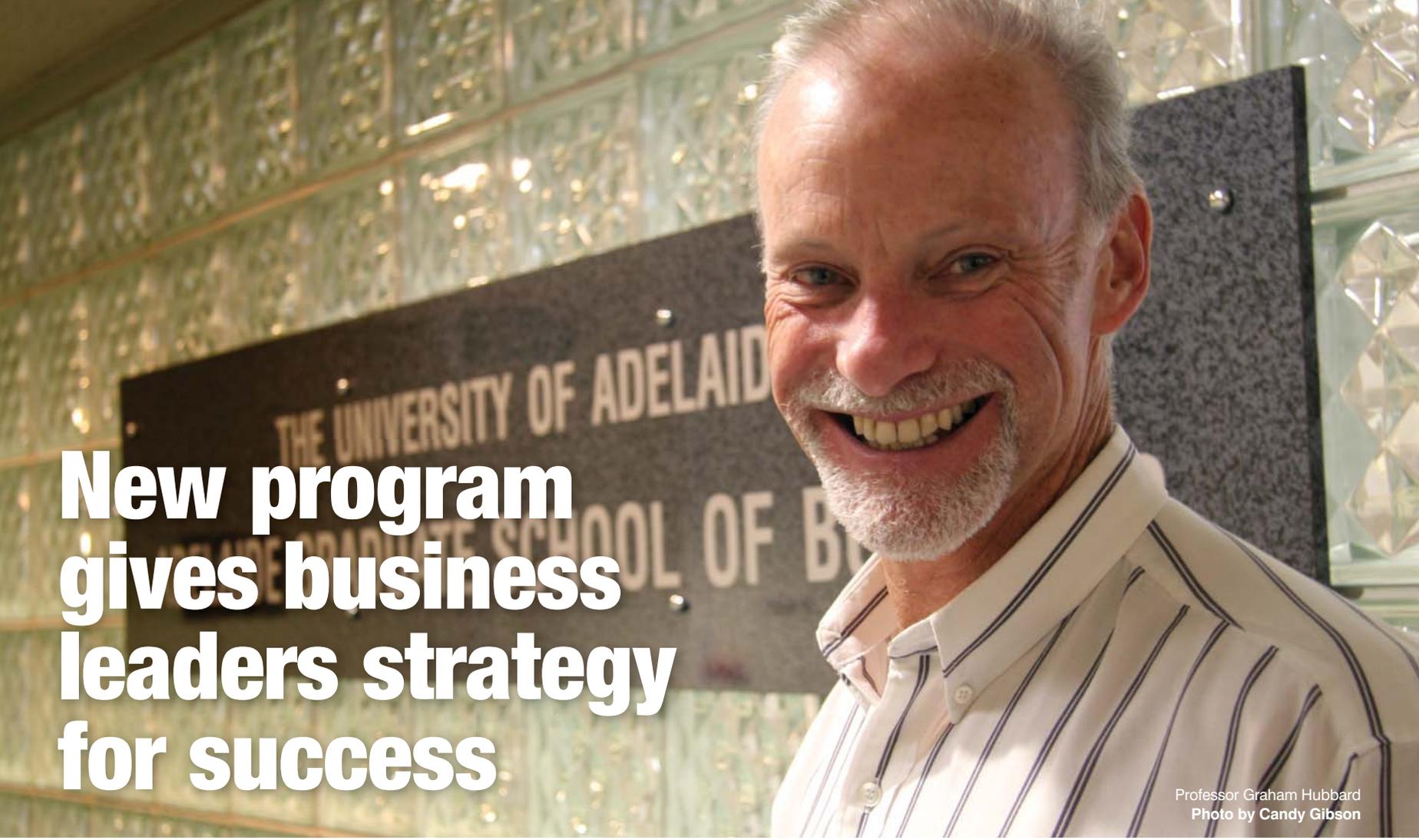
history, so we have put this advisory board together to help us improve and strengthen our offering in this area. We plan to be a leader in this field, preparing well-rounded graduates who can apply their skills to a diverse and changing industry."

