

Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

July 2006

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International effort to tackle salinity problem

Dr Olivier Cotsaftis and Dr Alex Johnson
Photo by Cobi Smith

Soil Science

More salt-tolerant cereal crops could be a reality in Australia within a few years, helping to ease the nation's \$270 million salinity problem, according to researchers from the University of Adelaide.

Thanks to a Federal Government grant, the University's researchers from the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics (ACPFPG) will collaborate with their French counterparts over the next two years to work on developing more salt-tolerant crops.

Research Fellow Dr Alex Johnson said the project would help Australia address one of the country's most serious environmental problems – increasing levels of salinity – which currently affects 5.7 million hectares of Australian soil.

"Salinity is a growing problem in Australia, caused mainly by agricultural practices such as land clearing and irrigation," Dr Johnson said.

"We are becoming more intensive in our agricultural practices which has led to a high reliance on irrigation systems, often on land cleared of trees. If you keep pumping water into an area it can bring groundwater to the surface, which increases the salt concentration in our soils.

"By 2050 it's projected that 17.1 million hectares of land will be affected by dryland salinity – 80% of that agricultural."

The grant, made possible through the Federal Government's French-Australian Science and Technology Program, will allow researchers from both countries to work collaboratively on salt-tolerant crops.

Because the rice genome is the model for DNA studies in cereals, it was chosen as the crop for the research.

A library of genes will be engineered into rice lines in Australia and expressed in particular areas of the plant, to be grown in France. The plants will then be shipped back to Australia for analysis.

"Rather than changing the entire plant, we will modify just parts of it to make the plant more salt-tolerant. This will involve changing the characteristics of certain cells to either pump salt out, or take it in and hold on to it," Dr Johnson said.

"At the end of two years we hope to be able to modify parts of the rice plant to ensure that it is salt-tolerant and then transfer that knowledge to wheat and barley, Australia's major cereal crops."

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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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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: john.edge@adelaide.edu.au

Deadline for June issue:

Monday, July 10, 2006

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From the Vice-Chancellor

We have now finalised and reported on the University of Adelaide's financial performance for last year. I am pleased to share with you that the University continues to be in a sound financial position which has been boosted in the last twelve months by the sale of one of the University's start-up companies as well as by a sound return on our investment portfolio. This latter is, of course, particularly good news for our scholarships funds and other prizes as it is this fund which sustains the many gifts which have been made to the University over its life.

So with last year's report out of the way it has been time to turn our attention to planning for the future. We have been reviewing the University's Strategic Plan to ensure that it remains appropriate and to refine some of the objectives and targets. We are also seriously engaged in developing the 2007 budget. Needless to say it is important that financial performance and projections are a good fit with our strategic and business plans.

It is therefore a good time to look at some of the fundamental issues which will impact on the University of Adelaide and on the wider community over the next few years. Currently in South Australia we are seeing a stagnation of numbers of school leavers which together with a sound employment environment raises questions about how the student body will change and what their needs and wants will be. This situation is not unique to South Australia and we are already seeing some of the newer universities struggling to fill their quota of students. Happily this is not an issue at the University of Adelaide where we continue to have a small over-load of about 104% of our quota. It does, however, require us to start thinking about what we will need to offer to support the development of our community and the economy in the years ahead. When we combine this with ensuring

that our students are provided with the best possible platform on which to build a career we see that there are a range of issues and options.

These include greater numbers of mature students either coming to university for the first time or returning to university to upgrade or update qualifications to ensure they keep up with the changing demands of work environments.

We are also seeing new models of university education appearing. The "Bologna" model has now been adopted, in principle at least, by over forty countries and a healthy debate is taking place in Australia about whether we should move to ensure compliance with Bologna. At the same time we see the so-called American model being developed by the University of Melbourne. This would involve generic undergraduate degrees with specialist and professional qualifications in the form of postgraduate degrees. All of these are both opportunities and challenges and as we move towards writing a new Strategic Plan for the University beginning in 2007 we will need to explore all of these issues.

What remains important is that the University should be responsive in ensuring that our activities support our students and through our students the best interests of our community.

PROFESSOR JAMES A. McWha
Vice-Chancellor and President

Repromed leaves its nest

Health Science

One of the University of Adelaide's most successful ventures – Repromed – has been sold to the Adelaide Fertility Centre Pty Ltd for an undisclosed sum.

Since its establishment in 1987 by the University's commercialisation company, Adelaide Research & Innovation Pty Ltd (ARI), the reproductive health clinic has helped more than 26,000 couples in their efforts to conceive, with more than 6000 children born over that period.

Speaking for the Adelaide Fertility Centre, Dr Kelton Tremellen emphasized that it would be 'business as usual' for Repromed. The name will not change and staff

currently working at Repromed will continue to do so.

Repromed's focus on assisting patients to achieve their dreams of having a child will continue into the future.

Research donations from Repromed have earned the University of Adelaide \$20 million, most of which has been injected back into the University's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and more recently the Research Centre for Reproductive Health (RCRH) to promote research in human reproduction and infertility.

ARI's Managing Director Mark Szolga said: "Repromed has been one of our most successful commercialisation ventures, helping more than 26,000 couples to achieve their dreams of having a child".

"The business has also helped to fund research in human reproduction and infertility, which will continue at the University through the RCRH".

During their partnership, the University and Repromed achieved quite a few impressive "firsts". They introduced Australia's first artificial insemination program, were the first Australian unit to achieve IVF pregnancies from sperm injection and from genetic diagnosis of the embryo, and the first to demonstrate that lifestyle interventions improve natural and IVF pregnancy rates.

Repromed was the first clinic in Australia to produce a videotape of a human embryo dividing. It was also the first in Australia to introduce total quality management programs in IVF through ISO 9000 and has pioneered

methods to reduce the risks of multiple pregnancy.

Director of the University's Research Centre, Professor Rob Norman, said Repromed was a world leader in its field, achieving outstanding pregnancy rates and very high standards of patient care.

He attributed Repromed's international success to its strong link with the University's Research Centre for Reproductive Health.

Through the Research Centre for Reproductive Health (RCRH) the University will continue to collaborate with industry to aid the practical application and impact of the University's research in the community.

Story by Candy Gibson



Adelaide research lights the way

Health Science

A new research centre launched at the University of Adelaide will help boost Australia's defence capability and enable new key fibre-optic applications for industry, communications and biological and medical technology.

The Centre of Expertise in Photonics is leading the world in the development of a new generation of optical fibres.

Photonics is the science and technology that allows the generation and control of light using glass optical fibres. The Centre of Expertise in Photonics is working on the design, fabrication, development and applications of a new class of optical fibres – soft glass microstructured fibres – which have significant benefits over the conventional silica-based optical fibres.

The Centre is part of a strategic alliance between the University of Adelaide and the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO), with support from the State Government. It enables Australia to lead the rest of the world in a new area of technology and has moved Australia ahead in a critical niche field.

Centre of Expertise in Photonics Director, Professor Tanya Monro, said: "The recently

installed laboratories at the University are the first facilities in Australia to produce soft glass microstructured fibres, and the Centre is now positioned to do internationally leading work in this area."

Professor Monro joined the University of Adelaide as Professor of Photonics in the School of Chemistry and Physics in early 2005, following more than six years of groundbreaking research at the University of Southampton in the UK. There, she and her research team developed new technology for the production of the microstructured optical fibre.

The Centre of Expertise in Photonics will support defence projects that are increasingly reliant on advances in photonics. It was officially launched on 31 May by DSTO Deputy Chief Defence Scientist (Information) Mr Neil Bryans, Minister for Science and Information Economy Karlene Maywald and University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha.

