

# Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

December 2006  
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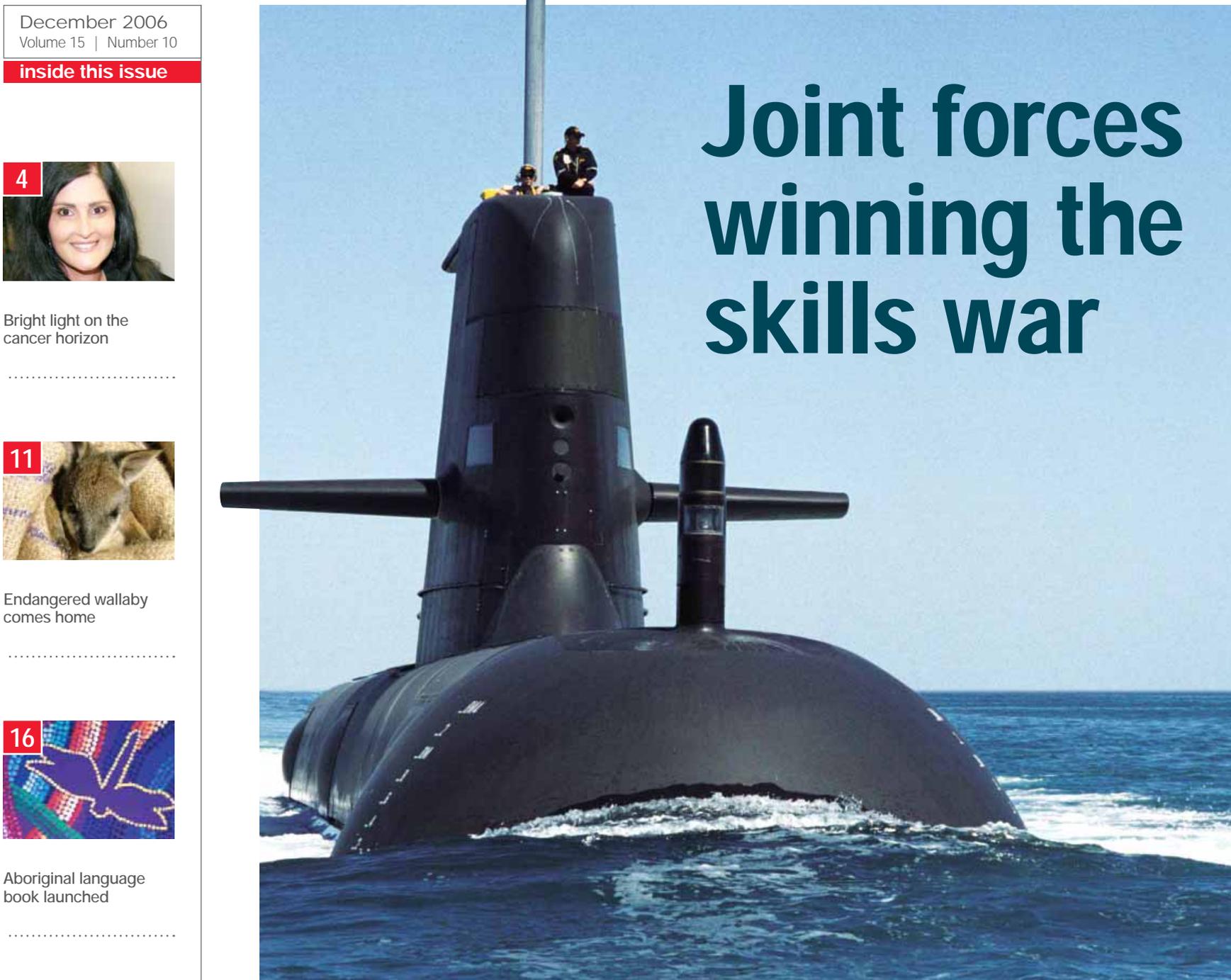


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## Joint forces winning the skills war

### Engineering

In an Australian first, a new defence Masters degree will give South Australian engineers an edge over their interstate counterparts.

Co-developed by industry partner ASC Pty Ltd and the University of Adelaide, the Master of Marine Engineering fills an important void in engineering education for specialist application on ships and submarines.

Eleven ASC personnel from diverse engineering disciplines are the first students to participate in the program,

with enrolments now open to the general public for 2007.

Already the degree has generated enormous interest from engineers working in Australia's defence industry, as well as others hoping to gain the additional skills required to enter the defence market.

Speaking at the Masters launch, ASC Managing Director Greg Tunny said the complexity of engineering projects undertaken on the Collins Class submarines and the air warfare destroyers reinforces the importance of the Masters degree.

"Our submarine and destroyer programs present us with unique challenges,

not least of which is having our staff equipped with the skills, knowledge and experience required to keep the submarines at their maximum capability," Mr Tunny said.

"The Masters degree will greatly accelerate up-skilling and, in time, strengthen Australia's indigenous naval engineering capability."

Professor James McWha, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, said the new degree addressed skills shortages in the defence industry and would provide additional career opportunities for engineers.

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# Adelaidean

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

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

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## Next issue:

March 2007



## From the Vice-Chancellor

It's the festive season, so it's appropriate that I devote a bit of space in this last issue of the year to the idea of giving.

There are a number of stories in this month's *Adelaidean* that demonstrate the power of giving and its ability to make a real impact on individuals, institutions and the community.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the gift that began the University of Adelaide more than 130 years ago. In 1872, Sir Walter Watson Hughes gave £20,000 – a staggering amount at that time – which led to the foundation of the University of Adelaide in 1874, giving South Australia the nation's third university. This set in motion a great legacy: our University has had 100,000 graduates to date, 100 Rhodes Scholars and five Nobel Laureates, three of them our own graduates.

Hughes showed great vision in helping to create the University, but I don't think even he could have known the absolute breadth and depth of the achievements this university has seen over the years.

Giving is not just something that has occurred in the University's past. We are grateful to have individuals who, like Hughes, have a vision and an understanding of how education can change people and society. Such a person is Maureen Ritchie, who has donated a substantial amount of money to our Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music to help establish an outreach program with rural and remote communities.

Maureen's contribution, like that of Hughes, is the subject of a story in this publication. We're extremely grateful to Maureen for her interest and her commitment to helping the University to achieve great things.

Another excellent example of this can be found in the story about the City of West Torrens Max and Bette Mendelson Foundation Scholarships. Established from a bequest, the scholarships provide educational opportunities and support for talented young students from each of South Australia's universities. What began as a selfless act is now making a huge impact on many students each year.

It's not just individuals who can make a difference – SA Water has shown its commitment to higher education by establishing nine scholarships at the University of Adelaide, starting next year. The scholarships will support students from across many disciplines.

This year the South Australian Government also made a donation of \$1 million to the University's Heritage Foundation, the largest individual contribution to the Foundation since its inception in 2005.

All of these donations to the University recognise the importance of having a quality educational institution in this State. Those who donate understand the difference they can make – whether big or small, it is all welcome.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the University of Adelaide this year. I wish you all the best for the festive season.

JAMES A. McWHA  
Vice-Chancellor and President

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## Pony up to cut Bob's tail

There's a bounty on Professor Bob Hill's head! In fact, it's really his ponytail that could fetch a high price.

The Executive Dean of the Faculty of Sciences has had a ponytail almost all of the time since his undergraduate days. He has now agreed to have it cut off to raise funds for the Brain Foundation (SA), supporting research into brain disorders, diseases and injury.

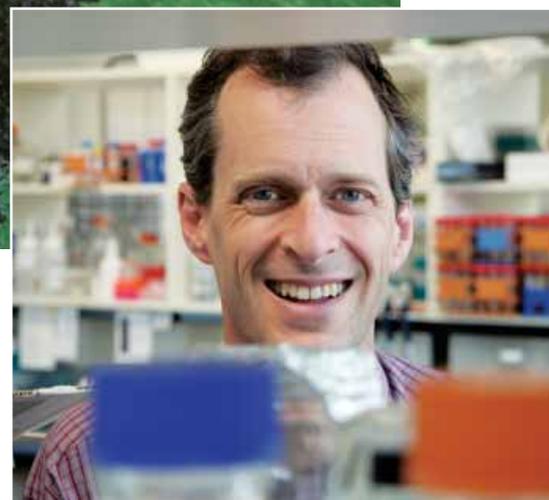
"I always knew it [the ponytail] would go one day – this seems like a good excuse to do it," Professor Hill said.

You can help the University of Adelaide raise funds for this worthy cause by pledging a donation. There will be prizes for the Largest Individual Donation and Largest Group Donation.

The official haircut will take place on 16 March.

For more information, visit:  
[www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au/ponytail](http://www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au/ponytail)





# \$25 million for world-class biotech facility

## Science

Two major grants – \$15 million from the Federal Government and \$10 million from the South Australian Government – have been awarded to help create a new plant research facility aimed at boosting agricultural research and the plant biotech industry.

The National Plant Phenomics Facility, which consists of the Plant Accelerator to be established in Adelaide and the High Resolution Plant Phenomics Centre in Canberra, will be the first of its kind in the public sector anywhere in the world.

The collaborative national facility will be led by Professor Mark Tester at the University of Adelaide and involves research partners at CSIRO Plant Industry and the Australian National University (ANU), as well as industry groups and Federal and South Australian government departments.

Federal Government funding for the national facility was announced recently by the Minister for Education, Science and Training, the Hon. Julie Bishop MP. The State Government funding, announced by the Minister for Science and Information Economy, the Hon. Karlene Maywald MP, will go towards the establishment of the Plant Accelerator in Adelaide.

"This national facility will be world class in every respect and will provide a competitive edge for Australia's \$27 billion annual agriculture export industry," said Professor Tester, Federation Fellow with the University of Adelaide's School of Agriculture, Food and Wine.

"The facility will allow researchers to respond more quickly to market needs; it will increase the quality of plant science research and accelerate the transfer of research advances to the benefit of the agricultural industry."

Above: A possible design of the new Plant Accelerator at the University's Waite Campus  
Image courtesy of Capital Architecture Pty Ltd

Right: Professor Mark Tester  
Photo by Chris Tonkin

"Particularly exciting is the potential for making key discoveries relating to salinity and drought tolerance, factors which significantly limit crop production worldwide."

The Plant Accelerator, which will be located at the University of Adelaide's Waite Campus, will use robotic techniques to take 3D images of plants, recording their size, colour and temperature, providing an insight into overall plant health. The Plant Accelerator will consist of a series of hi-tech greenhouses and laboratories that can accommodate 160,000 plants a year.

"This high-throughput facility will be available for all Australian plant scientists and will greatly assist our researchers in 'phenotyping' plants – that is, identifying the role of each plant gene in the function of the whole plant," said Professor Geoff Fincher, Director of the University of Adelaide's Waite Campus.

The High Resolution Phenomics Technology Centre will be located in Canberra at CSIRO Plant Industry and ANU. This facility will adapt and apply the next generation of research tools to probe plant function and performance, under controlled

conditions and in the field. Recent advances in robotics, imaging and computing will be used in applying these technologies.

"Phenomics has the potential to revolutionise the way that researchers tackle key issues in plant and agricultural biology," said Dr Jeremy Burdon, Chief of CSIRO Plant Industry.

"Research at the facility will aid the development of new crops for improved human health or for novel uses such as pharmaceuticals, and also improve sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation."

The combined \$25 million in government funding will go towards the total of almost \$50 million needed to establish the national facility, with the remainder of the funding expected to come from partner institutions, industry and other government sources.

The University of Adelaide's Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McWha, said the University's world-famous Waite Campus continued to reap rewards for industry and the community.

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# Bright light on the cancer horizon

## Health Sciences

One in four people reading this story will die of cancer. It's a statistic that Dr Agatha Labrinidis is reminded of every day as she looks down the barrel of a microscope.

But the postdoctoral researcher is hopeful she can help lengthen those odds in a relatively short time.

Dr Labrinidis is part of the Bone Cancer Research Group working within the Orthopaedics Department headed by Dr Andreas Evdokiou and Professor David Findlay at the University of Adelaide.

Thanks to a recent grant from the Australian Research Council, which has enabled purchase of state-of-the-art equipment for the University's Adelaide Microscopy unit, Dr Labrinidis now has access to Australia's leading technology in this area.

The new equipment allows researchers to evaluate new drugs in animal models of cancer. It gives much more information than conventional equipment and also dramatically reduces the number of animals needed for research.

Using an In-Vivo Fluorescence/bioluminescence Imaging System and a Live Animal X-Ray Micro Computed Tomography, she is testing new drugs to treat bone cancer, particularly breast and prostate cancers that often metastasize to the bone.

"One in eight people in their lives will either be diagnosed with breast cancer or prostate cancer. Once it moves to the bone it is very aggressive and much harder to treat," she said.

"Our main aim is to look at new treatments for cancer once it is in the bone because at that stage it causes extreme pain and people are susceptible to fracture as the bone dissolves."

Cancer cells are injected into a strain of mice with very low immune systems, and the growth of the tumour is tracked so that researchers can see the beginning of bone loss (osteolysis). New drugs are then trialled on the mice, and their effect on the tumour itself and on the bone destruction is measured.

The In-Vivo Imaging System scans mice that have been injected with luminescent-tagged cancer cells. The cells in the bone give off a stronger light as the cancer grows and this

also helps researchers to measure tumour growth.