The Media Advisory Board will provide ideas, advice and industry perspective to the University on how to improve its media program to better equip graduates for a career in the media, and on areas of interest for potential research projects.

The members of the Media Advisory Board will act as advocates for the University's media program within the business community and will assist in promoting the program to prospective students. It is expected that they will also help media students understand how educational and research activities tie into the needs of the media industry.

Members of the Media Advisory Board, in alphabetical order, are :

- **Mr Kim Boehm**, CEO, Clemenger BBDO
- **Mr John Chataway**, CEO, Kojo Group
- **Mr Mark Colson**, General Manager, NWS 9 Adelaide
- **Ms Carolyn Gadd** (Board Secretary), University of Adelaide
- **Professor Mike Innes**, Executive Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Adelaide
- **Mr Mat King**, Freelance Film Director
- **Mr Greg Mackie** OAM, Executive Director, Arts SA
- **Mr Marc Makrid**, CEO, Marc Makrid & Associates
- **Mr Melvin Mansell**, Editor, The Advertiser
- **Mr Michael Neale** (Chair), Director of Marketing & Strategic Communications, University of Adelaide
- **Assoc. Professor Gerard O'Brien**, Head, School of Humanities, University of Adelaide
- **Ms Anne Rodgers**, General Manager SA, Starcom
- **Mr Mark Stevens**, Group Creative Director, DMG Radio



Professor Graham Hubbard  
Photo by Candy Gibson

# New program gives business leaders strategy for success

## ■ Business

The University of Adelaide will launch a new business master's degree program this month aimed at giving experienced business executives a competitive edge.

The Master of Strategy program will equip general managers, chief executive officers, entrepreneurs and consultants with "a sustainable, competitive advantage," according to the Head of the Adelaide Graduate School of Business, Professor Graham Hubbard.

Primarily designed for Adelaide business executives, the program

is the first of its kind in Australia and will provide students with the skills to "make a serious impact on their organisation's strategy and direction," Professor Hubbard said.

To be eligible for the program, applicants must have a tertiary degree and a minimum of five years relevant experience.

Applicants without a degree may apply to the Graduate Certificate in Management and, on completion, then apply to the Master of Strategy program.

More than 90% of MBA graduates surveyed for their response to a Master of Strategy program gave strong support to the new degree.

"The market is demanding a lot of specialisation now and strategy plays a huge part in a business's success. Strategic thinking, analysis and action are essential skills for operating successful organisations," Professor Hubbard said.

"There is definitely a need for a program which addresses all aspects of strategy – theories, research findings, implementation and current issues. The business world is very competitive and executives want those extra skills which will give them an edge."

The Master of Strategy program will offer 12 modules on a flexible time frame.

All classes will be held in the evenings and weekends.

Professor Hubbard said full-time employed students will be able to complete the degree within three years as the modules are designed so they can be done intensively.

Story by Candy Gibson

For more information about the Master of Strategy program, contact Professor Graham Hubbard, Head of the Adelaide Graduate School of Business on (08) 8303 4651, or visit [www.adelaide.edu.au/agsb](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/agsb)

## Competition challenges entrepreneurs

### ■ Innovation

Young entrepreneurs with innovative ideas for new businesses are gearing up for the University of Adelaide's Entrepreneurs' Challenge (or echallenge) that starts this month.

The \$70,000 business planning competition is a joint University of Adelaide – Hewlett Packard Australia initiative that aims to foster the successful development

of new ideas into investment-ready, start-up companies.

Echallenge is run by the University's Education Centre for Innovation and Commercialisation (ECIC).

ECIC Acting Director Antonio Dottore said: "The Challenge stimulates innovation and entrepreneurship and creates genuine commercial prospects for the benefit of South Australia – and it works."

"As an example, 2004 echallenge runner-up Microbric has gone on to build a real business launching the hugely successful i-bot.

"Echallenge helps build entrepreneurial culture and is an effective way of creating employment opportunities and stimulating the business community."

The competition will be launched at the Advertiser building on Wednesday, May 10 and runs

through to October, during which time teams of up to six students – all including at least one University of Adelaide student – develop a business plan for a new, previously unfunded concept.