Mr Bryans said: "Scientific expertise in photonics is fundamental to the development of many modern defence systems, especially communications and remote sensing, therefore the Centre is a strategic initiative to build Australia's defence and industry sector photonics capability."

Minister Maywald said: "With the development of optical fibres, we can further grow the State's

Left: Professor James McWha, Minister Karlene Maywald and DSTO'S Mr Neil Bryans. Right: Professor Tanya Monro

Story by Robyn Mills photos by Mark Trumble

electronic warfare industry base and increase the chances of winning future defence contracts."

Professor James McWha, said: "The Centre exemplifies how the University is forging valuable partnerships which aim to lead the nation in new and exciting fields of technology and research, as well as providing students with a rewarding opportunity to be part of this new evolving world."

The Centre aims to increase the number of students studying photonics to support the needs of local industry and defence. Combined with the launch of the Centre, were the inaugural awards of DSTO-funded undergraduate scholarships for the best students enrolled in the University's Bachelor of Science degree in Optics and Photonics.

DSTO funding support to the Centre of Expertise in Photonics includes \$400,000 for initial infrastructure establishment and ongoing funding of \$400,000 per year for up to five years, plus additional support for a range of research tasks so far exceeding \$1 million.

The South Australian Government has contributed more than \$400,000 to the Centre from the Premier's Science and Research Fund and from the State Government Defence Unit.

Ugly sheep may hold key to world fibre market

■ Animal Science



University of Adelaide researchers and colleagues from the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) believe Australia's ugliest merino lambs may hold the key to securing Australia's \$2.8 billion wool industry and challenging the dominance of synthetic fibres in world markets.

They are calling on sheep producers to watch out for 'xtreme' sheep with unusual wool that may help unlock the genetic library which points to superior wool quality.

The University of Adelaide's Professor Phil Hynd says these lambs are usually culled because

they may have uneven wool, strange fibres, clumps of wool that fall out, bare patches, no wool, unusual crimp, extra-lustrous wool, or even highly wrinkled skin.

"These lambs, typically viewed as worthless, are in fact highly valuable to the industry, because one of the most efficient ways to identify the genes that impact on certain wool traits is to study animals that have rare or extreme features," said Professor Hynd, who is Director of Roseworthy campus. He heads the wool program of the joint Australian Wool Innovation Limited and Meat and Livestock Australia initiative, the Sheep Genomics Program.

"When something goes really wrong with the genes, it is the most powerful indicator about where to look to identify the genes that can – paradoxically – make things go really right.

"It's as though in a mirage of thousands of genes, we can suddenly see a flag pointing to those that are critical to wool follicle formation and fibre synthesis.

"Ultimately, through the latest DNA-based technology, it's the ugly sheep that will help us make quantum leaps to advance the qualities of Australian merino wool to make it more stretchy, less scratchy, shinier and easier to

spin, and to compete better against synthetic fibres."

Professor Hynd said that it was estimated that, among the national merino flock, about 100 'xtreme' lambs born this autumn will exhibit the naturally occurring random mutations that cause unusual fleeces.

"Currently the wool industry is making small, incremental improvements to wool quality – about 1% a year. The development of studying unusual sheep could lead to dramatic improvements in genetic gain and secure a healthy future for the Australian wool industry."

International effort to tackle salinity problem

continued from page 1

Dr Johnson said many major crops, including wheat and rice, had a low tolerance to salt.

Australian researchers will work at the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) in Montpellier, and French researchers will spend time at the ACPFG.

French researcher Dr Emmanuel Guiderdoni from CIRAD will arrive in Adelaide in August, while ACPFG researchers Dr Johnson, Dr Olivier Cotsaftis and Professor Mark Tester will head to Montpellier later this year.

The grant also provides for French and Australian PhD students to exchange research institutions for up to six months.

Story by Candy Gibson

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University stakes its claim on mining education

■ Mining Engineering

A new degree to be offered by the University of Adelaide in 2007 will position South Australia at the forefront of mining education in the country.

Up to 30 students will be offered places in the inaugural Bachelor of Engineering (Mining) intake in the first semester of 2007.

According to Professor Ian Plimer, who will lead a recruitment drive for the new degree, the four-year degree will help satisfy the "massive need" for skilled mining engineers across Australia.

"Australia is producing just 40% of the mining engineers it needs. Currently, we have three universities in the country that graduate about 105 mining engineers each year. That's more than the United States (they produce about 95), but it falls way short of our needs," Professor Plimer said.

The University recruited Professor Plimer from the University of Melbourne early this year, specifically to develop mining geology courses and lead the recruitment drive for the mining engineering degree. He holds a joint appointment in the Faculty of Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences.

"This University – in conjunction with the State Government - has been incredibly astute to realise that

the world is undergoing a global restructuring of commodities and we can play a huge role in that."

Professor Plimer said the population explosion in India and China – which collectively number more than two billion people – had placed pressure on the world to supply their energy and manufacturing feed-stock needs.

"What we're experiencing is not a mining boom or bubble, but a fundamental re-evaluation of commodities against real estate and cash. It means we will have to do a lot more exploration and to do that we need highly skilled people."

The University's new mining engineering degree will supplement programs at Curtin University of Technology in Western Australia, the University of NSW and the University of Queensland.

Professor Plimer said the University would contribute its world-class expertise in geotechnical engineering, near-mine exploration, geostatistics, mine valuation and mine finance.

"The best place to mine and replace commodities is next to your operating mines, both for geological as well as capital and infrastructure reasons."

A recruitment drive for the first cohort of mining engineering students will be launched this month



Geology student Anita Dwyer pictured with Professor Ian Plimer in Broken Hill last year.

across South Australia, targeting both city and rural schools.

Graduates of the new degree can expect generous starting salaries with a qualification that gives them "a ticket to a fascinating life," Professor Plimer said.

"One of the problems with recruiting for the mining industry is that a lot of people treat it as a dirty business. They don't realise you can spend your life travelling the world and seeing places that tourists can never get to."

Professor Plimer said while the initial costs to establish the Bachelor

of Engineering (Mining) would be significant, within several years the course would be self-sustaining.

"I have no doubt that industry will jump on board very quickly in the form of bursaries because demand for our graduates will far outstrip supply. The University will help give this state an economic leg-up by training people who can capitalise on this global demand."

Story by Candy Gibson



Rising to the challenge

Almost 2000 students from 58 schools took part in the 2006 South Australian Science and Engineering Challenge in June, an event co-sponsored by the University of Adelaide. The annual Challenge, now in its 4th year in SA, encourages school students to explore science and engineering as a career. This year the Challenge attracted 60% more students than in 2005.

Story by Candy Gibson

Unley High students Adil Soh-Lim and Lisa Turnbull try their hand at configuring an electricity grid at the Investigator Science & Technology Centre, TAFE SA, which hosted the eight-day Challenge.

Architect of change

It was the celebrated American architect Frank Lloyd Wright who said without defined architecture a city has no soul.

Professor Nancy Pollock-Ellwand is inclined to agree.

For the past 17 years the internationally-renowned Canadian landscape architect has been teaching design and researching cultural landscapes (the interaction between humans and the environment) at the University of Guelph in Ontario.

In 2007, Professor Pollock-Ellwand will emigrate from Canada with her family to take up a position as the new Head and Chair of the School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design at the University of Adelaide.