"Again, with treatment, we can see the tumour shrink. The results we are getting with both pieces of equipment are very encouraging," Dr Labrinidis said. "It's the best motivation in the world when you get positive outcomes like this."

After graduating from the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Genetics and Biochemistry, Dr Labrinidis completed her Honours at the SA Museum. She then worked for SARDI in the DNA field crop lab before returning to the University to complete her PhD, researching novel therapeutic interventions for osteosarcoma (bone-derived cancer).

"I finished my PhD in 2005 and had a couple of job offers in Melbourne. However, I was very keen to stay in Adelaide because I knew this equipment would put us in the forefront of national and international cancer research in this area. It's an opportunity I couldn't pass up."

The National Breast Cancer Foundation, the Cancer Council SA and the NHMRC are funding Dr Labrinidis' postdoctoral work under the supervision of Dr Evdokiou.



Agatha Labrinidis  
Story and photo by Candy Gibson

# Jazz pianist gets her big break

## Music

A University of Adelaide music student has been awarded one of the nation's most respected prizes for unsigned artists, taking out the Jazz category at the 2006 Musicoz Awards in Sydney.

The Deanna Djuric Trio won the RODE Microphones Best Jazz Artist Award ahead of four other finalists from around Australia.

The founder of the trio, Deanna Djuric, is a graduate of the Elder Conservatorium jazz course, where she studied piano. She is currently doing her Masters in Music Performance at the Conservatorium.

Deanna is a prolific young composer and arranger, and her song

Angelina's Dance was the winning entry in the Musicoz Awards. Elder Conservatorium graduates Mario Marino (drums) and Sam Riley (bass) are also members of the trio.

Deanna was awarded a RODE microphone valued at more than \$1200, and a spot on a compilation CD of all the 2006 Musicoz winners, which is circulated throughout the music industry in Australia, the United States and Europe.

"It's a fantastic feeling to have won the Musicoz Award. This was exactly the kind of encouragement and acknowledgment I needed to realise that I'm on the right track," Deanna said.

"The exposure from the winners' CD is considerable in the industry," she said.



Deanna Djuric receiving her award  
Photo courtesy of Musicoz

The award is a highlight among many achievements for Deanna. She won a placing in the 2000 UNISONG International Song Contest, was the overall winner of the South Australian World Vision 2000 Gospel Eisteddfod, was a nominee for the APRA Jazz Development Award in 2001 and

again in 2005, and won a placing in the 2002 American Songwriting Contest.

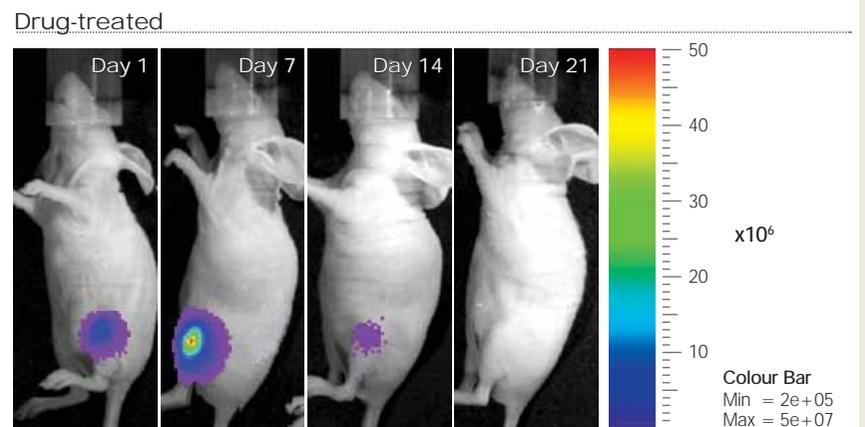
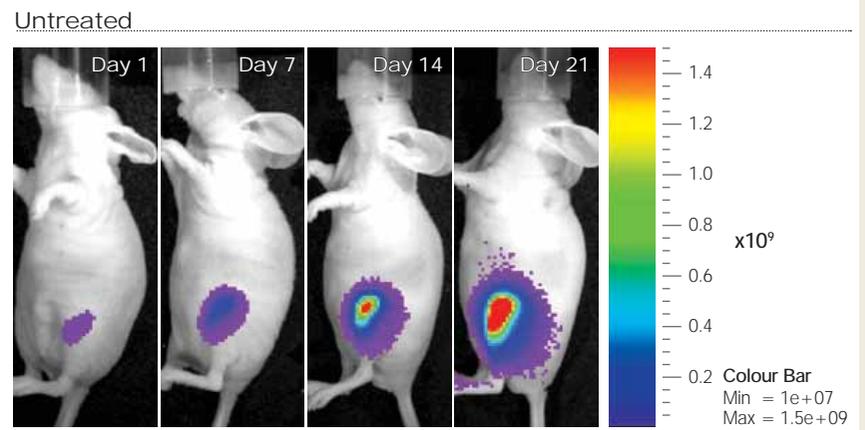
In 2004, Deanna was awarded a Professional Development Grant and an Emerging Artist Award from Arts SA that enabled her to travel to the US and be mentored by outstanding pianist Lynne Arriale.

"Studying in the US gave me some encouragement, which is why I decided to do the Masters in Music Performance. I wanted to take my playing to the next level of refinement," she said.

The Deanna Djuric Trio, formed last year, has already made a name for itself around Adelaide, having performed during the Adelaide Fringe Festival, the East End Jazz Festival, the COMA Hipnote Spring Sessions, and the Adelaide Festival Centre's "Sunday Spectrum".

The trio has been invited to perform on 12 December at the Melbourne Women's International Jazz Festival, to be held at Melbourne's premier jazz club, Bennett's Lane.

Story by David Ellis



# Quick mind delays ageing

## ■ Psychology

What makes one person age faster than another? Nutrition and lifestyle certainly come into play but there's another factor that is just as important, according to psychology researcher Tess Gregory.

It appears that a quick mind is a key predictor in ageing.

Ms Gregory completed the research for her PhD in late October and presented her findings to the Emerging Researchers in Ageing Conference in Sydney on November 21.

Her thesis examined two major areas of research: physiological changes in the ageing process (blood pressure, sight, height, weight, strength) and cognitive abilities (general knowledge, vocabulary, problem solving).

A study of 127 elderly people (aged 70+ years) over an 18-month period revealed that the time it took them to process simple tasks was a reliable indicator of how they performed in other areas.

Psychology researcher Tess Gregory  
Photo by Candy Gibson

Speed of processing measured at the beginning of the project and change in speed across six months helped to predict the extent of cognitive decline.

This is the first biomarker study that has investigated speed of processing tasks that did not rely on reaction time, Ms Gregory said.

"My results show that physiological measures alone are not a reliable indicator in ageing."

The elderly people involved in the study completed questionnaires about diet, life satisfaction, motivation, daily activities and health. It also took into consideration simple tests to determine vocabulary, general knowledge, memory, speed of thought, reasoning and paying attention. Physiological factors such as height, weight, blood pressure and hand strength were also measured.

Professor Ted Nettelbeck, Head of the School of Psychology, and Dr Carlene Wilson, Senior Research Scientist from the CSIRO, supervised Ms Gregory, who completed an undergraduate degree in Maths and Computer Science, majoring in Statistics and Psychology, before doing her Honours and PhD.

Story by Candy Gibson

# Education Minister tours Roseworthy

## ■ Science

Federal Education Minister the Hon. Julie Bishop has praised the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus for its animal science facilities and close community ties.

During a tour of the campus recently, organised by Federal Member for Wakefield the Hon. David Fawcett, Ms Bishop was briefed on a feasibility study investigating a proposed Veterinary School for the campus.

If the program is endorsed by the University Council and the Federal Government, it will offer places in an undergraduate pre-veterinary stream in 2008 and places in the postgraduate stream from 2011.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Fred McDougall said the program would require an estimated 40 Commonwealth-supported places as well as international and domestic fee-based places.

Consultations with State secondary schools, veterinarians, animal-related industries in South Australia and other universities have identified strong and widespread support for the concept.

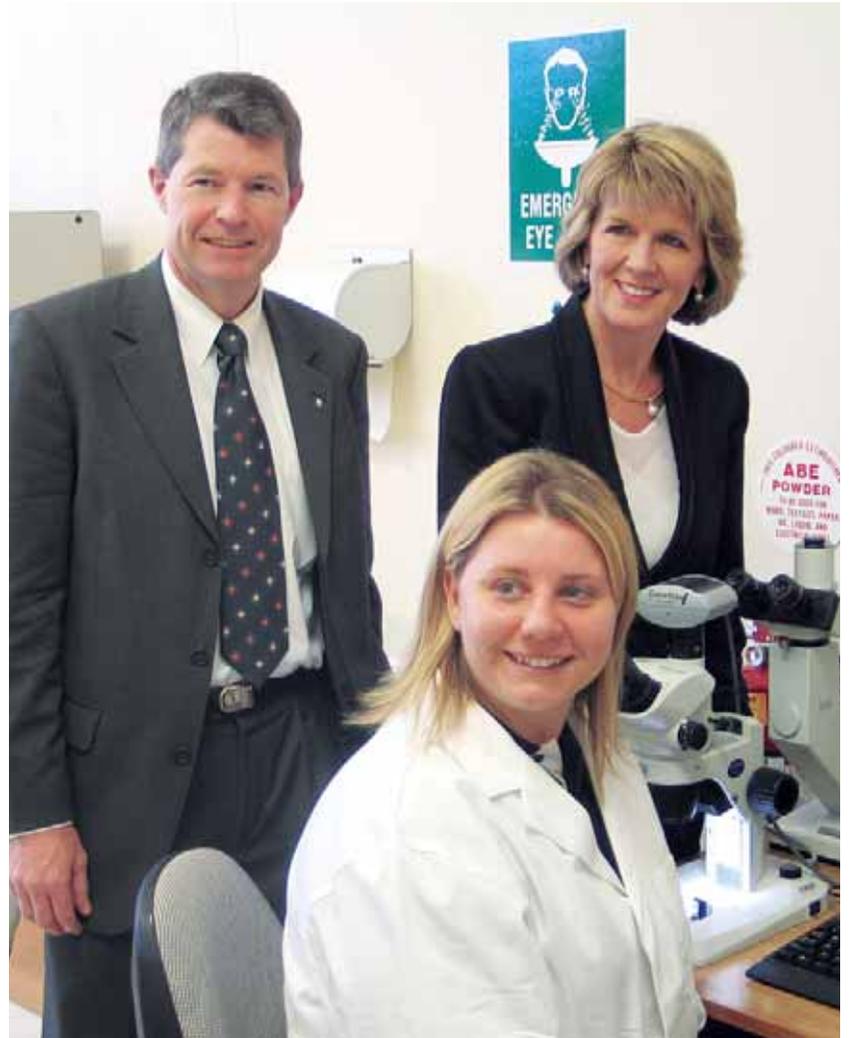
"Existing facilities at Roseworthy and around the State will be used, but additional funding will be required to construct the necessary veterinary specific training facilities," Professor McDougall said.

The proposed Veterinary School will focus its research and teaching on biosecurity, aquaculture, production animals and equine health. It will aim at achieving international accreditation as a priority.

"There is a strong demand for more rural, large animal vets in South Australia, and the emergence of new animal industries, such as aquaculture, requires vets trained in diseases of farmed seafoods," Professor McDougall said.

"Working together with existing veterinary programs around Australia and offering specialisations that are currently not available, the Adelaide program will provide opportunities for more rounded veterinarians across the country."

South Australia is the only mainland State not offering a veterinary science degree, despite strong demand from high-quality school leavers.



"The Minister was impressed with the facilities at Roseworthy and the quality and range of research into animal science," Professor McDougall said.

Federal Education Minister the Hon. Julie Bishop pictured with the Federal Member for Wakefield, the Hon. David Fawcett, and technical officer Kylie Chenoweth

Photo by Lisa Edwards

# Gold stars for MBA program

## ■ Business

The University of Adelaide has scored a maximum five-star rating for its two MBA programs, achieving equal top ranking in Australia for its business courses.

The ranking, awarded by the Graduate Management Association of Australia (GMAA), appears in the 2007 edition of the Good Universities Guide to MBA and Executive Short Courses.

Adelaide joins the ranks of seven other universities to be awarded five stars for its short, 12-course MBA program and, along with the University of Western Australia, has also been awarded five stars for its long, 16-course MBA (Advanced) program.

The Head of the Adelaide Graduate School of Business, Professor Graham Hubbard, said it was an outstanding result for the University.

"The addition of a Careers Adviser, the pursuit of AACSB accreditation, high salary levels of graduates and the increased qualifications of our staff have all lifted us into the top ranking," Professor Hubbard said.

Closer ties with the business community in the past year are also credited with the University's performance.

The GMAA is Australia's umbrella association for graduates having MBAs, DBAs and other postgraduate management qualifications. It uses data to produce an index of the quality of each of the approximately 80 MBA courses provided by some 40 universities in Australia to onshore students.

Criteria taken into account include the structure of the program, links with the business community and international schools, the size, diversity and experience of academic staff, student support facilities, entry requirements, online facilities, course length and content.

Story by Candy Gibson



# Heart research gets funding boost



## ■ Research

The University of Adelaide and its partners have been awarded more than \$736,000 by the National Heart Foundation of Australia to undertake cardiovascular research projects over the next two years.