Each semi-finalist team is offered an experienced business person as mentor and the final plans are judged by a panel of high-profile business executives.

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

Story by Robyn Mills



## Sky's the limit for new quartet

### Music

A new quartet, formed by Elder Conservatorium students Jason Thomas, Holly Bennett, Neil Thompson and Kim Worley, will perform at the Unley Uniting Church on June 4.

The Skyline Quartet hopes to raise funds at the June concert to attend a winter school at the Townsville Chamber Music festival in July. The concert is being organised by Soroptomist International of Adelaide.

The quartet is comprised of first violinist Jason Thomas, second violinist Holly Thomas, violist Neil

The Skyline Quartet, pictured from left: Neil Thompson, Jason Thomas, Holly Bennett and Kim Worley

Photo by Candy Gibson

Thompson and cellist Kim Worley. Jason, Neil and Kim are Bachelor of Music (Honours) students and Holly is in her final year of a Music degree.

Janis Laurs, Conservatorium staff member and principal cellist of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, accompanied by Jane Wilson, a University of Adelaide graduate, will also perform at the concert.

For more information about the June 4 concert, contact Jane Wilson on (08) 8344 7925.

## Uni's living history

### History

The University of Adelaide has thrown its support behind SA History Week 2006, signing up as a major sponsor for this year's event, which runs from May 20-28.

With 29 heritage-listed properties spread over its four Adelaide campuses, the University is an ideal partner for the History Trust of SA, according to Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McWha.

"In the context of the history of South Australia and the history of the University of Adelaide, the two are inseparable," Professor McWha said.

The public is invited onto the North Terrace campus during SA History Week to learn about the University's history through its heritage buildings, laboratories and fences.

The University will feature guided tours of six of its own heritage-listed buildings on the North Terrace campus: the Hartley Building, Bonython Hall, Mitchell Building, Elder Hall, the Barr Smith Library Reading Room and the Union building.

Separate tours will be held of the Mitchell Gates, Victoria Drive and Frome Road fences.

The University's History discipline, which celebrated its centenary in 2002, has been at the forefront of history departments in Australia since the turn of the last century and has produced many outstanding graduates in the past 104 years.

For more information on the University of Adelaide tours, phone Mirna Heruc, Manager Art and Heritage Collections, on (08) 8303 4031.

[www.history.sa.gov.au/history/historyweek.htm](http://www.history.sa.gov.au/history/historyweek.htm)

Story by Candy Gibson



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Award winners (from left) Andrew Hughes, Brendan Lim, Dan Ryan and Hugh Stuckey. Absent is Jonathan Hunt.  
Photo by Ben Osborne



# Concert showcases young jazz stars

## ■ Music

Five of Australia's leading young jazz musicians have been recognised for their ability and potential after being awarded Elder Conservatorium of Music jazz prizes for 2005.

All students at the Elder Conservatorium, they will also perform at a special concert celebrating their achievements at Scott Theatre later this month.

Five outstanding young jazz musicians will perform and be presented with their awards during an evening of outstanding jazz.

The concert will also feature special guests the Adelaide Connection jazz choir, conducted by Luke Thompson.

The Elder Conservatorium's jazz program is renowned for consistently producing high-quality jazz musicians.

Previous winners of awards include Vashti Tyrrell, David Duncan, Derek Pascoe (all saxophone), James Brown (guitar) and Chris Martin (piano)

### The winners are:

#### **Jonathan Hunt - Saxophone**

*Most Outstanding Honours Graduate*

**Sponsored by Keith Langley - \$1000**

This is Jonathan's second Jazz Awards win. In 2004 he won the top undergraduate saxophone prize. He has played saxophone and clarinet for about 14 years and has his own band, The Jonathan Hunt Quartet. Jonathan won the Jarvis Payne Memorial Award for most outstanding young musician in 2001.