She will bring a wealth of experience with her, including a distinguished cross-disciplinary background and significant leadership credentials in the tertiary sector.

Why cross the world for Adelaide?

"As soon as I heard about this position I knew it was a good fit," Professor Pollock-Ellwand said. "The School's curriculum embraces all the areas I am interested in – architecture, landscape architecture and urban design. That's not unique, but very special. There is a holistic approach which integrates several professions and I hope to foster more of that."

Professor Pollock-Ellwand also wants to build on the School's well-established international connections (such as the Centre for Asian and Middle Eastern Architecture) and nurture strong links around the world in such areas as Asia, Europe and the Americas.

"There is very real potential to strengthen ties with China, Japan and India and work collaboratively with these countries on design."

For the past three months, the Canadian professor has taken study leave from the University of Guelph and has been teaching at the University of Tokyo in the Landscape

Planning and Ecosystem Design faculty.

"It's been a remarkable experience. I am teaching landscape planning and conducting comparative research between Japanese and Canadian heritage landscapes."

Professor Pollock-Ellwand recently attended a conference in Kyoto where participants were examining sustainable cities focusing on the recent planning of Stuttgart, (Germany), Kanazawa (Japan) and Naples (Italy).

"There are some very good examples across the world where people are trying to bring vegetation, fresh air, water and – consequently – people back into the inner city areas."

Adelaide's reputation as a well-planned and forward-thinking city in the areas of architectural and landscape design proved a major drawcard to the Canadian professor.

"Last year an Adelaide student won honours in the American Society

of Landscape Architects student competition. That put the School on my radar. I became aware of Adelaide again last summer when I visited an international design festival in a remote area of Canada where the work of Adelaide-based designers, Kate Cullity and Ryan Sims, was included. It was called *Eucalyptus: Light and Shadow*. Right away I understood the intensity of the sun and the preciousness of water in the Australian landscape. I was fascinated."

Continuing to speak on trends in architectural design, Professor Pollock-Ellwand said the world's ageing population would have a big impact on the urban design of the future.

"The suburban house with 2.5 children is no longer the dominant concept for architects. People's expectations and needs are changing. A drift back into the inner city areas is likely to be one of the trends because people want to be closer to facilities as they age."

New professor gets down to business

A high school dropout who learned some hard business lessons early in life has been appointed to a leading entrepreneurial role at the University of Adelaide.

Professor Noel Lindsay will take up his position as the new Director of the prestigious Education Centre for Innovation and Commercialisation (ECIC) next month.

His other hat will be Professor of Entrepreneurship and Commercialisation at the University.

Describing his job as the "best in the world," Professor Lindsay said his varied background would help him steer ECIC to becoming one of the leading entrepreneurial research centres in the southern hemisphere within five years.

"I have hands-on entrepreneurial experience, venture capital

experience, as well as academic research and teaching experience," Professor Lindsay said. "In other words, I am a practical academic."

At 16, he dropped out of high school to establish his first business in the clothing industry. Initially very successful, the business failed due to his inexperience.

"This taught me an important lesson about needing to know more – about business and dealing with people – and the importance of an education."

Professor Lindsay went back to high school where he matriculated and then enrolled at the University of Queensland, graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) and subsequently gaining his Doctorate of Philosophy in Commerce.



Professor Noel Lindsay

"In my early university days I worked in various sales-related jobs which taught me the importance of no matter how well-educated you are, if you cannot 'sell' – yourself, your product, your ideas - you will find it difficult to get ahead in life and in business."

A stint with a firm of Chartered Accountants gave Professor Lindsay first-hand experience in corporate insolvency and an insight into why many businesses fail and how others can be turned around.

His entrepreneurial pursuits have also seen him set up a number

of businesses in Australia and overseas.

Professor Lindsay plans to develop a strong research and teaching team at the ECIC and to offer a quality undergraduate program in entrepreneurship, innovation and commercialisation. He also intends to expand the doctoral program and introduce an Honours course.

"Innovation and entrepreneurship are extremely important to our future. Many people think that anyone in business is entrepreneurial, but the fact is that most businesses are not."

"Businesses that are growth-oriented, pro-active, create wealth, employment and are innovative, all tend to perform much better."

"In Australia, we have some very successful entrepreneurial examples. However, we need to develop more of these people. I don't believe we have enough Australians with an enterprising 'can do' attitude and we need to address that," Professor Lindsay said.

Story by Candy Gibson

This is one of the trends that Professor Pollock-Ellwand is studying with her class in Tokyo as they prepare a master plan for an older area of the city called Yanesen – known for its many temples, narrow streets and wooden architecture.

“The ecological movement is also set to play a major influence on future landscape, architectural and urban design.

“We have learned from our mistakes. A lot of earlier homes designed in the post-war period were more concerned with planes and geometry, instead of the people inside.

“Today, there are some outstanding contemporary examples of high-density housing which incorporate a lot of vegetation and habitat.

“They’re more fragmented and less monolithic than earlier designs. And the ones that are most successful are the ones which keep quality of life paramount,” she said.

Story by Candy Gibson



Professor Nancy Pollock-Ellwand

Uni recruits CSIRO water expert

One of Australia’s leading water policy reformers, Professor Mike Young, has accepted a research chair at the University of Adelaide.

Professor Young, formerly a Chief Research Scientist with CSIRO Land and Water, will spend the next three years on a research project to help implement effective water management strategies across Australia.

The project, *With the Wisdom of Hindsight*, will be jointly funded by Land and Water Australia and CSIRO’s Water for a Healthy Country Flagship Program.

“I will be focusing on smart institutional arrangements to find the best way to manage Australia’s water resources. A large part of my role will be to present challenging ideas to water researchers and

also to the general community,” Professor Young said.

As Professor of Water Economics and Management in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Adelaide, Professor Young hopes to get his critical messages across via a series of newsletter-style summaries of major water-related issues, called Droplets.

“We hope that a lot of Droplets turn into PhDs done by students in such areas as water accounting, managing impacts of climate change and seeing connected ground and surface water systems as a single source.”

“We have made a lot of headway in recent years to help raise public awareness about water, but we still have a long way to go,” he said.



Professor Mike Young

Professor Young’s past research has resulted in major water policy reforms in Australia, including: the adoption of new methods to define water entitlements in several Australian states; the Inter-governmental Agreement, resulting in increased environmental flows in the River Murray; an increasing use of market-based incentives to improve natural resource use; and more incentives to help conserve biodiversity.

He also established the Water Proofing Adelaide program and was the architect of the NSW Fishery Share System.

From 1985 to 1988, Professor Young led the OECD’s early work on the integration of agricultural and environmental policies. He then spent six months in Washington DC as a research fellow with the United States Department of Agriculture and the US Environmental Protection Authority.

Professor Young is one of the founding members of the Wentworth Group, a body of Australian scientists pushing for significant environmental reforms to help preserve our natural resources.

In 2006 he was listed by the Canberra Times as one of the 10 most influential people in water policy reform. A year earlier the same newspaper recognised him as “Green Australian of the Year”.

Professor Young’s other credits include a 2003 centenary medal for “outstanding service through environmental economics” and a 2005 Land and Water Australia Eureka Prize for Water Research, in partnership with CSIRO’s Jim McColl.

Story by Candy Gibson



Sophie Rowell playing the Guaragnini violin in a practice session at Elder Hall prior to the 2 June concert, which attracted a capacity crowd

Percussionist wins \$5000 award



Jamie Adam

Talented percussionist and Elder Conservatorium honours graduate, Jamie Adam, has won South Australia's top award for an arts graduate – the 2006 Adelaide Bank Award.