Seven South Australian projects have been given the green light by the Heart Foundation's Grants-In-Aid program, which this year awarded more than \$2.4 million to 41 groups across Australia.

"This a fantastic result when compared with the rest of the country," said the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Alan Johnson.

"The Heart Foundation receives in excess of 200 applications every year for Grants-In-Aid and to achieve this level of funding is exceptional."

The University of Adelaide's Professor of Cardiology, Prash Sanders, submitted one of the nation's highest ranked applications, for research into the role of the coronary sinus in heart rhythm disorders, which affects 2% of the population and causes strokes, blackouts and heart failure. Professor Sanders also holds the prestigious Knapman Chair of Cardiology, which is funded by the Heart Foundation.

Other successful projects to be awarded to the University of Adelaide and its co-investigators include:

- Professor Jennifer Gamble (Hanson Institute, IMVS) for research into blood vessel leakiness;
- Associate Professor Charles Hii (Children, Youth and Women's Health Service) for research into the role that fish oil plays in protecting against heart disease;

The role of fish oil in protecting against heart disease is one of the research projects funded by the National Heart Foundation

- Dr Vivienne Moore (University of Adelaide), who will study how the diet of pregnant women affects their children's blood pressure in later life;
- Dr Peter Meikle (Children, Youth and Women's Health Service) for research into early detection of heart disease;
- Professor John Horowitz (University of Adelaide, Queen Elizabeth Hospital), who will study the anti-inflammatory effects of new treatments for heart failure.

The funding result represents a 44% success rate for the University of Adelaide, compared with the national success rate of 23% for the Grants-In-Aid program.

"This is the most successful outcome for the University in the last six years," Professor Johnson said. "It is more than double the amount we received last year and demonstrates the reputation and extremely high standard of our research."

Story by Candy Gibson

# New pathway into professional psychology

## ■ Psychology

The University of Adelaide is introducing a new pathway into the psychology profession from 2007.

A new Graduate Diploma in Psychology will be open to bachelor degree graduates of any discipline who have prerequisite introductory psychology studies.

The Graduate Diploma will allow students to proceed to Honours Psychology, the basic academic requirement for registration as a psychologist, or to pursue further postgraduate studies in the field.

"The Graduate Diploma in Psychology offers those who haven't been pursuing academic studies towards a career in psychology a new option to do so," said the Head of the School of Psychology, Professor Ted Nettelbeck.

"It will also help develop our research and higher degree student intake, and broaden the already strong research interests in our School."

The prerequisites for the Graduate Diploma in Psychology are Psychology 1A and Psychology 1B or equivalent. A summer semester course is available from early January to mid February 2007 for



students who haven't completed these subjects.

"In recent years the employment prospects for psychologists have been good in comparison to many other university graduates, and projections of future employment prospects continue to be comparatively strong," Professor Nettelbeck said.

Further details are available at [www.adelaide.edu.au/psychology/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/psychology/) or contact Associate Professor Amanda LeCouteur, School of Psychology: [amanda.lecouteur@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:amanda.lecouteur@adelaide.edu.au) or phone (08) 8303 5557.

Story by Robyn Mills



# National teaching award for water expert

Associate Professor Holger Maier (right) with some of his students, Liam Harnett, Meredith Gee, and Brittany Coff (at front) on the banks of the Torrens River  
Photo by Greg Adams, courtesy of *The Advertiser*

## Teaching

A University of Adelaide academic renowned for his work in water resources and environmental management has been awarded one of the most prestigious teaching prizes in Australia.

Associate Professor Holger Maier has been presented with a \$25,000 Australian University Award for Teaching Excellence by the Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education at a ceremony in Parliament House, Canberra.

The prize honours the nation's most outstanding university teachers in their fields.

Described as "an exemplary practitioner of student-centred teaching", Associate Professor Maier from the School of Civil & Environmental Engineering

teaches in water resources and environmental engineering. He is internationally renowned for his research into sustainable water resources and infrastructure management.

Assoc. Prof. Maier has been able to successfully integrate his research and professional knowledge into his teaching and has been a pioneer in developing a number of innovative approaches to teaching. These include online role-play simulations and other active learning methods for developing technical and generic graduate attributes.

He is the co-developer of the multi award-winning Mekong e-Sim, an online role-play simulation designed to enhance students' problem-solving abilities and help them experience the impact of engineering projects on society.

With the aid of funding from the University of Adelaide, Assoc. Prof. Maier is currently assisting other

areas within the university to adopt the e-Sim model. For example, the e-Sim concept has already been used by Adelaide nursing students to simulate a response to a bomb explosion in the outback, requiring them to develop procedures to cope with such a disaster.

"The Mekong eSim helps students learn that engineering is not about sitting at a desk with a calculator. It's about communicating and learning real-world skills that can be used to tackle complex environmental and water resources problems, such as those currently experienced in Australia," Assoc. Prof. Maier said.

Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide Professor James McWha said Assoc. Prof. Maier recognised early in his teaching that students needed an "authentic learning and assessment environment to engage their interest and develop their cognitive, social and emotional character".

"He is always seeking improvements in his teaching and is never content to rest on past achievements. He is an inspirational example of a professional engineer, who generates original research and uses this scholarly basis to excite his students."

In 2002 Assoc. Prof. Maier was awarded a Stephen Cole the Elder Prize for Excellence in Teaching – the highest honour bestowed within the University of Adelaide for teaching excellence. He was also the Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching) in the Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences.

Professor McWha says Assoc. Prof. Maier's award caps off an exceptional year for the University's teaching staff, who have also received one Associate Fellowship and seven Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning.

Story by Candy Gibson

# Excellence in teaching rewarded

## ■ Teaching

The winners have been announced for the University of Adelaide's premier teaching awards.

The Stephen Cole the Elder Prizes for Excellence in Teaching and the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence will be presented to academic staff at this month's graduation ceremonies.

The Stephen Cole the Elder Prizes were first presented in 1991. The prizes were established through a bequest to the University by Mrs Isabella Cole Weinberg, who was born at Kingston, South Australia, in 1895.

Stephen Cole the Elder, a South Australian pioneer, was Isabella's maternal grandfather and she was his last living descendant. She chose to honour him by leaving a bequest to the University upon her death.

Up to four prizes can be awarded each year in undergraduate, postgraduate and team teaching categories.

### This year, three winners were selected:

- **Dr Greg Metha**  
(Chemistry) – undergraduate teaching in the first five years of his career;
- **Ms Lucy Potter**  
(English) – undergraduate teaching; and
- **Dr Tracey Winning**  
(Dentistry) – undergraduate teaching.

### Four high commendations were also awarded to:

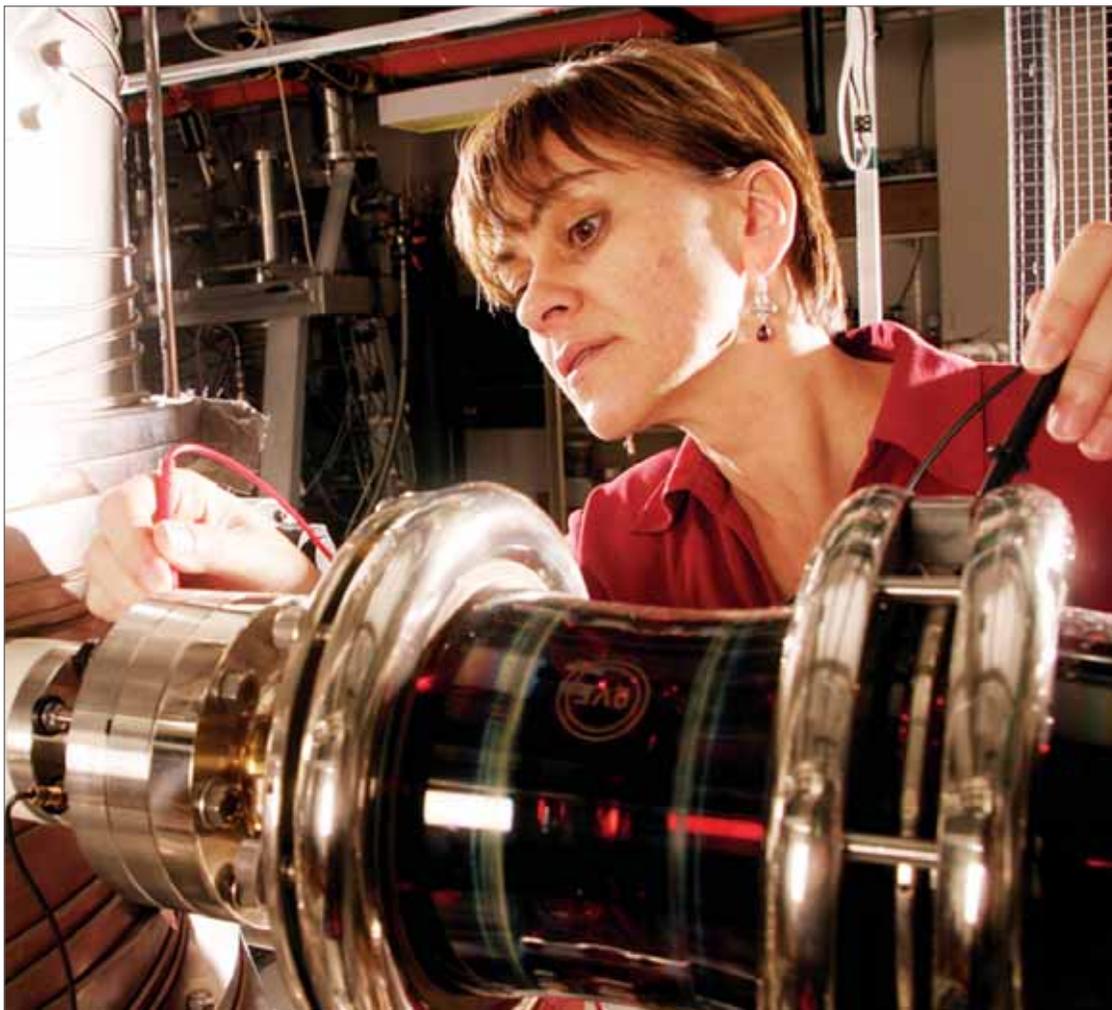
- **Ms Elizabeth Koch**  
(Elder Conservatorium of Music);
- **Associate Professor Maree O'Keefe**  
(Paediatrics);
- **Dr Anthony Pohl**  
(Orthopaedics and Trauma); and
- **Dr Simon Pyke**  
(Chemistry).

"Nominations for the prizes this year were a clear indication of how many excellent teachers we have in the University, and how highly regarded they are by their students and colleagues," said the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Fred McDougall.

The Vice-Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence was first awarded last year, with the winner of the award chosen from the winners of the Stephen Cole the Elder Prizes.

This year, Ms Lucy Potter and Dr Tracey Winning have jointly won the honour in recognition of their student-centred focus and all round teaching excellence.

Guidelines for applying for the 2007 awards will be available in February 2007. For general information about the awards, contact Barbara Brougham, phone (08) 8303 7457 or email: [barbara.brougham@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:barbara.brougham@adelaide.edu.au)



# New PVC puts focus on learning, quality

## ■ Appointments

The University of Adelaide has appointed Professor Birgit Lohmann to the newly created position of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Quality) in a bid to enhance Adelaide's already strong reputation in these areas.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Quality) is a senior leadership role aimed at strengthening the University's performance in its core values of learning, teaching, and quality assurance.

Professor Lohmann is currently Director of the Centre for Quantum Dynamics and a former head of the School of Science at Griffith University. Her research interests are in electron and positron (antimatter) physics.

A graduate of the University of Adelaide (First-Class Honours in Science, 1979) and Flinders University (PhD in Atomic and Molecular Physics, 1984), Professor Lohmann has been with Griffith University since 1990. She has been involved in efforts to recognise and boost excellence in learning and teaching at Griffith.

"I am very pleased to be joining the University of Adelaide, one of the foremost universities

in Australia, with an enviable national and international reputation in teaching and research," Professor Lohmann said.

"I look forward to working with students and staff to further enhance the University's already excellent reputation in learning and teaching."

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Fred McDougall said the high quality of education offered by the University of Adelaide would strengthen with this appointment.

"We need to keep a focus at all times on the provision of a quality education, to provide students and staff with the best support possible, and to remain innovative and responsive to community needs," Professor McDougall said.

"I welcome Professor Lohmann to this new position and look forward to working with her to achieve those aims."

Professor Lohmann will commence her position at the University of Adelaide in February 2007.

Story by David Ellis

Above: Professor Birgit Lohmann conducting research at Griffith University  
Photo courtesy of Griffith University

## Students learn from ballet

The Australian Ballet recently held a closed dress rehearsal attended by composition students from the University of Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium of Music.

The students' attendance at the rehearsal of *Raymonda*, at Adelaide's Festival Theatre, was the product of an innovative collaboration between the Australian Ballet and the Conservatorium. It is one of a number of joint activities being pursued under a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions.

The Conservatorium's undergraduate composition students have been studying a 'Music and Dance: Practical, Theoretical and Historical Perspectives' course, organised by Professor Graeme Koehne, which is intended to introduce them to the skills necessary to compose music for dance.

Insights gleaned from watching the ballet in rehearsal were further explored during a seminar, which featured the Australian Ballet's Artistic Director, David McAllister OAM, and Music Director and Chief Conductor Nicolette Fraillon.