#### **Hugh Stuckey - Guitar**

*Most Outstanding Jazz Undergraduate*

**Adelaide City Council Award - \$1000**

Hugh Stuckey completed the B. Mus. Program in 2005 studying with Michael Bevan. He began playing guitar at the age of 5 and became interested in jazz in his last years of high school. Hugh won a scholarship to Pembroke School where he learned from Mike Burgess and last

year, he won the very prestigious Generations in Jazz James Morrison Scholarship. Hugh will receive his Jazz Award *in absentia*, as he is currently performing with Vincent's Chair at the Europafest in Romania.

#### **Brendan Lim - Piano**

**Tommy Norman Jazz Piano Award - \$500**

Brendan graduated from the Bachelor of Music program in 2005 and intends enrolling in Honours in 2006/2007. He also has a degree in Mathematical & Computer Sciences and is completing his final year in the Bachelor of Laws. Brendan received the Baron Partners Award for Most Outstanding Undergraduate in the 2005 Jazz Awards and was previously awarded the Maude Harriet Riley Scholarship.

#### **Andrew Hughes - Saxophone**

**Tommy Norman Jazz Saxophone Award - \$500**

Andrew began learning Alto Sax in 1996 with Terrance Bickley

prior to enrolling at the Elder Conservatorium. He switched to tenor sax in 2005 and currently studies with Chris Soole. Andrew plays in the Australian Army Band and the Bob Johnson Big Band.

#### **Dan Ryan - Drums**

**Billy Hyde - John Reynolds Award - \$500 Voucher**

Dan is currently enrolled in 3rd year jazz performance and has been playing percussion and drums since 1993. He spent several years studying at TAFE with Laurie Kennedy and has been performing in bands since 1998.

**The Jazz Award Winners Concert will be held on Wednesday, May 17 at 7.30pm in the Scott Theatre.**

**Tickets are \$6 and are available at the door.**

# Barr Smith Library appeal launch

## ■ Giving

Home of knowledge and the nucleus of University life, the Barr Smith Library is South Australia's biggest library, housing 2.1 million items on over 63 kilometres of shelving. At the cutting-edge of Australian research collections, the Library is a barometer of the University's intellectual vigour and a key resource for staff, students and the wider public alike.

The collegiate atmosphere, magnificent Reading Room and seemingly endless collection of materials have provided an invaluable resource to students for over seventy years, often beginning an enduring bond that stretches beyond the years of study.

The Barr Smith Library Appeal will soon be launched for 2006. Last year's Appeal raised a

record amount, enabling the Library to purchase over 800 new titles, expand its virtual collection and help to establish a state-of-the-art, 24-hour-a-day student computer facility.

Your support for the 2006 Appeal will underpin the Library's future as the premier library in South Australia, and ensure that we continue to foster first-class learning, teaching and research.

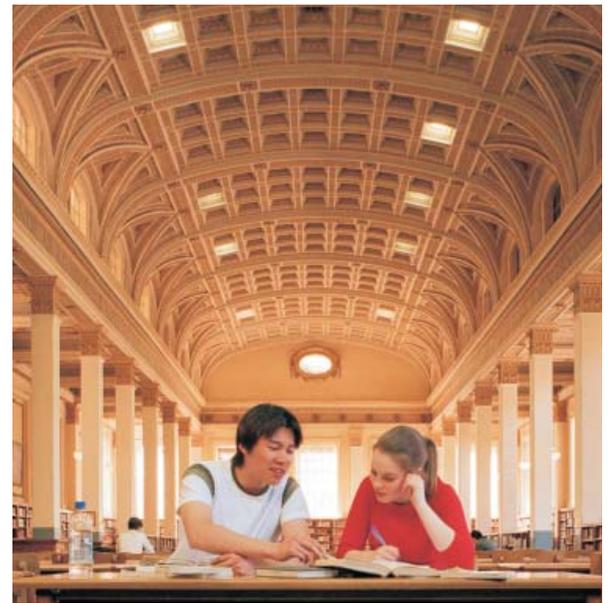
For further information about how to give to the Appeal, please contact Robyn Brown, Development and Alumni:

**Email:** [development@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:development@adelaide.edu.au)

**Phone:** (08) 8303 4994

**Fax:** (08) 8303 5808

**Website:** [www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/giving/appeals/barrsmith/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/giving/appeals/barrsmith/)



## Lincoln College alumni dinner

Lincoln College will host its second annual Alumni Association City Dinner from 6.30pm on Saturday, June 3 at the Bradman Room, Adelaide Oval.