Jamie pipped six other finalists for the \$5000 prize, which was announced at the Helpmann Academy's Maestros & Apprentices Fundraising Dinner on Friday, 2 June. The annual prize is awarded each year in recognition of outstanding achievements among the state's major artists.

The 26-year-old percussionist completed his Bachelor of Music degree in 2005, receiving First Class Honours and an overall mark of 91%.

In 2002 Jamie competed in the ABC Symphony Australia Young Performers Award, winning his national section final. He was then selected as one of only four to perform in the national grand final where he performed Keiko Abe's "Prism Rhapsody" in a live, national ABC broadcast with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra at the Sydney Opera House.

"Jamie's achievement in the national grand final distinguishes him as one of Australia's most significant emerging artists," said

Professor Charles Bodman Rae, Dean of the Elder Conservatorium of Music.

Last year, Jamie was runner-up in the first international competition for marimba players, held in Ljubljana, Slovenia. He also placed second for his performance of The Corridors with the Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra of Slovenia.

"I'm looking forward to putting the award win towards marimba master classes with the Japanese maestro, Keiko Abe," Jamie said.

Professor Bodman Rae paid tribute to the Elder Conservatorium's Head of Percussion, Jim Bailey.

"His superb teaching has inspired and nurtured the talents of Jamie Adam, as well as other outstanding percussionists, including Fleur Green, Paul Butler and Nicholas Parnell," Professor Bodman Rae said.

This year's Maestros & Apprentices black tie dinner raised a record of more than \$130,000 for emerging artists from the Helpmann Academy partner schools.

Story by Lynda Allen

A sweet sound worth millions

Violinist Sophie Rowell marked the return of South Australia's precious Guaragnini violin last month when she performed a lunchtime concert at Elder Hall on June 2.

Playing the exquisite 255-year-old violin, Sophie joined cellist Janis Laurs and pianist Lucinda Collins to perform the "Piano Trio Op 50" by Tchaikovsky.

The Guaragnini violin, worth up to \$1million, is a delicate and warm-toned instrument, made by J.B. Guaragnini in Milan in 1751. It is the same maker and year as the violin owned by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia on loan to Richard Tognetti, leader of the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

The Guaragnini has been assigned to Sophie on a long-term loan, following

her return from Europe where she has lived for the past two and a half years.

Sophie begins her life back in Adelaide as a guest concert master with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra (ASO), as well as continuing to lead the Tankstream violin quartet, and undertaking her Performance PhD at the Elder Conservatorium, dedicated to Beethoven's 10 violin sonatas.

In 2007 Sophie will also lead the 'new' Australian String Quartet, ensuring South Australians will be able to hear the magnificent Guaragnini on a regular basis.

The 2000 ABC Young Performer of the Year moved to Berlin in 2004, after winning a chance to study with the world famous Alban Berg Quartet in Cologne, Germany.

The Guaragnini, which is managed by the SA Guaragnini Trust, has only changed hands four times since the residents of South Australia bought it for £1750 through public subscription in 1955.

It was originally purchased for the South Australian violinist Carmel Hakendorf in the 1950s. Since then it has been loaned to William Hennessy and, more recently, violin virtuoso Jane Peters.

Ms Peters took custody of the Guaragnini in 1993. For the past few years the instrument has been based in Rouen, France, where Ms Peters now lives.

Trust member and Elder Professor at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, Charles Bodman Rae, travelled to

France last December to collect the violin from Ms Peters.

The Guaragnini is insured by the State Government, through ArtsSA, who have also provided a new, high-quality case and top-class bow.

"The trustees are very grateful to the State Government for their support in the payment of the insurance premiums and provision of the new case and bow," Professor Bodman Rae said.

He described Sophie as "a real catch" for the University's new PhD by examination in musical performance. "Sophie holds a Commonwealth APA scholarship and is a performer with a national and international profile," he said.

Story by Candy Gibson

Orchestra breaks new ground

Elder Conservatorium graduate Jamie Messenger will present an Australian first later this month when he composes a rock concert for the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra.

Messenger will arrange a mix of music targeted for young people in a one-hour concert on July 27 and 28, entitled The Edge.

The ASO will push its traditional classical boundaries with orchestrations of contemporary artists, including Jeff Buckley, Radiohead, Muse and Sigur Ros.

"The Edge is an Adelaide Symphony Orchestra initiative that breaks new ground," said ASO managing director Rainer Jozeps.

"It's an absolute first in Australia. The concert will be broadcast on Triple J, making the ASO the first symphony orchestra in Australia to be broadcast on both ABC-FM and Triple J."

Messenger's play list will include a combination of symphonic

instruments and a rhythmic section of electronic keyboard, guitar and percussion.

"The concert has been programmed by young people to target a different demographic, steering away from the purely classical genre," Messenger said.

"The ASO will breathe new life and energy into the much-loved music of Radiohead and Jeff Buckley, among others. The concert will also include music from one of Australia's hottest bands in Wolfmother, the legendary Flaming Lips, Britain's Granddaddy and the dynamic Ben Harper."

Messenger graduated from the Elder Conservatorium in 2004, where he studied under Graeme Koehne, with First Class Honours in composition. Since then he has arranged orchestral parts for concerts in the ASO's Showtime series, Orchestral Beatles and Zorba.

As well as his compositions for orchestras and choirs, Messenger

regularly performs with his own alternative indie band The Scholars and plays post-modern cabaret with Club Schmaltz. His eclectic approach to music has resulted in two major support gigs this year for Jimmy Barnes and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

In June 2005, the ASO performed the world premiere of Messenger's new work, "Music for an Absent Film", as part of the Malaysian Airlines Master Series. The ASO also performed another of his works, "The Fun Factory", as part of their educational series of concerts.

Last month, Messenger also helped write the orchestral score for an ASO Pink Floyd concert at the Festival Theatre.

Tickets for The Edge concert are on sale now. For bookings, phone BASS on 131 246.



Jamie Messenger



Handshake starts sculpture process

■ Reconciliation

Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha, Kurna Elder Lewis O'Brien, City, Government and Reconciliation representatives, University staff and students literally plastered their hands together in Reconciliation Week as a first step towards a special sculpture to celebrate Reconciliation.

The ceremonial handshakes – preserved in plaster – took

place between signatories of the University's 2003 Reconciliation Statement, or their representatives, to mark the University of Adelaide's ongoing commitment to reconciliation.

The handshake imprints will form the basis of a Reconciliation Sculpture commissioned by the University from Melbourne-based artists Karen Casey and Darryl Cowie, to be unveiled for Reconciliation Week 2007. Staff, students and members of the community were also invited to "do a handshake" to show their commitment to reconciliation.

Professor McWha said: "Over the past three years, the University of Adelaide has devoted significant time to ensure that reconciliation initiatives permeate throughout teaching and employment within the University. We have also worked towards increasing awareness and understanding within the wider community of the benefits of reconciliation and harmony.

"This sculpture will mark this ongoing process and become a permanent, prominent and physical reminder of the University's commitment to reconciliation."

Doing the ceremonial handshake are (left to right) Lewis O'Brien, Lord Mayor Michael Harbison, Professor James McWha, Frances Bedford MP and Dr Duncan McFetridge MP, with artist Karen Casey at the end looking on.

The official ceremony and handshake was followed by a barbecue, performance by the University's Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music, and community handshakes.

Story and photo by Robyn Mills

Helping to revive Aboriginal languages

■ Languages

Endangered Aboriginal languages on the state's West Coast could be revived, thanks to the work of linguistics experts at the University of Adelaide.