"The 'Music For Ballet' course provides the students with the technical expertise to enable them to compose for ballet, and through the generosity of the Australian Ballet it also gives them an invaluable network of contacts with Australia's pre-eminent performing arts organisation," said Professor Koehne.



Percussionist Ryan Sim  
Photo by Ben Searcy

# Ryan wins annual award

## Music

Percussionist Ryan Sim, an Elder Conservatorium honours student, has been awarded \$1200 after winning the prestigious Beta Sigma Phi Music Awards last month.

Ryan was one of four finalists in an annual competition open to all undergraduate and honours students at the University's Elder Conservatorium of Music.

Along with second placegetter, talented cellist Louise McKay, and the two other finalists, tenor Robert Macfarlane and trumpeter Benn Blake, Ryan performed before a capacity crowd in the last Friday Lunch Hour Concert in Elder Hall on 17 November.

Delia Lane, President of Beta Sigma Phi – a women's organisation with interest in the arts and current affairs – and Professor Charles Bodman Rae, Director of the Elder

Conservatorium, announced the prizewinners at the culmination of the concert.

Russian pianist Rem Urasin will launch the 2007 Lunch Hour Concert series with a recital on Friday 2 March in Elder Hall at 1.10pm. Urasin won the People's Choice Awards and was runner-up at the 2004 Sydney International Piano Competition. Detailed concert brochures will be available in mid January.

# Council awards four scholarships

## Scholarships

Four University of Adelaide undergraduate students were recently awarded the City of West Torrens Max and Bette Mendelson Foundation Scholarships at a presentation ceremony in the West Torrens Civic Centre.

The annual scholarships provide students who live in the council area with financial support for a year of their undergraduate studies, at a value of \$3000 per student per year.

The scholarships are a joint initiative of the City of West Torrens Council

and two of the area's most generous former residents, Max and Bette Mendelson.

The Council inaugurated the scholarship scheme in 1992 to assist residents who wished to undertake tertiary studies, and were partnered by the Mendelsons soon after. Mr and Mrs Mendelson, having no children of their own, wanted their estate to benefit the wider community and so decided to bequeath their estate to the Council in order to enlarge the existing scholarship scheme.

In 2006, the scholarships were awarded to four students from each of the South Australian universities.

This year's University of Adelaide recipients are Sanjay Schrapel (Bachelor of Economics/Bachelor of Law), Matthew Del Fante (Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery), Victor Draghicescu (Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Law) and Andrew Moschou (Bachelor of Engineering (Aerospace)/Bachelor of Mathematical & Computer Sciences).

The Hon. John Trainer, Mayor of the City of West Torrens, hosted the presentation ceremony. The Guest of Honour, Ian Webber AO, presented the scholarships and addressed the scholarship winners and guests. Mr Webber is a University of Adelaide engineering graduate and is one of South Australia's most successful

businessmen, whose credits include directorships of some of Australia's most well-known companies, including Mitsubishi, Santos and WMC.

Competition for the annual scholarships is high. Successful applicants have usually achieved outstanding academic results. Other criteria include residence in the City of West Torrens for at least five years prior to the application date.

For more information about the City of West Torrens Max and Bette Mendelson Foundation Scholarships, visit: [www.adelaide.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/scholarships). Applications for 2007 will open in March of next year.

Story by Lana Guineay



# Endangered wallaby comes home

## ■ Science

A decision made 140 years ago has set PhD student Leah Kemp on a mission to help save one of South Australia's most endangered animals.

For the past three years Leah has worked in collaboration with the SA Department for Environment & Heritage and Monarto and Adelaide Zoos on a project to re-introduce the mainland South Australian Tammar Wallaby (*Macropus eugenii eugenii*).

The 27-year-old Environmental Biology student is in the final stages of a research project to assess the habitat use, movements, social groupings and diet of the first population of Tammar Wallabies repatriated to mainland South Australia from New Zealand.

Tammar Wallabies became extinct on mainland South Australia in the 1920s due to loss of habitat and fox predation.

Prior to their disappearance, former SA Governor (1841-1845) Sir George Grey was so taken with the Tammar Wallaby that he shipped some to Kawau Island near Auckland when he was appointed Governor of New Zealand in 1862.

Ironically, the Tammar Wallabies taken to the predator-free Kawau Island some 140 years ago have thrived and are now declared a pest. Had it not been for Sir Grey's actions, the mainland sub-species would have been lost forever.

In late 2003 the Federal and State Governments developed a cooperative program to reintroduce the Tammar Wallaby to South Australia. Eighty-five wallabies were repatriated from New Zealand and held in quarantine in Monarto Zoological Gardens pending an assessment of their health. A captive breeding program there has helped boost the numbers considerably.

Leah's involvement with the project started in July 2003. Fourteen months later, 10 Tammar Wallabies



Left: Leah Kemp pictured with a Tammar Wallaby at Innes National Park

on the task of radio tracking the wallabies.

Teams of people from Conservation Volunteers Australia have also helped out with Leah's project, which involves tracking the wallabies' movements all night, for up to a month at a time, and learning about their habitat use, home range, and foraging and social habits.

Despite foxes depleting their numbers, some have thrived and developed strong survival skills for their new environment.

"We even have some third generation Tammar Wallabies who are healthy and adjusting well," Leah said.

The reintroduction of the Tammars to Innes National Park is the first stage of an experimental project to reintroduce the species to other suitable mainland sites.

Leah expects to complete her PhD in mid 2007.

Story by Candy Gibson

were released into Innes National Park on the Yorke Peninsula. Since then, two more groups have been released into the park – 36 wallabies in June 2005 and another 36 in October 2006.

With the help of her supervisors – Dr Sue Carthew, Acting Head of the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, and Dr Greg Johnston, senior research scientist from the Adelaide Zoo – Leah has taken

# Defence strengths Adelaide leading the charge

## Joint forces winning the skills



continued from page 1

"This program represents an excellent example of industry and the University working closely together to create real benefits for the State and the nation," Professor McWha said.

The postgraduate program has been made possible through funding from the Defence Materiel Organisation's Skilling Australia's Defence Industry Initiative. The degree was officially launched recently by South Australian Senator Cory Bernardi at ASC's submarine facility at Osborne, north of Adelaide.

The Master of Marine Engineering is the only degree of its kind in Australia. The postgraduate degree is delivered by the University of Adelaide and ASC, with graduates receiving a formal University of Adelaide qualification upon completing the program.



ASC Managing Director Greg Tunny

The Masters program comprises 12 courses (or subjects), comparable to an 18-month full-time program of study.

The program fills an education gap for naval defence engineers, qualifies them to higher degree level and provides an incentive to attract new recruits and retain experienced personnel in the defence industry.

The program consists of three types of courses:

- core program courses in either submarines or naval ships;
- foundation courses in appropriate engineering streams, such as structural, mechanical and electrical engineering; and
- elective courses.

A Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma in Marine Engineering will also be offered by the University of Adelaide in addition to the Masters degree.

## New centre targets defence communication

The University of Adelaide has established a new industry-focused centre that aims to play a key role in Australia's growing defence sector.

The Centre for Defence Communications and Information Networking (CDCIN) specialises in research, consulting and defence capability, with an emphasis on advanced communications systems.

The centre was launched recently by Defence Materiel Advocate Major General Jim Molan, who was Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations at the Multinational Force Headquarters in Iraq during 2004 and 2005.

The launch was held at the National Wine Centre prior to the start of an all-day

defence communications symposium. The symposium, DEF.NET 2006, attracted participants nationally from industry, government, military and universities.

The CDCIN builds on the skills of key staff and associates, who have a combined experience of more than 100 years in industry, government and academia throughout the world.

"The need for such a centre became apparent to us earlier this year," said Professor Michael Rumsewicz, the Director of CDCIN.

"Our research and consulting services were increasingly being engaged by key defence players, and the South Australian





The University of Adelaide has many areas of strength that relate specifically to the defence and security industries.

Earlier this year, the University launched the new **Centre of Expertise in Photonics** – part of a strategic alliance between the University and the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO), with support from the South Australian Government. The centre is leading the world in the development of a new generation of optical fibres for application to defence electronics.

Other areas of research expertise at the University include:

**Centre of Expertise in Phased Array and Microwave Radar Systems (CEPAMiR)** – a joint venture between DSTO and the University of Adelaide. The centre underpins efforts by DSTO and Australian industry to tackle practical engineering problems associated with the design, development and integration of the next generation phased array systems with application to radar, electronic warfare and satellite navigation.

**Centre of Robotics and Mechatronics (CRM)** – a centre combining expertise from the mechanical and electronic spheres. This centre will focus on unmanned vehicles (air, land and sub-surface).

**Australian Centre for Visual Technologies (ACVT)** – aims to promote innovation and education in the use of computer-based technologies for the production and analysis of digital media. Technologies include networked video surveillance and 3D rendering with application in the defence and security industries, as well as the film and entertainment industries.

**Human Factors (Psychology)** – the University has a number of key personnel focused on research in human factors to enhance the decision-making process, including areas such as cognition, perception, and neuropsychology.

**Detection and Protection (Chemical, Medical, Civil)** – security-based research in areas of blast, chemical and biological detection and protection.

**Centre for Military & Veterans' Health (CMVH)** – an internationally unique, academic, community and military partnership dedicated to seeking solutions to military and veterans' health issues through research, education and public debate. It is a collaboration of three major partners: University of Queensland, University of Adelaide and Charles Darwin University.

Participation in the **Joint Strike Fighter (JSF)** – projected to be the last manned fighter the US will ever build and is anticipated to be the single most expensive defence project in world history. The program will involve a 30-40 year program of R&D to constantly upgrade the aircraft's technology, including in some very advanced areas. The University is one of a restricted number of high-quality research universities in Australia that have been invited to pitch potentially relevant research and development capabilities to the New Air Combat Capability project team.

For more information about the University's defence and security capabilities, visit the Defence and Security Cluster website [www.adelaide.edu.au/desec/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/desec/) or contact Adelaide Research & Innovation on (08) 8303 5020, [www.adelaide.edu.au/aripl/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/aripl/)

# war



ASC staff and University of Adelaide Marine Engineering students (from left) Anthony Mansfield and Daniel Phillips standing near one of the Collins Class submarines, HMAS Waller  
Photo by Tait Schmaal, courtesy of *The Advertiser*

Government's State Defence Sector Plan called for urgent measures to meet the skills shortage in defence.

"The establishment of the new centre consolidates our core capabilities in modelling and simulation, operational analysis, and network analysis to support the emerging needs of the defence market, and cements us as a serious long-term player in the industry."

Professor Rumsewicz said the new centre was strategically important to the University of Adelaide's closer engagement with the growing defence industry in South Australia. The University's commitment is borne out by an initial investment of \$500,000 over the next three years.

DEF.NET 2006 was a one-day symposium on network-centric warfare, defence communications, and R&D. Keynote speakers at the symposium were a 'Who's Who' of Australian defence industry, including:

- Brigadier David Welch, Director General Integrated Capability Development, Capability Development Group;

- Graham Eveille, Director General Electronic Systems Integration, Defence Materiel Organisation;
- Neil Bryans, Deputy Chief Defence Scientist (Information & Weapon Systems), Defence Science & Technology Organisation (DSTO); and
- Representatives from General Dynamics Systems Australia, Thales Australia, Tenix Defence, BAE Systems and Saab Systems.

The symposium included a lunch-time panel discussion on the 'Challenges of Defence Upskilling'.

DEF.NET 2006 was sponsored by General Dynamics Systems Australia, a major international defence contractor in Australia, CEDISC, a South Australian Government initiative managed by the University of South Australia, and Adelaide Research & Innovation, the commercial development company of the University of Adelaide.

Story by David Ellis and Renee Conley



# Wine industry to benefit from echallenge win

Echallenge winners Ben Longstaff (left) and Damien Mavroudis (right) accept their prize from Hewlett-Packard Director of Finance Jack Gargano  
Photo by Ben Searcy

## ■ Innovation

A plan for an autonomous robotic system for pruning grape vines, by Team Vinetology, captured the imagination of the judges to take the top prize in the 2006 University of Adelaide Entrepreneurs' Challenge.

The Vinetology team members are Ben Longstaff, a University of Adelaide mechatronic engineering honours graduate and PhD student in image processing in the School of Mechanical Engineering, and long-time friend and Santos Commercial Adviser Damien Mavroudis. They have received \$12,500 in cash and \$15,000 in equipment from key sponsor Hewlett-Packard.

The University of Adelaide Entrepreneurs' Challenge, or echallenge, is a joint University-Hewlett Packard initiative that aims to foster the successful development of new ideas into investment-ready,

start-up companies. It is run by the University's Education Centre for Innovation and Commercialisation (ECIC).

The Vinetology concept seeks to replace hand pruning of premium grape vines with an automated system using cutting-edge vision software they are developing. This will instruct robotic equipment where and how to cut the vines – providing a significant time and cost saving for vineyards.

The team were mentored through echallenge by Bob Walter, Director, Executive Education with the University's Adelaide Graduate School of Business.

"The echallenge provided us with a great platform to help materialise what was just an idea into an industry-backed concept," Damien Mavroudis said.

"The exposure to the high quality support networks, in particular our mentor Bob Walter, provided a solid

sounding board for our concept as well as exposure to industry contacts which significantly fast-tracked our concept. ECIC Director Professor [Noel] Lindsay was also a great help."