Last year's inaugural event was a huge success, featuring Lincoln alumnus and now Austrade chief economist Tim Harcourt as guest speaker. Similarly, this year's event offers the opportunity of renewing old friendships and sharing stories of days gone by.

Please contact June Field at Lincoln College for more details on (08) 8290 6000, or email [admin@lincoln.edu.au](mailto:admin@lincoln.edu.au)

Cost is \$60 for Alumni members and \$70 for non members.

## ■ Development & Alumni Events

### **Sydney Alumni picnic**

The Sydney Chapter of the Adelaide University Alumni Association is hosting a picnic (and possibly BBQ if a spot can be secured). BYO food, soft drink, picnic rugs, chairs, etc. The Chapter will provide some Coopers beer and assorted wine, but attendees are welcome to bring along additional drinks of your choice.

**Venue:** Centennial Park in Sydney

**Date:** Sunday, May 7

**Time:** 1pm

**RSVP:** Email [sydney\\_alumni@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:sydney_alumni@adelaide.edu.au) by Friday, May 5.

### **Friends of the University of Adelaide Library event**

Award-winning author Murray Bail in conversation with Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Adelaide, Professor Nicholas Jose

**Venue:** Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, Barr Smith Library

**Date:** Thursday, May 18

**Time:** 6pm for 6.30pm

**Cost:** Free (*gold coin donation invited*)

**RSVP:** by Tuesday, May 16 to Karen Hickman, email [karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au) or phone (08) 8303 4064.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/chapters/library\\_chap.html](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/chapters/library_chap.html)

### **Florey Medical Chapter film evening**

"On a Clear Day", starring two of Britain's finest actors, Peter Mullan & Brenda Blethyn.

**Venue:** Trak Cinema, 375 Greenhill Road, Toorak Gardens

**Date:** Friday, May 19

**Time:** 6:30pm for 7pm

**Cost:** \$15 - *includes complimentary glass of wine*

**RSVP:** by close of business Tuesday 16 May to Development and Alumni Phone (08) 8303 6356 or Fax (08) 8303 5808

### **Friends of the University of Adelaide Library event**

Adjunct Professor in the University of Adelaide's Discipline of History, Susan Magarey, on Catherine Helen Spence

**Venue:** Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, Barr Smith Library

**Date:** Thursday, June 22

**Time:** 6pm for 6.30pm

**Cost:** Free (*gold coin donation invited*)

**RSVP:** by Tuesday, June 20 to Karen Hickman, email [karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au) or phone (08) 8303 4064.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/chapters/library\\_chap.html](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/chapters/library_chap.html)

### **Commerce Alumni Dinners**

The Commerce Alumni will be hosting a series of informal dinners where we get small groups of graduates together, mixing with old and new friends from commerce and business studies at the University of Adelaide. Dinner places are limited and thus filled by invitation, but are open to all members who express an interest in attending.

If you're interested, find out more by emailing [commerce.alumni@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:commerce.alumni@adelaide.edu.au)

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David Mitchell with the doll (made by Alie Beck) which plays his daughter Victoria in Act 1  
Photo by Candy Gibson

# A play with a satirical lining

## ■ Theatre

When British playwright Caryl Churchill penned her 1970s witty political satire, *Cloud Nine*, it resulted in a classic of modern theatre.

Churchill's biting observation of gender, race and politics won her an Obie Award in 1981 and 25 years later the play is no less amusing and still very relevant.

This month the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild is bringing *Cloud Nine* to stage, featuring an ensemble cast.

The storyline is split over two acts – the first set in sexually repressed 19th century colonial Africa and the second, 100 years later, in 1970s liberated London where, miraculously, the actors have only aged a quarter of a century in the process.

The other twist is that the actors double – and sometimes triple – in the roles.

*Cloud Nine* is about relationships – between men and women, men and men, women and women. It is also about sex, work, mothers, Africa, power, children, grandmothers, politics, money and Queen Victoria.