Language researcher Dr Paul Monaghan has spent the past year working with local elders in the Ceduna region to document the Wirangu and Gugada languages.

Now spoken by only a handful of elders, both languages are under threat of disappearing, leaving a huge gap in the cultural history of the region.

Aboriginal elder Gladys Miller, one of the last two speakers of Wirangu, worked alongside Dr Monaghan late last year to develop a talking picture

dictionary, featuring around 200 common Wirangu words.

An illustrated book featuring a traditional Wombat hunt, written in the Wirangu language, was also launched last November.

Dr Monaghan's second project involved producing language cards for another endangered West Coast language known as Gugada. Children from the Koonibba Community Aboriginal School illustrated the language cards.

A dedicated language exhibition area in the Ceduna Arts and Culture Centre now enables tourists and locals to access the dictionaries and language cards of both the Wirangu and Gugada dialects.

"Aboriginal children and older people wanting to get in touch with

their roots can look up words on the dictionary compact disc using a computer and hear the correct pronunciation and sentence structure for the language," Dr Monaghan said.

About 250 Aboriginal dialects are recognised in Australia. Only relatively few are still spoken on a frequent basis, Dr Monaghan said.

"In the case of the Wirangu and Gugada languages, the greatest impact has been the migration of Aboriginal people over the last 150 years from the desert to the coast. Inter-marriage between different tribes has also strengthened some dialects and watered down others.

"The measure of an endangered language is when there are no young people speaking it. That's the reason we're so keen to get children involved in helping to revive these

languages so they are spoken on a regular basis."

Dr Monaghan is organising an August workshop in Ceduna, where local teachers will be trained to deliver Wirangu language packages through the schools.

The linguistics researcher is also helping to produce a short film of Gladys Miller and the history of the Wirangu language. The film, due to be completed in the next eight weeks, will be on display in the Ceduna Arts and Cultural Centre.

Professor Peter Mühlhäusler, Professor of Linguistics at the University of Adelaide, helped co-ordinate the endangered languages project.

Story by Candy Gibson

Reducing baby breathing problems

Obstetrics & Gynaecology

Breathing problems in premature babies can be reduced by giving repeat doses of corticosteroids during pregnancy, according to a major international study led by researchers at the University of Adelaide.

A single course of corticosteroids – of betamethasone – was known to reduce the risk of respiratory disease and other problems in pre-term babies but whether there was potential for further benefit by repeating the dose for women at ongoing risk of an early birth remained unknown.

The findings of this study, published last month in the international medical journal *The Lancet*, show babies born to women who received repeat corticosteroids were less likely to have respiratory problems after birth and the breathing problems were less likely to be severe. They had less need for oxygen therapy and shorter times needing breathing support.

Study leader Professor Caroline Crowther from the University of Adelaide's Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, based at the Women's and Children's Hospital, said: "Within Australia just under 3% of all births, or 6,500 women each year, give birth to a baby very pre-term at less than 34 weeks. Babies born early often have respiratory problems due to immature lung development and require neonatal intensive care. Not all babies born early survive and those that do are at increased risk of later developmental problems. Researchers are looking for a means of reducing these difficulties."

The study, known as the Australasian Collaborative Trial of Repeat Doses of Steroids, or ACTORDS, is the largest in the world to date, with 982 women and their 1146 babies recruited, and involving 23 hospitals in Australia and New Zealand.



Story by Robyn Mills
Photo courtesy of Digital Media,
Women's and Children's Hospital

Professor Crowther said longer follow-up of the children in the study was needed to see if repeat prenatal corticosteroids had long-term effects.

"These short-term results are promising but the results of the two-year and later early school age follow-up for the children in the ACTORDS trial are needed to provide information about the later health and development of the children," she said.

All women recruited to this study had already been given corticosteroids a week or more before. Half the women in the study were given repeat treatment with corticosteroids and the other half given a salt water placebo.

The results have been presented by Professor Caroline Crowther at the Perinatal Society Australia and New Zealand Congress.

The trial was designed by a group of researchers from the University of Adelaide's Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Public Health, together with Perinatal Medicine, Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide.

Funding was obtained from the National Health and Medical Research Council, The Women's and Children's Hospital Research Foundation and The Channel 7 Research Foundation of South Australia.

New anti-diabetic drug to be trialled

Medicine

A promising new anti-diabetic drug that works in a unique new way and may reduce the need for insulin is being trialled in a new study by the University of Adelaide's School of Medicine.

The drug, developed by pharmaceuticals company Roche, has undergone its Phase One trials on hundreds of people with no indications of adverse side effects.

University of Adelaide obesity specialist and Head of the Discipline of Medicine, Professor

Gary Wittert, said this drug targeted the liver and prevented it producing excess blood sugar. It also acted to enhance the use of blood sugars in muscle.

"The main objective is getting blood sugar low," Professor Wittert said. "With lower blood sugar there are less complications of diabetes and people's prognosis is better. Of course you can keep blood sugar down with massive doses of insulin, but the downside with insulin is inconvenience and weight gain."

Type II diabetes affects 8-12 % of the Australian population and, under current trends, this could rise to 20% over the next decade. Type II diabetes, once restricted mainly to adults, is now being seen in children.

"This is all consequent on growing levels of obesity," says Professor Wittert. "And it is already costing Australia \$3 billion a year according to one estimate."

Professor Wittert's research group is looking for volunteers to take part in the 12-week Phase Two study into

the safety and efficacy of the drug. Volunteers need to be 30-74 with Type II diabetes and to have been on a stable dose of Metformin for at least three months.

Those taking part will have an opportunity if they wish to continue using the drug for another two years, subject to certain criteria. Interested volunteers should call the Study Co-ordinator, University of Adelaide, School of Medicine on (08) 8222 4320.

Story by Robyn Mills

New executive seeks mentors

Academic Support

The University of Adelaide hosted the inaugural executive meeting of the Association for Academic Language and Learning (AALL) on May 12-13.

Formed in November 2005 to provide a centre for professionals who provide academic support for university students, the executive comprises representatives from tertiary institutions throughout Australia.

Academic support professionals work with students at every level – from first year through to postgraduate, helping them to develop their academic and English expression skills.

Executive member Maureen Goldfinch, from the Centre for Learning and Professional Development (CLPD), said the inaugural meeting was a great success.

“People working in academic student support can often feel isolated. The association plans to develop a directory of experienced members willing to act as mentors. The directory will also serve a double purpose as a useful catalogue of potential speakers in areas of academic support expertise,” Ms Goldfinch said.

Over the next 12 months the executive also plans to publish a scholarly journal and collate research related to academic learning development.

“Another aim of the executive is to gather evidence for the effectiveness of academic support. We need to look at the benefits of language and learning support beyond evaluations of individual programs,” Ms Goldfinch said.

Uni trades skills with East Timor

Trade Training

Jim Redden was winding up the second week of a trade and poverty-reduction training program in East Timor on April 28 when things turned ugly.

The senior program manager for the Institute for International Business, Economics and Law at the University of Adelaide saw first-hand the panic that swept through the streets of the capital, Dili, that day as demonstrators stormed the Presidential Palace.

The military unrest was sparked by the East Timorese Government's sacking of 600 soldiers from its 1400-strong force when they deserted their barracks, complaining of regional discrimination in promotions.

More than 21,000 people fled their homes that day as security forces fired on the crowd, killing five people and triggering a riot.