Professor Noel Lindsay said: "The echallenge stimulates entrepreneurship and creates genuine commercial prospects for the benefit of South Australia. Echallenge celebrates and promotes innovation and entrepreneurship among our students and the outcomes exemplify the impact the University of Adelaide has in the community."

Vinetology will be using their echallenge proceeds to fund the development phase of their concept. They aim to make the automated vine pruning service a commercial reality within two years.

The annual business planning competition involves teams of up to six students, all including at least one University of Adelaide student, developing a business plan for a new previously unfunded concept.

Second place went to EnviroAir (Vince Borg, Heidi Dennis, Jennifer Varzalay, Thomas Mulraney, James Wright, Andrew Kadis) for a system combining heating with air diffusion for a fire-safe, allergy-friendly and cost-effective solution to breathing easy in the bedroom. EnviroAir also won the Vroom Award sponsored by Vroom and Associates.

Faibelle – Natural Skin Couture (Julia Beardsley, Sara Newman, Sophie Christian and Michael Dodd) won third place for a proposal for custom-made natural and effective skincare products using skin scanning technology. Faibelle also won *The Advertiser*' Market Ready award.

The People's Choice award went to Purely (Emily Humphreys and Danielle Jones) for a range of organic cotton female underwear free from the chemicals used in conventional underwear products.

Story by Robyn Mills

# Law study holds climate change warning



## ■ Law

University of Adelaide research has found governments and companies face a likely increase in law suits for their role in global warming and consequent damage to health and communities, and that these claims have a good chance of succeeding.

Researchers Dr Joseph Smith and Emeritus Professor David Shearman have reviewed the scientific evidence for the effects of global warming and analysed the legal basis of potential legal claims. They said the scientific evidence showing the "human signature" on global warming was as great as that linking cigarette smoking with cancer.

"The potential grounds of liability are now quite clear and the scientific

evidence is at a point where, in many cases, it would meet the legal requirements for civil standards of proof, that is the balance of probability being greater than 50%," Dr Smith said.

He cited the recent law suit in the US by the state of California against six major car manufacturers seeking monetary damages for their alleged contributions to global warming and the harm to the environment, economy and public health.

"Major grounds against companies could include negligence, product liability, nuisance, breach of directors' duties and liability under environmental pollution statutes. For governments, actions are likely to be based in administrative laws for failing to fulfil statutory obligations to protect the environment," Dr Smith said.

Dr Smith is a PhD candidate in the University of Adelaide's Law School and Professor David Shearman is an Emeritus Professor of Medicine and an Honorary Research Fellow. The research was funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

The research has been published by Presidian Legal Publications in a new book, *Climate Change Litigation: Analysing the law, scientific evidence and impacts on the environment, health and property.*

Professor Shearman said there was clear evidence for the effects of global warming on human health such as increasing deaths through heat stress, and injury from storm and tempest, as well as the impact of large communities losing areas of productive lands.

Story by Robyn Mills

# Trading on the future of our environment

## ■ Economics

A seminar at the University of Adelaide has explored economic incentives to encourage businesses to reduce their carbon emissions.

Four key speakers from the public and private sector addressed the Emissions Trading Seminar hosted by the University's Sustainability Research Cluster in October.

Emissions trading – an economic instrument to limit emissions – is emerging as a key factor in South Australia's efforts to reduce greenhouse gases by 60% of 1990 levels by the middle of this century.

Seminar chair Professor Christopher Findlay, Head of the School of Economics at the University of Adelaide, said the emissions trading schemes involved setting overall targets for a sector or group of companies and then letting individual companies decide how best to achieve their own target.

"Companies are given credits, or allowances, which represent the right to emit a certain amount. If they pollute beyond their allowance they must buy credits from those who pollute less.

"Companies that better their own target can trade or bank their surplus emissions. In effect, the buyer is fined for polluting, while the seller is rewarded for having reduced emissions," Professor Findlay said.

"Emissions trading is a way for the Australian economy to transition more smoothly to a carbon-constrained future and potentially link Australia to international carbon

markets. The European Union has recently established its own trading scheme and other regions and nations are actively considering it."

The four speakers were:

- Tony Beck from the Australasian Emissions Trading Forum, who outlined international and national developments and the opportunities they present for businesses;
- James White from the National Emissions Trading Taskforce, who discussed a possible scheme design for Australia;
- Paul Leadbeter from Norman Waterhouse, who discussed the use of Forest Property Agreements to offset carbon emissions; and
- Terry Teoh from Pacific Hydro, who described how emissions markets can be used to build business value.

Story by Candy Gibson

# Aboriginal language book launched

## Linguistics

The Kurna language has been brought to life in a five-year project involving University of Adelaide linguist Dr Mary-Anne Gale.

Dr Gale's collaboration with Aunty Cherie Watkins of Kurna Plains School and Jane Wilson of Soroptomist International has resulted in the publication of the *Kurna Alphabet Book*, launched at the Elizabeth school on 31 October.

The book, with attached pronunciation CD, introduces the sounds and spellings of the Kurna language through illustrative words, pictures and sound recordings. It is presented in an A5 format designed by Amy Milhinch and incorporates

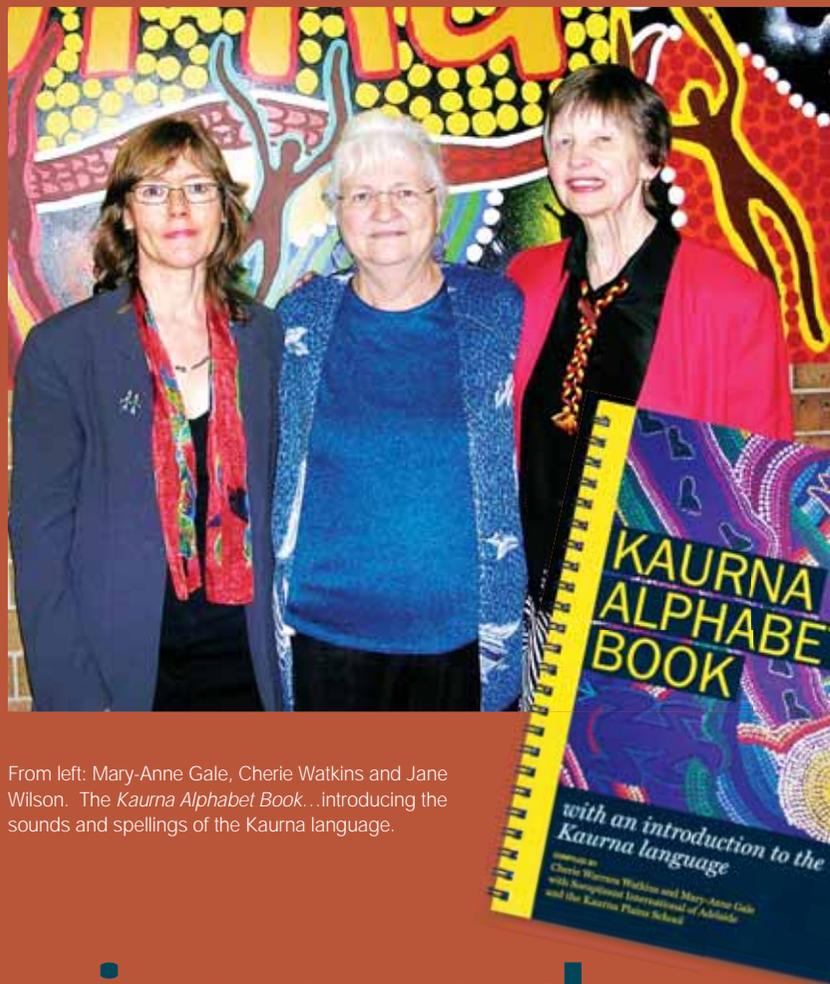
artwork by students from the Kurna Plains School.

Basic expressions, place names and common words are included in the book, illustrated with photos which are complemented by the students' artwork. A colourful CD with sound files of Aunty Cherie's pronunciation is attached to the inside back cover.

Copies of the *Kurna Alphabet Book* are available from Kurna Plains School, the only Aboriginal school in Adelaide, and Tandanya, the National Aboriginal Cultural Institute in Grenfell Street. Kurna is the indigenous language of the Adelaide Plains.

Dr Gale is a linguistics researcher in the Centre for European Studies and General Linguistics at the University of Adelaide.

Story by **Candy Gibson**



From left: Mary-Anne Gale, Cherie Watkins and Jane Wilson. The *Kurna Alphabet Book*...introducing the sounds and spellings of the Kurna language.

# CASM lecturer wins award

## Achievement

A lecturer with the University's Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM), Peter Nyangu, has received a national award for his significant contribution to indigenous peoples through education and community work.

Peter (pictured) was honoured with an Indigenous Elders Award at the national conference of the Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council in Perth last September.

Peter is an elder, traditional land owner and song owner, and an influential member within the Pitjantjatjara community. He has been teaching traditional stories, songs and dances at CASM, and has also been sharing his vast knowledge of traditional beliefs and practices.

His relationship with CASM began in 1997, providing leadership and guidance, along with Inawinytji

Williamson, within the traditional music and dance teaching program at CASM.

"We are just so delighted and so proud for Peter. He richly deserves this award," said CASM's Academic Programs Coordinator, Jenny Newsome.

"Peter has tirelessly supported the teaching of traditional knowledge and performance in CASM over the past years, both through his leadership and teaching in the University, and also in the Lands, where he has facilitated the annual CASM 'inma' program.

"CASM students and staff this year had the great honour of visiting Peter in his homeland at Ngarutjara, the heartland of the ngintaka (perentie) story and song line in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Lands.

"Peter is greatly loved in his special role at CASM, and is known affectionately as CASM 'tjamu' (grandfather). He is a true inspiration to both students and staff alike," she said.





# Indigenous employment

## ■ Commitment

The University of Adelaide has launched a strategy to help boost indigenous participation and employment across the full range of University activities.

The key objective of the strategy is to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment at all levels of academic and professional positions.

As an initial boost to the strategy, the University will fund the appointment of three academic and four professional indigenous staff and a package of postgraduate scholarships and graduate and career opportunities for indigenous people.

"The social, educational and economic disadvantage experienced

by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is apparent in the continuing under-representation of indigenous people across the higher education sector," said the University of Adelaide's Vice-Chancellor, Professor James McWha.

"With our campuses on Kurna land, with the relationships we have already forged with indigenous communities and our work through the Centre for Australian Indigenous Research and Studies, the University of Adelaide is in a unique position to take a leadership role in re-dressing this under-representation. And as one of the State's largest employers we have a responsibility to further the employment and career opportunities for indigenous people within our own organisation."

A key component of the Strategy is a strong commitment to consultation and collaboration with

Among those at the launch of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy were (from left) Lowitja O'Donoghue AC, CBE, Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha and Professor Roger Thomas, Director of the Centre for Australian Indigenous Research & Studies

**Photo by David Ellis**

indigenous staff and communities, external organisations and agencies representing the interests of indigenous people.

"This will be crucial in maximising employment and career development outcomes, particularly in involving communities from regional areas," said Professor McWha. "We want to ensure indigenous employees have ownership of the program, so it will be relevant and successful for others."

**Story by Robyn Mills  
Art by Karen Briggs**



# The good oil on Adelaide's expertise

## ■ Petroleum

The University of Adelaide has created history by becoming the only university in the world to win a prestigious prize for the second time at the *World Oil Awards* in Texas.

The University was named as one of three beneficiaries of the awards sponsor, *World Oil* magazine, the leading international journal for the oil and gas sector. The other two beneficiaries were the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa and the University of Wyoming in the United States.

It is the second time that the University of Adelaide has been awarded funding at this event, making history.

Run by the world's leading magazine for the exploration, drilling and production sector, *World Oil* announced 11 winners from around the globe at the fifth annual black-tie dinner in Houston, Texas, in October.

"The awards honour outstanding accomplishments in the industry and also donate thousands of dollars to tertiary institutions that are leading the field in terms of training and research," said Professor John Kaldi from the University's Australian School of Petroleum (ASP).

"While the money is not substantial, the recognition of our program and the associated prestige attached to these awards is quite significant in global terms."

Professor Kaldi said the ASP was the only centre in the southern hemisphere to provide a program that integrated the three critical elements of the petroleum industry: geoscience, engineering and management.

"Industry views this integration as being of tremendous value because they know our graduates can hit the ground running. With the buoyant state of the petroleum industry today, we are probably looking at 100% of our graduates securing jobs in the next few years.

"This recognition is highly significant, given that the University of Adelaide is competing against much bigger-funded, high-powered universities from around the world," he said.

Professor Kaldi said the funds would go towards supporting student activities such as field trips, thesis preparation and conference attendance.

Story by Candy Gibson

## Media graduate wins Festival fellowship

The Adelaide Festival Centre's first Anthony Steel Fellowship has been awarded to Belle Hammond, an Arts graduate from the University of Adelaide.

In recognition of the Festival Centre's first CEO and distinguished Arts Administrator and Artistic Director, Anthony Steel, the fellowship provides 12 months of intensive professional experience in South Australia's centre of creativity and heart of the arts.

"This is an amazing opportunity. The Adelaide Festival Centre is a world leader and this gives me such a great chance at staying involved in arts administration," Belle said.