Fast-forwarding a century between the two Acts shows the audience just how far sexuality has changed in 100 years. The actors not only switch roles and genders, but personalities as well.

The first act, like the society it shows, is male dominated and firmly structured. In the second act, more energy comes from the women and the gays. The actors change for the better, with more feminine and less authoritarian figures.

Semi-retired English teacher David Mitchell plays a major role in *Cloud Nine*, assuming the part of "Clive" in Act 1 and "Cathy" in Act 2.

Clive is a colonial administrator in Africa in the 1880s, who imposes his ideals on his wife and family. Cathy is the four-year-old tomboy of

a liberated lesbian in the 1970s, the height of the sexual revolution.

"This is probably the most challenging stuff I have ever done because not only do I switch genders, but I go from playing someone of my vintage, albeit an appalling racist colonial administrator, to a precocious 4-year-old child singing offensive nursery rhymes," David said.

"The first act is very satirical and highlights the hypocrisy of the time. The second act is much freer – there's still a lot of hypocrisy though, because while people pretend to be liberated, they are still manipulating others for their own purposes.

"This play is for a fairly educated audience and those who appreciate satire. It is visually bizarre in places – think of *Little Britain* – and it makes a big comment about society and sexual freedoms," David said.

David graduated with an Arts degree from the University of Adelaide in 1969. He has been immersed in

the theatre world for the past 40 years, in both an acting and directing capacity.

*Cloud Nine* opens at the Little Theatre, The Cloisters, University of Adelaide, on Saturday, May 6. It then runs Tuesday to Saturday, May 9-13 and 16-20 at 7.30pm. Tickets \$25/\$20. Bookings (08) 8303 5999 or [www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild)

Story by Candy Gibson

### Special Uni price

The Theatre Guild has introduced a special price in 2006 for University of Adelaide staff and students. It is offering \$15 tickets (on presentation of staff/student cards) for the Tuesday performances of its three main productions – *Cloud Nine* in May, *Julius Caesar* in August, and *The Real Inspector Hound* in October.



# VC feels students' need for speed

## Engineering

A team of University of Adelaide engineering students have put Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha firmly in the fast lane!

Professor McWha, an avid motoring enthusiast, drove a high-performance race car developed by the students for a major international competition at the Torrens Parade Ground.

The Formula SAE (Society for Automotive Engineers) competition sees teams of university students from around Australia and overseas designing and building a formula-style race car to compete in a series of performance and reliability tests (which this year will be held in Werribee, Victoria from December 14-17).

Senior engineers from Australia's leading car manufacturers such as Holden, Ford, Toyota and Mitsubishi judge the cars, and the competition also serves as a good opportunity for the manufacturers to recruit talented young engineering graduates.

This year's team consists of 21 students from the disciplines of Mechanical, Automotive, and Mechatronic Engineering who undertake the project as part of their final-year Honours course. The team also features a number of female students, including Formula Ford driver and Mechatronic Engineering student Samantha Reid, and Mechanical Engineering student Catherine Tanner.

Professor McWha drove the car prepared for last year's competition, and met the team currently developing this year's entry.

"I had a great time – the car was fantastic to drive," he said.

"I'm very impressed with both the concept of this competition and how our students perform in it.

"I know that the students treat it exactly the same way as running a business – they have to do everything themselves, so as well as designing and building the car they have to prepare a budget, seek funding and sponsorship and other such things to ensure they are successful both on and off the racetrack.



"It gives them an invaluable insight into what life will be like after university, and the feedback we get from the automotive industry is that the competition gives our students the skills the industry is looking for in potential employees."

Managing director of this year's project and Mechanical Engineering student Andrew Craig says the team welcomes sponsorship enquiries.

(TOP) Professor McWha behind the wheel (ABOVE) Talking with SAE team member and Formula Ford driver Samantha Reid

Story and photos by Ben Osborne

"Designing and building a race car from scratch isn't easy or cheap, and we'd be happy to hear from anyone who thinks they could help us financially," he said.

[formula-sae.adelaide.edu.au](http://formula-sae.adelaide.edu.au)