In the ensuing weeks, Australia dispatched two warships to East Timor, sending up to 1300 troops to help quell the ongoing violence and restore law and order.

Mr Redden, who returned to Adelaide unscathed, said despite the current unrest, Australia should not give up on its neighbour, but rather strengthen its support.

“This is not a country which is a failed state. Obviously it has problems – in particular poverty and unemployment both fuelling the current internal unrest. However it is still struggling with its newfound independence and people forget that just six years ago its leaders were fighting in the mountains.

“It is somewhat arrogant for Australian and other western leaders to talk of failed states and poor governance when East Timor has barely had time to recover from the trauma of the 1999 massacre. It is instructive to recall just how long it took countries such as America or Ireland to become independent and stable following protracted and bloody civil wars.”

Mr Redden's institute was commissioned earlier this year to run trade training programs for the East Timorese over a two-year period, targeting a locally chosen cadre of high-ranking government officials.

The first program was held in late February and the second in April. Another program is scheduled for August.

“The aim of the training is to build an understanding among senior East Timorese officials of basic trade policy principles. They need advice in making decisions about the use of tariffs and subsidies or the cost and benefits of free trade agreements so they can make informed decisions about economic policies for the long term benefit of their people.”

The officials taking part in the training programs are from a range of departments and include the Development Minister, Abel da Costa Freitas Ximenes (East Timor's equivalent to our Trade Minister).

“The long term objective of the trade programs is to strengthen East Timor's ability to effectively negotiate and engage in regional and international trade forums.”

Mr Redden said the East Timorese were struggling with some serious

underlying problems, especially high youth unemployment.

“The Institute and the Timorese officials are exploring policies to deal with this. For example, over the next 25 years East Timor will earn an estimated \$20 billion from oil and gas deposits. One priority should be to fund essential infrastructure and the skilling of young people in engineering, building and construction.

“There is also potential for a more educated local workforce to build careers associated with the mining sector and to develop a niche export market through cooperative fishing clusters.

“The government needs to invest in farming and agriculture, helping to improve productivity and food security.”

Mr Redden said East Timor's tourism potential was untapped, with plenty of scope to promote the country as a destination for scuba diving, mountain climbing and bush walking.

“This is a country with huge potential and despite the current unrest we are confident of East Timor's ability to build a sound economic and political base in the long-term. We just have to be patient,” he said.

Funding for the programs run by the Institute for International Business, Economics and Law has come from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the program is coordinated through the International Development and Law Organisation based in Rome.

Story by Candy Gibson

Business Establishment Scholarships



RAMY AZER, CEO PAPYRUS AUSTRALIA.
The Graduate Entrepreneurial Program (GEP) provided practical support that allowed me, over time to indulge my idea into a now publically listed company. This company has innovatively developed to now be awarded a \$1.2 million grant to commercialise future paper making technology.



LEONIE McKEON, PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT, CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL ADVISER.
Provides consultancy services to assist Australian business communicate with Chinese people, and teach Mandarin through a unique innovate learning system. The GEP gave me the opportunity to create a new concept and, out of that brand, a new product. The program also provided the entrepreneurial environment for me to take the necessary steps to achieve success in a contemporary business world.

Dare To Be Different!

We have on offer 5 competitive scholarships to support the development of an innovative entrepreneurial business idea. Will you be a University graduate or have a TAFE Diploma by January 2007?

And have a desire to develop your own Business initiative whilst studying via our sponsored Graduate Entrepreneurial Program (GEP) to obtain a Master of Entrepreneurship?

Our GEP offers a broad range of business support and training, including a serviced office, business mentoring with the provision of a full scholarship. Total package available is valued at approx. \$30,000 (tax free) for 12 months

Interested? Apply now - applications close 28th July 2006

Also register for our free seminar on 'How to turn a great idea into an even greater application!' To develop a winning submission, call 08 8303 4473 and leave your details.

For further information visit the website www.adelaide.edu.au/OIL/business/grad_ent/ or contact Megan Llewellyn at megan.llewellyn@adelaide.edu.au



Life Impact The University of Adelaide

Increasing our fibre intake

■ Plant Science

Could it be possible to make cereals with specific fibre uses – some for beer and some for breakfast?

Dr Rachel Burton says it is. The University of Adelaide molecular biologist and her colleagues have helped identify a family of genes which are responsible for making dietary fibre in cereals, which could lead to a more nutritious diet for both animals and people.

The same genes determine how much beta-glucan is produced in the barley grains used for brewing.

Beta-glucans, an important component of dietary fibre, help prevent and treat colorectal cancer, obesity, non-insulin-dependent diabetes, high serum cholesterol and cardiovascular disease.

Dr Burton, a member of the Discipline of Plant and Food Science at the Waite campus, was the principal author of a paper published earlier this year in the journal *Science*, documenting the discovery.

With her colleagues, Dr Burton is now working on increasing beta-glucan levels in cereals for human and animal consumption.

"Cereals are a big part of diets worldwide, so research into what makes them so nutritious is essential," she said.

Beta-glucans are also important in cereal processing applications like the malting and brewing of beer, and potentially in the production of bioethanol from straw.



Professor Geoff Fincher, Deputy CEO of the ACPFG and Director of the Waite campus, said the finding represented a major breakthrough.

"We've solved a problem that has perplexed large, international research laboratories in both the public and private sector for more than 30 years," he said.

Professor Geoff Fincher, Dr Rachel Burton and Emeritus Professor Bruce Stone, with a barley plant
Photo by Cobi Smith

The results are the culmination of more than five years work by Dr Burton and her colleagues. The research was funded primarily by the Grains Research and Development Corporation.

Awards for innovative education

■ CRC Programs

Two University of Adelaide-based Cooperative Research Centres have received national recognition for innovative education programs.

The programs have helped tackle Australia's \$4 billion a year invasive weed problem with plain language weeds education tools, and sparked scientific curiosity in school children through novel interactive biotechnology education.

The CRC for Molecular Plant Breeding and the CRC for Australian Weed Management both received Awards for Excellence in Innovation at a recent national conference for Australia's 70 CRCs.

The Molecular Plant Breeding CRC won the accolade for its Get into Genes program, developed in partnership with the Adelaide-based Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics.

Under the scheme so far, about 2,500 school children have

completed the workshop at the University's Waite campus. Following its Adelaide success, Get into Genes is now expanding into Melbourne.

The workshop features four hands-on workstations investigating plant breeding, DNA extraction, gel electrophoresis and DNA markers.

The CRC for Australian Weed Management won its award for WeedEd which provides comprehensive plain language training resources in weed control for

the Vocational Education and Training sector.

Launched in 2002, WeedEd is used widely across Australia. WeedEd materials range from fact sheets on identifying and collecting plants for community groups and guides on developing weed management strategies at property levels, through to full manuals for professional farm advisers – all available at www.weeds.crc.org.au.

Elizabeth Koch awarded OAM



Elder Conservatorium of Music Senior Lecturer, Elizabeth Koch, has been awarded an Order of Australia (OAM) medal for music education and her role in mentoring young musicians.

Ms Koch, Head of Woodwind and Senior Lecturer in Flute at the University of Adelaide, was awarded the medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours List last month.

"It's an amazing honour to be awarded such a prestigious medal for doing something that I am passionate about," Ms Koch told the *Adelaidean*.

"I love what I do and I thoroughly enjoy mentoring young musicians. I hope that in the process of teaching and performing that I can be a good role model and perhaps a catalyst for many of them to go on to the highest level in their field of music."

The accomplished flautist joined the University's academic staff in 2002, after 27 years as a member of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra.