Belle completed a Bachelor of Media at the University of Adelaide with sub-majors in English, literature, film, arts and music. She has volunteered in many areas of the arts and has worked at the Festival Fringe and the Shorts Film Festival.

Belle will have the opportunity to experience many of the aspects of arts administration, and will have the opportunity to further develop vital creative and networking skills critical to an arts administrator.

## \$25 million for world-class biotech facility

continued from page 3

"The \$25 million in funding from Federal and South Australian governments is a fantastic result for the University of Adelaide, which is leading the research effort both here in Adelaide and in Canberra under the banner of the national facility," Professor McWha said.

"It is a prime example of how our University researchers are responsive to the needs of industry and the scientific and general communities, and it will further enhance the Waite's reputation as a jewel in the world's agricultural research crown."

Professor Fincher said that of the \$25 million in government funding announced, \$20 million would come directly into the Waite.

"That is a major achievement for any Australian university campus. It is further proof of the national and international significance of our research, which plays such an important role in the food and drink we consume, in our economy, and in our everyday lives," he said.

Construction of the National Plant Phenomics Facility is expected to begin in 2007, with all facilities in Adelaide and Canberra completed by 2009.

Story by David Ellis

# Award lauds urban design projects

## ■ Architecture

The University of Adelaide has featured in two major national awards for urban design, highlighting the role of landscape architecture as an emerging profession in South Australia.

The redevelopment of North Terrace, encompassing the University's grounds, and an urban design project by University of Adelaide lecturer Tanya Court have jointly won the 2006 Australia Award for Urban Design.

Initiated in 1995 by then-Prime Minister Paul Keating, the award recognises excellence in Australia's built environment and rewards creative civic design and planning.

Ms Court, from the School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urban Design, won recognition for a landscape design project which regenerated a deteriorating small city block in Melbourne. The end result provided shelter for the homeless, affordable housing and improved public spaces and transport facilities.

The landscape strategy to link the civic spaces, institutions and facilities along North Terrace is the work of architectural landscape firm Taylor Cullity Lethlean.

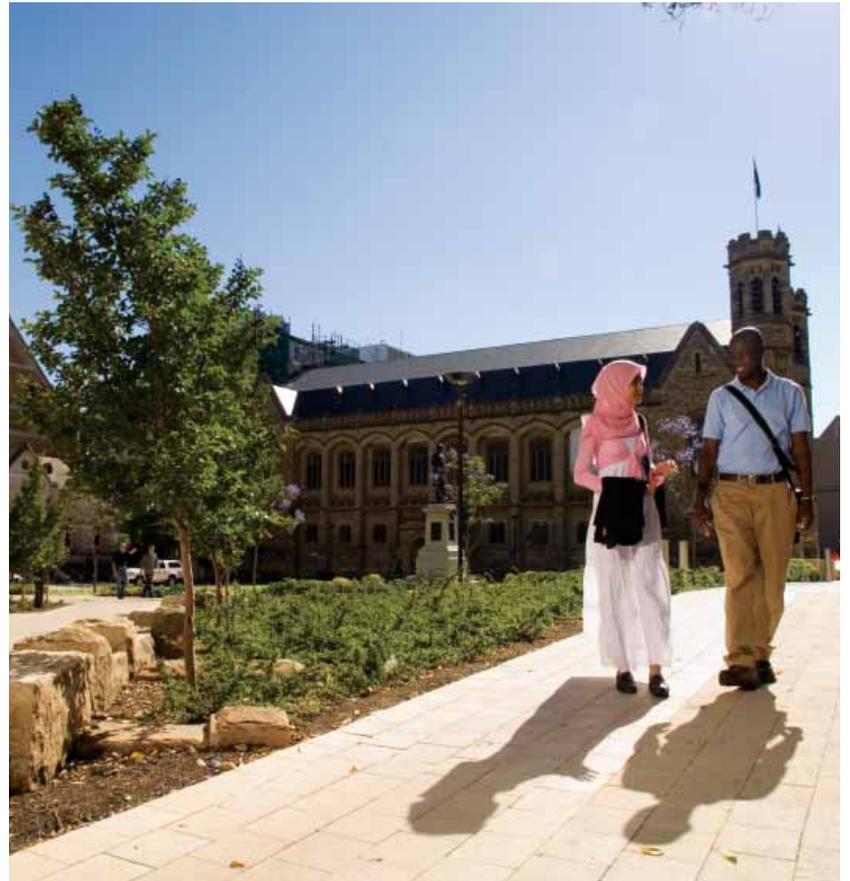
Both projects were lauded for their imagination, contemporary and ecological design, and their integration with the surrounding environment.

"Urban design is an area where Australia is maturing and producing some wonderful results, and landscape architecture is playing a big role in this," Ms Court said.

"Landscape architecture is emerging as a growing profession in South Australia, with increasing demand for new graduates. This year we have 12 landscape architecture students graduating and all are guaranteed jobs."

As a sign of its coming-of-age, the first independent exhibition of projects by the University's graduate landscape architecture students was held last month at the Queen's Theatre.

The exhibition, titled New Dirt, featured a variety of projects, including a public space which promotes recycling, a



geometric artificial headland along Adelaide's coastline resulting in wider recreational beaches, and the transformation of a working quarry site into a theatre space.

Ms Court said Adelaide offered enormous potential for landscape

projects such as the redevelopment of its city laneways, more cycleways and pedestrian-friendly environments, additional public transport nodes and more effective use of the parklands.

Story by Candy Gibson



# Waite festival showcases impact on food, drink

## ■ Community

About 5000 people visited the University of Adelaide's Waite Campus last month for its inaugural food and wine festival, the Waite Festival.

The festival showcased the campus's leading research and education and the impact these have on our food, drink and lifestyle.

Festival-goers were offered a range of foods and cooking demonstrations, wines, non-stop live music and other entertainment, tours and research trails – all among the lovely setting of the Waite Campus lawns.

"Research and education at the University's Waite Campus has national and international significance to the agriculture and wine industries. But more than that, this research has tremendous impact on the food and drink we consume and our everyday lifestyles," said the Director of the Waite Campus, Professor Geoff Fincher.

"We wanted people to come to the University of Adelaide's Waite Campus to see what we do here, to experience the science behind our food and drink, and to have a really good time."

Cereals bred at the Waite Campus account for 90% of the State's barley production – used in beer production and animal feed – and 66% of SA's wheat production – used in a range of foods. Other leading research includes horticulture, plant and pest science, plant genomics, oenology (wine-making) and viticulture, and soil and land systems.

The Waite Festival offered three information trails – Grape, Grain and Green & Groovy – as well as interactive exhibitions and displays looking at the science behind our beer, wine, bread and pasta. There also were demonstrations from talented chefs including Maggie Beer, the opportunity to sample the finest wine, beer and food, competitions and raffles, and live music from local jazz groups including etypejazz and JJ Fields.

The festival was officially opened by the Hon Michael O'Brien MP. In honour of the occasion, he planted a rare Wollemi Pine in the Waite Arboretum.

Story by Robyn Mills

# Masters of their own future

## Law

Lawyers are discovering the benefits of studying for a Masters degree in Law.

This month, the University of Adelaide will have its first graduates in the Master of Laws by coursework and the Master of Business Law.

Offered alone or in combination with the Master of Commerce, these degrees provide new opportunities for legal professionals to develop their skills and knowledge, and in turn their professional prospects.

Craig Clarke is among those due to graduate at the University of Adelaide in December. A Technical Officer with the Office of the Chief Tax Counsel, Australian Tax Office, he saw the Masters in Law as a good way to broaden his legal education while working full-time.

"The program helped me develop an ability to critically analyse legal issues from a broader perspective, rather than just Rules + Facts = Decision," Craig said.

"Subjects such as World Economic Law and Global Issues in IP revealed how international considerations impact upon domestic laws and enactments, as well as the inherent limitations of sovereign and international dispute forums and mechanisms."

Flexibility in study appeals to professionals looking to upgrade

their skills. Serena Yang, a Project Officer with the Economic Analysis and Policy Division, Department of Trade and Economic Development, appreciated the opportunity to study more than just law.

"Upon approval, students can undertake two courses from other disciplines within the University. I always intended to undertake some study in economics which would be helpful for my current work," she said.

Both Craig and Serena said the flexible coursework arrangements, such as evening and weekend classes, and intensive courses were of great help.

"The intensive format of teaching made combining study with work much easier. This enables you to get a broad understanding of the topic relatively quickly," Craig said.

Perhaps one of the greatest benefits is the opportunity to develop personally as well as professionally. Irene Fountenekas, a solicitor with the South Australia Police Solicitors Branch, has been studying for a combined Master of Laws and Master of Commerce (Marketing).

She said the study "has made me regain confidence in my abilities. It has expanded my knowledge and made me once more open to learning and new experiences".

"I believe the program would appeal to people of various backgrounds. Practising lawyers, who feel like they are stuck in a rut or need a fresh



perspective on the law, will find the Master of Laws does this, and it could open new paths for them," Irene said.

Serena agreed: "The skills that I have obtained through my LLM study are helpful to my current work, and I believe that these skills would make me better equipped for career advancement when the opportunity arises."

"I think many employers will come to expect Masters level as a minimum

From left: Master of Laws students Irene Fountenekas, Craig Clarke and Serena Yang at the entrance to the University of Adelaide's Moot Court

Photo by David Ellis

qualification," Craig added. "The variety of subjects and the delivery of teaching means that the program will appeal to a broad cross section of both practising lawyers and other professionals."

Story by David Ellis



**December 2006**

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# Andy returns for graduation role

It's graduation time again, and thousands of students, staff, family members and friends will gather in Bonython Hall, attending 12 ceremonies over six days from 14-21 December.

Among the speakers at this month's ceremonies are leaders in business, science, the arts, health, and the environment.

University of Adelaide graduate and NASA astronaut Dr Andy Thomas is returning to Adelaide to be a speaker at one of the ceremonies for the Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences.

Here are the details of the December graduation ceremonies:

NASA astronaut Dr Andrew Thomas speaking to a crowd near the Johnson Space Center following his last Space Shuttle mission in 2005  
Photo courtesy of NASA



Date	Time	Faculty	Speakers
Thursday 14 December	10:00am	Humanities and Social Sciences:	The Hon. John von Doussa QC, Chancellor, University of Adelaide
	2:30pm	Humanities and Social Sciences:	Mr Christopher Menz, Director, Art Gallery of South Australia
Friday 15 December	10:00am	Humanities and Social Sciences: Professions:	Ms Kate Gould, General Manager, Adelaide Bank Festival of Arts
	2:30pm	Professions:	The Hon. John von Doussa QC, Chancellor, University of Adelaide
Monday 18 December	10:00am	Health Sciences:	The Hon. John Hill MP, South Australian Minister for Health
	2:30pm	Health Sciences: Professions:	Dr Bill Griggs, AM, Director, Trauma Services, Royal Adelaide Hospital
Tuesday 19 December	10:00am	Professions:	Mr Nathan Adcock, Hunt and Hunt Lawyers
	2:30pm	Professions:	Mr Stephen Young, Council Member, University of Adelaide
Wednesday 20 December	10:00am	Sciences:	Mr Ed McAlister, AO, JP
	2:30pm	Sciences:	Professor Roger Leigh, Head, School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, University of Adelaide
Thursday 21 December	10:00am	Engineering, Maths and Computer Sciences:	Dr Roger Lough, Chief Defence Scientist, DSTO
	2:30pm	Engineering, Maths and Computer Sciences:	Dr Andrew Thomas, Astronaut, NASA

For more information about graduations, visit: [www.adelaide.edu.au/student/graduations/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/graduations/)



## 24-hour computer lounge opens

A 24-hour student computer lounge has opened at the University of Adelaide's Barr Smith Library.

The new computer suite has computers arranged around tables and lounges and uses the latest wireless technology, allowing students to work on group assignments using computers, around the clock.

Equipment in the suite has been sponsored by computer companies Lenovo (formally the Personal Computing Division of IBM) and Commander.

The computer lounge includes 24 computers, a large LCD screen with general information for students, and data projection and printing facilities. The suite has secure access and is monitored by video.

"Within minutes of the suite opening it has been well occupied with students present at all hours, and it is particularly popular with international students," said University of Adelaide Librarian Ray Choate said.

"The computer lounge has been built to meet student demand for these

facilities and we are very grateful for the sponsorship from Lenovo and Commander in providing this equipment and helping us to provide this valued facility for students."

The computer suite is accessed from within the Barr Smith Library during opening hours and externally out-of-hours.

Story by Robyn Mills

Left: Student Barbara Schmidtova using the new computer lounge in the Barr Smith Library  
Photo by David Ellis

# Keeping track of Adelaide's chlorine

## ■ Engineering

Drinking water from a tap is something that most of us take for granted in Australia, confident that it is safe, free of bacteria and harmful viruses. This is primarily due to the addition of a disinfectant to the water – most commonly chlorine.

But civil and environmental engineering staff and students from the University of Adelaide (with the support of United Water and the Cooperative Research Centre for Water Quality and Treatment) have gone one step further in ensuring the health of our water system.

Professor Graeme Dandy and Associate Professor Holger Maier from the School of Civil & Environmental Engineering have supervised a project to predict chlorine residuals at strategic points in Adelaide's water distribution system. PhD student Rob May has been working on this project since 2003.