Ms Koch started her Bachelor of Music degree as a pianist and only took up the flute at age 20, studying with Professor David Cubbin. She graduated with First Class Honours in both flute and piano and subsequently completed her Masters in Flute Performance.

She joined the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra in 1974 and has appeared as a soloist with the Adelaide Chamber Orchestra, the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra.

In 1976 Ms Koch was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study with Maxence Larrieu in Paris in 1976. In the course of her career she also performed in master classes with Sir James Galway, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Alain Marion, Andras Adorjan, Susan Milan and William Bennett.

A passionate teacher and educator, Ms Koch has led several study tours to Europe with her tertiary students, receiving wide critical acclaim. Many of her former students also play professionally throughout Australia and overseas.

Since 1993 she has directed seven summer schools and this month will direct her eighth State Music Camp at St Peter's College, Adelaide.

In addition to her duties as Head of Woodwind Studies at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, Ms Koch is involved in promoting flute pedagogy and will be presenting a paper at the Royal Northern College, Manchester this July. She is also preparing a CD of previously unrecorded flute and piano repertoire.

Story by Candy Gibson

■ Development & Alumni Events

Commerce Alumni Dinner Program 2006

The Commerce Alumni has so far held three out of a series of informal dinners scheduled for 2006 where we get small groups of graduates together, mixing with old and new friends from commerce and business studies at the University of Adelaide.

These dinners are very popular with members, and the limited places are thus filled by invitation, but attendance is open to all members who express an interest.

If you're interested in attending, find out more by emailing commerce.alumni@adelaide.edu.au

The John Bray Law Chapter

Event: The popular Chief Justice's Shield Quiz Night in the Great Hall

Venue: Freemasons Hall
254 North Terrace

Date: Friday, 21 July, 7 pm

Cost: \$25 per head, \$12 for students, BYO supper and wine; cash bar available for beer and soft drink.

Professional quizmaster Chris Rebbeck will compe the evening as teams vie to wrest the shield from current holder, the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. The committee is hopeful that the Chief Justice will attend this year to present the trophy.

RSVP: Anyone interested in attending should contact Gaynor Tyerman at the Alumni Office on 8303 6356 or email gaynor.tyerman@adelaide.edu.au

Friends of the University of Adelaide Library

Event: Author/Scholar Evening with Professor Eugene LeMire on William Morris

Date: Thursday 27 July 2006, 6.00 for 6.30pm

Cost: Admission is free and open to the public: *gold coin donation invited.*

RSVP: Bookings by Tuesday 25 July to karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au Phone 8303 4064

The ROCA Chapter in conjunction with the Co-Patrons, Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund

The public launch of the Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund initiated by ROCA will take place over Dinner on Tuesday 25 July.

This Fund set up in perpetuity will receive and manage corporate and private funding for major initiatives at the Roseworthy campus. Some initiatives include scholarships, study awards, new and improved facilities, research projects, and other educational objectives.

ROCA Chapter

Event: Launch of the Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund

Date: Tuesday 25 July 2006, 12 noon

RSVP: Ray Taylor 8276 1323, Mark Seeliger 8266 1370 or Robyn Brown 8303 4994

ROCA AGM and Dinner

Event: The Annual ROCA Award of Merit will be presented in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting and Dinner. Featured will also be 10, 25, 40 and 50-year group reunions.

Date: Friday 13 October 2006

Venue: Glenelg Golf Club

RSVP: Dr David Cooper 8363 4371 or 0418 804 779
Ray Taylor 8276 1323

The University of Adelaide Alumni Malaysia Bhd

Event: Barbecue Dinner

Date: 8 July or 11 July 2006
(to be confirmed)

Venue: Royal Lake Club Poolside, 7 pm

Price: Tickets RM25 approximately
(to be confirmed)

Do come join us for a barbecue dinner to network among Chapter members as well as invited guests from other South Australian Alumni.

For further info and to RSVP before 5 July, email westmalaysia.alumni@gmail.com or call +6019 233 0277.

New Bequest Brochure Launched

The University of Adelaide would be a very different place if it weren't for bequests. Imagine North Terrace without Elder Hall, or the University without Waite campus – just two examples of resources that bequests have provided. A new brochure has been launched emphasising the importance of bequests in the University's development, both in the past and for our future.

"Bequests are an enduring and vital way of supporting the University," says Jon Russack, the University's Bequest Officer. "The new bequest brochure is designed to assist people who are considering making this special kind of gift."

The brochure provides a guide for anyone who is contemplating making a bequest to the University and suggests various ways for making the gift. It also explains that it is not necessary to create an external trust for bequests that are intended to last "in perpetuity".

To obtain a copy of the brochure, please contact Jon Russack at the Development and Alumni office, by telephone on (08) 8303 3234, or email jonathan.russack@adelaide.edu.au.

Birthday honour for Deputy VC

The University of Adelaide's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Alan Johnson, was appointed a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia in last month's Queen's Birthday Honours.

Professor Johnson's inclusion in the Queen's Birthday Honours was "for service to science in the field of molecular parasitology, to scientific research and education, and as Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal for Parasitology*".

University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McWha, said: "I would like to congratulate Professor Johnson for this richly deserved award. Before he came to the University of Adelaide, Professor Johnson had played a significant role in strategic planning for the national research effort within the Australian Research Council (ARC), among numerous other achievements. He has already made an outstanding contribution to science and is helping the University maintain its position as a leading research-intensive university."

Professor Johnson became Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at the University

of Adelaide in February this year. Before that he was Executive Director, Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, at the ARC from January 2003.

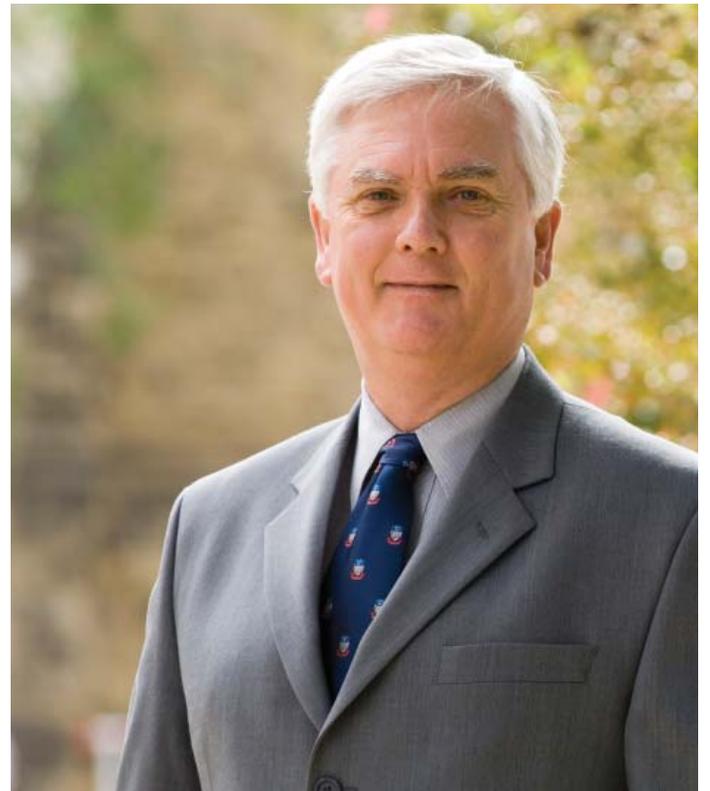
Before his appointment to the ARC, Professor Johnson was a Chief Hospital Scientist at the Flinders University Medical Centre, Director of a Key University Research Strength and Chair of the Academic Board at the University of Technology in Sydney, Editor-in-Chief of the *Australian Biologist* and *International Journal for Parasitology*.