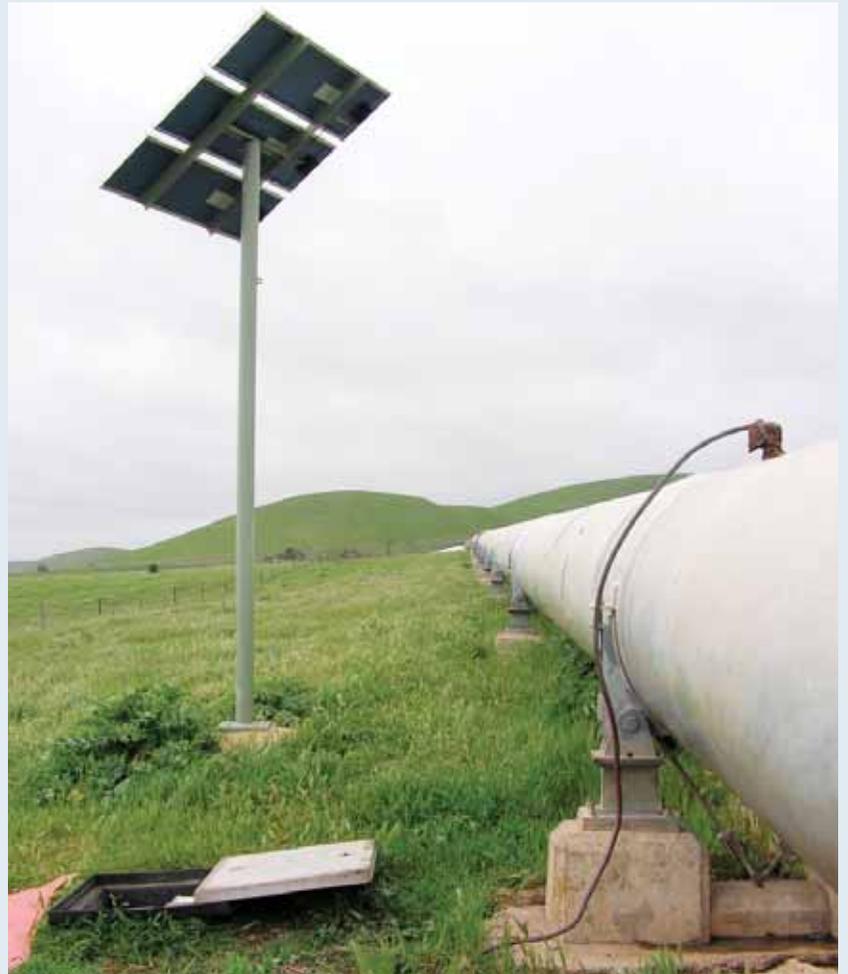
Using the Myponga pipeline as a field study, a forecasting model has been developed to accurately predict chlorine residuals near the town of Willunga, 24 hours in advance. This is 20 km from the original chlorine dosage point at the Myponga water treatment plant.

"As the water travels down a pipeline the chlorine reacts with organic matter in the water and is gradually converted into disinfection by-products. The operators need to ensure that by the time the water reaches the consumers the chlorine residuals are still at an acceptable level," Professor Dandy said.

Too little chlorine can allow bacteria to regrow in the system, thus increasing the risk of waterborne disease. But high levels of chlorine also create problems: a chemical taste in the water, increased costs, and disinfection by-products, which may themselves have adverse health effects.

"It is important to achieve a balance, and this study has revealed how chlorine levels change in the distribution process and what factors affect this change."

Chlorine monitors strategically placed along a 20-kilometre stretch of the Myponga pipeline measure the water temperature and chlorine residuals at a number of locations. This is supplemented by flow data for the pipeline and its offtakes that is collected on a regular basis by United Water and SA Water. This data allows engineers to track changes in the chlorine concentration at given points.



The project used Artificial Neural Networks (a mathematical modelling technique) to forecast chlorine residuals 24 hours in advance. "We have achieved some very good results from this. Our aim is to set up a system to advise the operator on what chlorine levels they should be dosing at the plant.

"We are certainly at the forefront of research in this area internationally," Professor Dandy said. "No-one else is investigating the use of artificial

neural networks to forecast chlorine levels in the water distribution network, with the final goal being an automated advisory control system. This is cutting-edge stuff."

Photo by Stan Woithe

Story by Candy Gibson

# Longer life for pipelines

## ■ Engineering

The University of Adelaide will play a major role in enhancing the reliability and longevity of Australia's pipeline transmission industry thanks to a \$695,000 grant announced by the Federal Government.

The Australian Pipeline Industry Association (APIA) has been granted the funds for a collaborative research project with the University of Adelaide and a number of other major Australian research institutions.

Matched dollar-for-dollar by the private sector, the three-year research project represents an investment of more than \$1.4 million

in enhancing the future performance of Australia's pipeline system.

"The knowledge and skills gained from this research program will not only benefit Australia but also the rest of the world," said APIA's Chief Executive, Ms Cheryl Cartwright.

"We expect the program will eventually lead to Australian pipeline transmission know-how being exported to many other countries, paving the way for the delivery of natural gas and petroleum in the most reliable and efficient manner possible," she said.

"In relation to natural gas, success in enhancing pipeline performance will help reduce transmission costs and further increase the appeal of this environmentally friendly fuel."

The research grant was announced by South Australian Senator and Federal Immigration Minister, the Hon. Amanda Vanstone, at an APIA function at the University of Adelaide.

The research program entails seven projects and will, at various stages, also involve Monash and Curtin universities, and research organisations such as CSIRO and ANSTO.

The key researchers involved in this work at the University of Adelaide are Professor Valerie Linton and Dr Erwin Gamboa, both from the School of Mechanical Engineering.

### The research will encompass:

- Improved quality of steel for manufacture of pipelines

- Improved pipeline construction techniques and better quality control
- Better and longer-lasting coatings and other improved techniques to prevent corrosion and leaks
- Improved resistance to damage caused by excavators and earth-moving equipment

The University of Adelaide is closely involved in two of the seven research projects: to assess and develop methods to repair pipelines affected by stress corrosion cracking; and to determine the level and influence of boron in weld deposits produced using commercial welding electrodes, used in the construction of high-pressure Australian pipelines.

# Adelaide guitarist wins Japan prize

## ■ Music

University of Adelaide music student Aleksandr Tsiboulski has won first prize in the 49th Tokyo International Guitar Competition, one of the most prestigious in the world.

Alex's accomplishment represents the first Australian guitar win in over a decade in a major overseas contest.

In addition to a cash prize of AUD\$10,000 and a valuable handmade guitar by Sakurai Kohno, Alex, 26, has signed a contract for a Yamaha-sponsored tour of Japan in 2007.

Held over three rounds at the Tokyo Bunka-Kaikan Recital Hall, the competition was attended by some of the leading young guitarists from Asia, North and South America, as well as Europe.

The final round saw six finalists each performing 30-minute programs to a public audience and a panel of judges.

American Edward Trybek walked away with second prize and Yan Skryhan from Belarus received third.

Alex, a Fulbright Scholar in the Visual and Performing Arts, is a PhD student with the University of Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium. Currently on study leave, he is based at the University of Texas, Austin, where he is pursuing graduate study in music under the guidance of Adam Holzman.

Born in Ukraine, Alex immigrated to Adelaide at age 10 with his mother. He attended Marryatville High School, well known for its music program, and the Australian National University, where he studied with renowned Australian guitarist and teacher Timothy Kain.

Before the win in Tokyo, he had, in 2006 alone, won two international competitions in the United States, and was a finalist in several others, most notably the Guitar Foundation of America international competition, an event described as the Wimbledon of guitar competitions.

Alex said his win in Japan was special to him in many ways.

"It's a wonderful feeling to be recognised and treated so kindly by complete strangers in a very different country, to receive some monetary recompense and a beautiful musical instrument, and to have them invite you back. Also, it's a weight off my shoulders to secure a win in a major competition," he said from Austin, Texas.

"There are many more good guitarists now than 30 or 50 years ago and not very much more demand, so I guess competitions like these are a way of separating what might be perceived to be 'the cream' from the rest. But all these kinds of terms are fairly absurd when you're talking about music – you're talking about a highly solitary, somewhat obsessive, deeply creative and holistic pursuit in the sense that it really involves the person in many disciplines and penetrates many layers of one's life.

"During a competition you get a chance to manifest that totality through a brief spark of a performance that is hopefully representative of who you are and what you do, and it is really a question of how that momentary spark is viewed by a fellow practitioner who is on the jury, how it connects with their experience and knowledge, and whether – your good technique and preparation being taken for granted – the sparks connect.

"So it's helpful and gratifying, but neither does it mean that I'm a better musician than I was a week before I won it. Hopefully, though, the opportunities I will get from this will lead to the kind of work through which I can continue the refinement of what I do as a musician."

Alex said his time in the US was proving to be very productive.

"Basically, I think one always looks at a variety of places to play and develop, especially if one is from Australia where the population

is small and the neighbouring countries, not surprisingly, don't really have much interest in Western classical music.

"It is really important to my well being and sense of belonging to maintain strong contact with home and to have the use of my home base as a workshop environment – you need somewhere to try stuff out and to do creative side-trips. 'Home' is a really powerful word and idea for someone who travels constantly. And Adelaide is that home for me," he said.

Aleksandr Tsiboulski





# No longer lost in non-translation

Nicholas Jose, acclaimed Australian writer and Creative Writing Chair at the University of Adelaide, is one of three international judges selected for the inaugural Man Asian Literary Prize in 2007, highlighting Asia's developing role in world literature. This month Professor Jose outlines the background to this literary prize.

## ■ Commentary

The countries of Asia have long and rich literary traditions and many of their classics are available in fine English translation. But it is a different story with more recent writing. It can be difficult to get hold of good English versions of the novels that mean something to today's readers in China, or Korea, or Indonesia, or in most other parts of the region. Yet in many parts of Asia the twentieth century produced major literary figures who responded to the turbulence of their times with creativity and insight and whose example continues in new generations of writers and important contemporary works. For most of us, as English-language readers, those books and those authors are lost in non-translation. If you're someone like me, who likes to get to know a place by reading about it, and particularly by reading stories about it told by a

local, that's a significant absence. That situation is starting to change, helped by the activities of Man Group plc in supporting the Hong Kong International Literary Festival and now the Man Asian Literary Prize.

Some Asian writers live and work in English-speaking countries where they write in English or have access to translators and English-language publishers. Their names appear occasionally on book prize shortlists and bestseller top tens. In recent weeks Indian-born Kiran Desai's novel *The Inheritance of Loss* won the 2006 Man Booker Prize for Fiction and Yiyun Li's collection of short stories about modern China, *A Thousand Years of Good Prayers*, was shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award. Publishers have identified a new trend. At the Frankfurt Book Fair in October HarperCollins launched its new list of Chinese modern classics in English translation, with two of my favourite writers, Lao She and Shen Congwen, translated

by Howard Goldblatt, leading the way. Other publishers and agents are looking further afield to find the writers that will appeal to the growing interest of international readers in a part of the world that has so far exported almost everything but its writing. India has been the exception that proves the rule. Thanks to India's colonial history many of the country's most famous writers—Narayan, Rushdie and Arundhati Roy to name a few—use English and feed an insatiable appetite for English-language novels about India. Authors from elsewhere, such as the late Indonesian master Pramoedya and Japan's Haruki Murakami, have world-wide reputations. Others, such as Su Tong from China and Tash Aw from Malaysia, are becoming prominent. But there are surely many other writers, from venerated elders to chicklit types, for us to value and enjoy.

The Man Asian Literary prize has been established to help

the process along. Its aim is to facilitate publishing and translation of Asian literature into English and to highlight Asia's developing role in world literature. The prize is for a novel, unpublished in English, by a resident citizen of an Asian country or territory. Their work may have been written in English or translated into English.

The first winner will be announced next year. I am excited to be one of the judges, along with author André Aciman, Chair of Comparative Literature at the City University of New York, and Adrienne Clarkson, former Governor General of Canada. Clarkson was born in Hong Kong.

The new prize, sponsored by Man group plc, joins the Man Booker Prize for Fiction and the Man Booker International Prize, two of the world's premier literary prizes. We'll be looking for a strong and fresh voice, a novel not expressly packaged for the Western market, a writer to surprise us all.

# Study seeks answers about workplace bullying

## ■ Psychology

New research in the University of Adelaide's School of Psychology aims to help organisations better manage complaints of workplace bullying.

PhD student Moira Jenkins is carrying out a study to see whether current complaint processes for addressing bullying in the workplace improve the situation or make it worse. She wants to find out what works successfully and what is going wrong when complaints aren't resolved.

"Most organisations now have bullying and harassment policies and complaint processes aimed at preventing and dealing with inappropriate behaviours like bullying.

However evidence suggests that many employees who are bullied don't use these processes because either they are not confident it will help, or they are fearful of making things worse," said Ms Jenkins.

"In support of this, there have been a number of studies that suggest that targets of bullying who report the behaviour do no better than those who keep quiet, and in some cases they even do worse."