Professor Johnson was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship in 1985 and the Bancroft Mackerras medal in 1989.

He has the rare distinction of being elected "Ehrenmitglied" by the German Society for Parasitology – the first time the honour was made to a non-German.

He is a Fellow of the Australian Society for Microbiology, the Australian Society for Parasitology and the Australian Institute of Biology.

Story by Robyn Mills



Queen's Birthday Honours 2006

Congratulations to those members of the University of Adelaide alumni community whose contributions to their field and their community were acknowledged in the 2006 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Companion in the Order of Australia (AC)

The Honourable Shane L Stone AC QC
(Grad Dip Ed Admin 1980 SACAE)

for service to politics contributing to strengthening Federal-State-Territory intergovernmental processes, to furthering the bi-lateral relationship between Australia and the Asia/Pacific region, and to the oil and gas industry.

Officer in the Order of Australia (AO)

Mr Scoresby A Shepherd AO

(LL B 1958, B A 1959, M Env St 1980)
for service to marine science, particularly in the fields of abalone biology and ecology through research, education and international collaboration, and to the conservation of coastal areas.

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Dr Peter Gordon Allen AM

(B Ag Sc 1965, M Ag Sc 1976, Ph D 1985)
for service to science in the area of pest animal management through a range of research and administrative roles, and to Rugby Union football.

Dr Andrew B Berry AM

(MBBS 1975)
for service to medicine and to the community through the establishment and development of neonatal and paediatric retrieval services in New South Wales.

Professor Alan M Johnson AM
(University Staff)

for service to science in the field of molecular parasitology, to scientific research and education, and as editor-in-chief of the *International Journal for Parasitology*.

Mr Ronald K Langman AM
(M Entrepreneurship 2004)

for service to the building and construction industry through the establishment of collaborative marketing ventures and as a mentor for young entrepreneurs.

Dr Michael S Lekias AM
(MBBS 1955)

for service to the Greek community through a range of business, cultural, sporting and welfare organisations, to local government, and to medicine.

Professor Susan M Magarey AM
(B A 1965, Dip Ed 1966 and University Staff)

for service to education as a pioneer of women's studies as an academic discipline, to tertiary curriculum development, and to professional and historical organisations.

His Honour Lloyd Kingsley Newman AM
(Cert Law 1962)

for service to the law through the promotion of programs to assist juvenile offenders, to the District Court and Youth Court of South Australia, and to a range of sporting, animal welfare and motor sport organisations.

Emeritus Professor Peter A Parsons AM
(B Ag Sc 1955)

for service to science in the areas of population genetics and radiation biology, to research and tertiary education, and through executive roles with a range of scientific organisations.

Dr John L Waddy AM
(MBBS 1948, B Sc 1959)

for service to cardiology through contributions to research and improved treatments and procedures, to medical education and professional development, and to the community.

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)

Dr John F Arvier OAM
(MDS 1988)

for service to oral and maxillofacial surgery, particularly through the provision of services and training in developing countries.

Mr Keith R Giddings OAM

(Dip Arts & Ed 1958, B A 1962, Dip Sec Ed 1963)
for service to veterans through the Royal Australian Navy Corvettes Association.

Mrs Betty A Gransbury OAM
(B Sc 1945, B Sc (Hons) 1948)

for service to the community through providing assistance to charitable, aged care and church organisations.

Dr Patrick G Iland OAM
(M Ag Sc 1985, PhD (Ag Sc) 2001)

for service to the wine industry through research, writing and the teaching of viticulture and oenology.

Ms Elizabeth J Koch OAM

(B Mus 1972, B Mus (Hons) 1973, M Mus 1983 and University Staff)

for service to music education as a teacher of flute and as a mentor to young musicians.

Dr Surendranath Krishnan OAM
(MBBS 1983)

for service to medicine as a head and neck surgeon, and to the communities of Papua New Guinea and Pacific Island nations through Rotary International.

Mr William E Matheson OAM
(B Ag Sc 1952, M Ag Sc 1968)

for service to the environment, particularly in the areas of soil, water and biodiversity conservation.

Dr Leslie O S Poidevin OAM
(deceased) (MBBS 1952, MD 1960, MS 1965)

for service to medicine in the area of women's health.

Mr Mark D S Shephard OAM
(B Sc 1976, B Sc (Hons) 1977)

for service to public health through medical research, to the environment through conservation organisations, and to aviculture.

Dr Geoffrey S Vercoe OAM
(MBBS 1967)

for service to medicine, particularly in the field of otolaryngology, and to Indigenous health in the Northern Territory.

Mr Terance G Woolley OAM
(B Sc 1967, MBA 1990)

for service to secondary education, to professional associations, and to the community.

Public Service Medal (PSM)

Mr Murray A Hutchesson PSM
(B Tech (Civil) 1967)

for outstanding public service and leadership in environmentally sustainable housing development.

A man for all seasons

Supporters of the late Max Harris – distinguished poet, writer, journalist, publisher and bookseller – attended a public talk given by his biographer, Dr Betty Snowden, at the Barr Smith Library last month.

Mr Harris, one of the University's most celebrated alumni, is credited as "the founding father of Australian modernism in the arts". He died in 1995 of prostate cancer.

Dr Snowden, art curator in the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, once worked for Max Harris in the Mary Martin's Bookshop, a popular gathering place for Adelaide's literary enthusiasts.

She recalled the literary giant as a "man of extraordinary intellect and wit".

"Max Harris wore many hats. He was insatiably curious and he always

questioned the status quo. He was a very private man, but had a wicked sense of humour – and he never followed the beaten track."

Mr Harris studied Arts and Economics at the University of Adelaide, where he won 20 academic prizes, and was known as a "rebel editor and extremely talented poet," Dr Snowden said.

The free public lecture was organised by the Friends of the University of Adelaide Library Chapter of the Alumni Association.

Dr Snowden's biography – with the working title of *With reason, without rhyme: Max Harris 1921-1995* – will be published within the next 18 months.

Story by Candy Gibson
Photo courtesy of the Barr Smith Library



Remembering London

The University of Adelaide's Bonython Hall is the venue for a memorial event on 7 July to remember the victims of the London bombings in 2005.

Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Fred McDougall, will welcome guests to the University. They include political, religious and community leaders, as well as representatives of all emergency services.

The event will feature poetry read by a range of high-profile guests, as well as music performed by graduates of the Elder Conservatorium.

"Remembering London" is open to all members of the community. Friday 7 July, 10am to 11am. For further information, contact Margaret Emmett on 8362 8704.

First Education Research Group conference

Learning & Teaching

A new group set up at the University of Adelaide to promote best practice in higher education learning and teaching is to host a conference for the South Australian tertiary sector.

The Education Research Group of Adelaide (ERGA) is a unique cross-disciplinary group with a mission of promoting high quality University learning through evidence-based, practical approaches to teaching.

Group members aim to enhance student learning across all faculties of the University of Adelaide by comparing and contrasting teaching methods between disciplines.

ERGA will hold its inaugural conference on September 20-21 and is calling for papers under the theme "Building Higher Education that Works: Methods and Results".

Group Convenor Edward Palmer said the conference was the ideal opportunity for staff to share their experiences of successful teaching methodologies, technologies, assessments or other educational approaches.

Further information can be found at www.adelaide.edu.au/erga



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