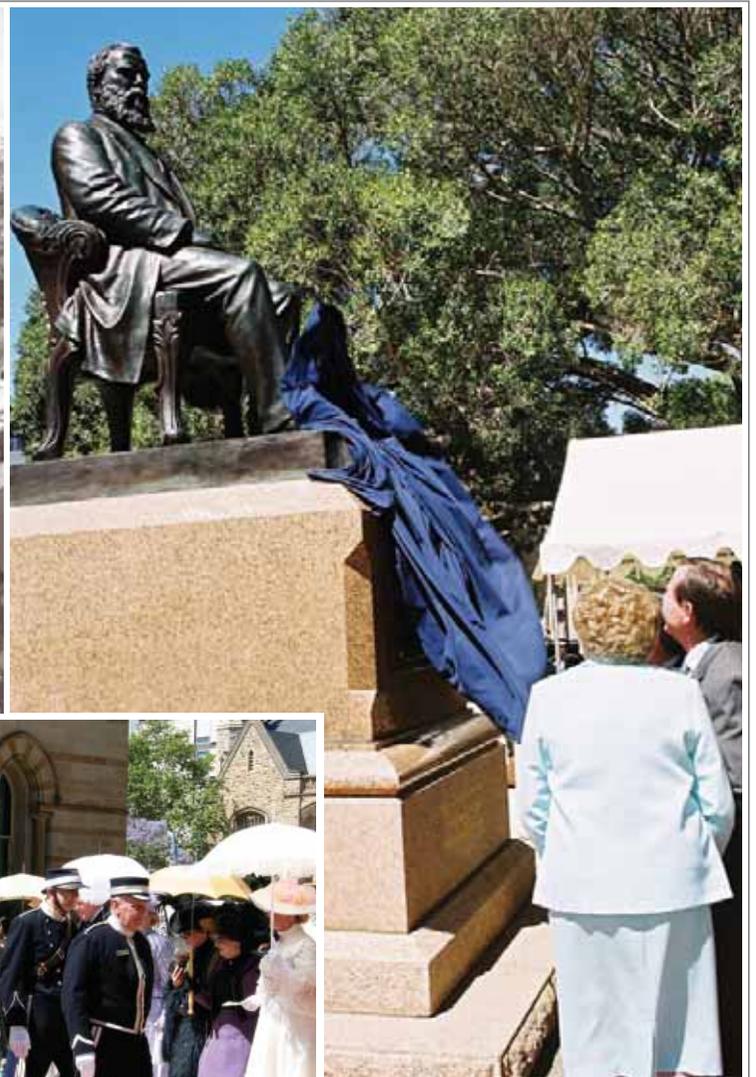
Ms Jenkins is looking for volunteers who have made a complaint about workplace bullying over the past year. She will interview them about the outcome of their complaint and their perceptions of the processes involved in resolving the complaint. Participants will also be asked to fill out a short survey. Confidentiality is guaranteed and nothing will identify individuals or workplaces.

"Despite bullying being recognised as a serious problem, we still don't have a good idea of what goes on in organisations when people do make a complaint. We don't know what aspects of the complaint procedures are helpful, and what aspects are not helpful," she said.

"I hope that the results of this study will help organisations better manage workplace conflicts and perhaps prevent subsequent problems for people who make complaints at work about this type of behaviour."

People interested in taking part in the study should contact Moira Jenkins by phoning 0412 733 453 or emailing [moira.jenkins@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:moira.jenkins@adelaide.edu.au)

Story by Robyn Mills



The original unveiling of the Sir Walter Watson Hughes statue was a major event in 1906 (Top and Above)...

...and again in 2006, with the Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, participating in the unveiling (Left and Above).

# The covers come off again... 100 years later

## Benefactors

The University of Adelaide recently paid tribute to its founding benefactor in a re-enactment of the 1906 ceremony to unveil the statue of Sir Walter Watson Hughes.

Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, Governor of South Australia, and two descendants of Sir Walter – brothers Mr Walter Hughes Duncan and Mr Jock Duncan – unveiled the Sir Walter Watson Hughes statue on 22 November, in an echo of that earlier ceremony.

Sir Walter's gift of £20,000 in 1872 led to the foundation of the University of Adelaide in 1874, giving South Australia the nation's third university.

"When Sir Walter made his donation, Adelaide was a fledgling colony. Sir Walter had the vision to perceive that his gift would make a necessary and vital impact on the development of South Australia and its people," said the Governor.

"His generosity meant that today we have in our capital this great University, one of Australia's leading universities. The University of Adelaide has helped put this city on the map intellectually and in economic terms through its teaching and research excellence.

"Moreover its physical presence – the elegance and the dignity of these beautiful buildings and grounds on North Terrace – has become a very significant part of Adelaide's built heritage, adding much to the beauty and enjoyment of the city for visitors and locals alike. We all, therefore,

owe a great deal of gratitude to Sir Walter."

During the re-enactment, three members of the Police Historic Society in period costume led a procession from the Mitchell Building to the statue on North Terrace consisting of the Governor, the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Adelaide Michael Harbison, Commissioner of Police Mal Hyde, the University Chancellor the Hon John von Doussa QC, University Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha, and members of the University community. They were accompanied by the Band of the South Australia Police brass quintet playing music from the 1906 ceremony, and lining the procession's path were Victoriana Society of SA members in period costume.

University Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha said: "Sir Walter's gift of £20,000 was a staggering amount for those times. The centenary celebration of the statue unveiling commemorates his generosity and vision that has had a major influence on the lives of so many people.

"For over 130 years, the University of Adelaide has been at the heart of South Australian life, shaping education, research, culture, politics and economics. With 100,000 graduates to date, 100 Rhodes Scholars and five Nobel Laureates – three of them our own graduates – I think Sir Walter would have been extremely proud of what his gift started."

Story by Robyn Mills

# Cerebral palsy researcher wins major prize

## Health Sciences

A young researcher from the University of Adelaide whose work has produced new insights into a common disability in children has been chosen as South Australia's Young Investigator of the Year for 2006.

Dr Catherine Gibson, 26, has won \$12,500 in prizes at the finals of the Young Investigator Award, held at the Adelaide Convention Centre last month.

The award aims to promote excellence in science and communication among young researchers.

The three finalists who present their research at the awards night are chosen based on the strength of their

science; the finals are then decided on their ability to communicate that science to a general audience.

Dr Gibson, a PhD graduate from the University's Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, based at the Women's & Children's Hospital, was named the Young Investigator of the Year by a panel of media judges.

Her research focuses on the causes of cerebral palsy (CP) in children in the hopes of taking a step towards prevention or a cure. Currently, about one in every 400 children born in Australia suffers from CP. There is no screening method to detect it, no treatment or cure, and until recently the causes have been largely unknown.

Dr Gibson's research delved into the potential multiple causes of brain damage in unborn children that lead to CP. These include:

- blood clotting disorders, causing a stroke in the unborn child;
- viral infections; and
- variations in the immune system that lead to increased vulnerability to infection.

She tested blood samples from more than 400 babies with CP and more than 800 babies without the disorder, collected as part of the newborn screening program.

She found that babies with CP have a twofold incidence of clotting disorders, and discovered that significantly more of the CP babies were exposed to viruses during pregnancy. Dr Gibson also found an increased risk of CP when the babies have abnormalities in their immune response, which makes them less able to fight infection.

"This research has provided for the first time an understanding of some

new potential causes of cerebral palsy," Dr Gibson said. "This may lead to strategies to help prevent this common neurological disability of childhood."

The Young Investigator Award is an initiative of the Children, Youth and Women's Health Service (CYWHS) and the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide.

As the winner, Dr Gibson was awarded the CYWHS Board Chair Award of \$10,000, a prize of \$1000 (untied) plus a Conference Prize of \$1500 for attendance at a national or international conference in 2007.

Story by David Ellis

From left: Young Investigator Award winner Dr Catherine Gibson with equal runners-up Lachlan Moldenhauer and Adeline Lau

Photo by Christopher Sprod, courtesy of CYWHS

## Robert Henry Symons 1934-2006

### Obituary

An Agricultural Science graduate from Melbourne University with a PhD in Biochemistry, Bob Symons was appointed lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Biochemistry at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute in 1962.

He transferred to the North Terrace Campus of the University of Adelaide in 1963. In the following 25 years Bob played a major role in the development of the Biochemistry Department, rising through the ranks to a Personal Chair in 1987.

He was a devoted and very able experimentalist who was usually to be found at his laboratory bench working with his research group. This gave his students first-class training and created an excellent relationship between them.

For the major part of his career he focused on the molecular biology of nucleotides and nucleic acids. On study leave in Stanford he and others were the first to join two stretches of DNA molecules together to form a single piece. This is an essential manipulative step in the later development of cloning techniques.



He also devised synthetic methods for making radioactive nucleotides. These are used for much of the experimental work in DNA technology. They are expensive and had to be imported into Australia. Bob for a long period made the necessary labelled nucleotides for the whole department. This was very important for the development of gene technology. It also became the basis for the establishment in 1982 of the first biotechnology company in Australia (Biochemical Research Enterprises of South Australia, later Bresagen) for making and supplying research materials. Bob was the prime mover in this company and later became its chairman.

It was Bob's interest in the molecular biology of plant viroid diseases in which he made his greatest mark. Viroids are the smallest pathogens known – the one that kills coconut palms is an RNA molecule only 246 nucleotides long, devoid of any protein or other component. It is far smaller than a virus. Bob's group determined the complete structure of the palm viroid (cadang-cadang). It was a major achievement; his work was published in *Nature*, and featured on its cover.

Bob also did extensive work on the replication of viroids in infected cells. Their RNA genomes are synthesised not one at a time but as a continuous molecule consisting of individual genomes strung together. They have to be separated into individual sections, a remarkably precise chemical process. Bob's group found that this separation occurred spontaneously by the self-cleaving process known as ribozyme action, which had been discovered previously by two Americans who were awarded the Nobel Prize for the discovery. Bob's work was a very important reinforcement of this. He and his students then investigated how the viroid RNA self cleaved. They elucidated the precise nucleotide structure that did the job at the cleavage site. The crucial piece of RNA folded up to resemble the head of a hammer. Bob published it as a "hammerhead" ribozyme, which is

now a widely accepted term. Other laboratories have taken up this area and hammerhead biochemistry is almost a field of its own. Bob was recognised internationally as a leader in viroid molecular biology and nucleotide biochemistry in general. He was elected to the Australian Academy of Science in 1983 and the Royal Society of London in 1988.

Bob decided in 1990 that he should take his research group to the Waite Campus. Within the Department of Plant Science he established a new laboratory with Australian Research Council funding where his interests in the replication of plant viruses, identification of the functions of virus genes, intracellular localisation of viroids, and diagnosis of grapevine viruses and even phytoplasmas, occupied him for another 12 years.

His commitment to providing practical outcomes for viticulturists led him to establish the diagnostic company, Waite Diagnostics. The enviably low virus load of new Australian vineyards is partially due to his introduction of laboratory-based molecular methods for avoiding the use of infected planting material.

Bob is survived by his wife, Verna, four children, Helen, Richard, Alison and Michael, and eight grandchildren.

Contributed by John Randles, George Rogers and Bill Elliott



## Business ambassador



Professor Zbigniew Michalewicz (Computer Science) has been appointed a Business Ambassador for South Australia by the Premier, the Hon. Mike Rann.

He joins the University's Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha and Director of Marketing & Communications Michael Neale and more than 200 like-minded business leaders located in 20 countries around the world in a unique networking program promoting SA.

"Professor Michalewicz will make an outstanding addition to our program," said Hillary Hurrell, Director of the South Australian Business Ambassadors Network (SABAN).

"An appointment as a Business Ambassador recognises the outstanding talent and experience of the candidate and additionally celebrates their success and acknowledges their commitment and passion for the State."

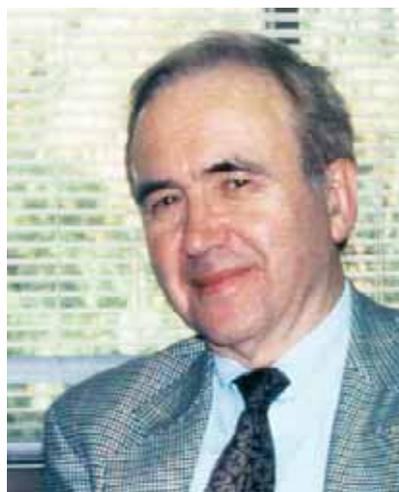
Professor Michalewicz has been highly successful in securing multi-million-dollar industry contracts from companies such as General Motors, Ford, Bank of America, US Department of Defense, and others, and his scientific and business achievements have been recognised by many invited talks and publications, including *TIME*, *Newsweek*, and *Forbes*.

## Jerzy Jaroslaw (George) Smolicz AM 1935-2006

### Obituary

Professor J J (George) Smolicz was a member of the Department of Education at the University of Adelaide for 39 years, the last 17 as Professor of Education. From his pioneering research into cultural and linguistic diversity in Australia, he developed a theory of multiculturalism which became the basis of policy for state and federal governments. He advocated that immigrants and their children should have the opportunity to contribute to Australian society by maintaining the core values of their home languages and cultures, while adopting overarching Australian values, such as the English language, democratic government, religious tolerance and the sharing of cultural diversity.

George's research and commitment to multiculturalism stemmed from his childhood experiences as a Polish refugee travelling through many countries. At the beginning of World War II, he and his family were deported from their home in eastern Poland. He and his mother were sent to a collective farm in Kazakhstan, his father to a concentration camp. When Russia joined the Allies, the family was freed and travelled through Central Asia, across the Caspian Sea to Persia.



George's earliest education was in a Polish refugee school in Tehran. His primary schooling was in French, after the family moved to Beirut. At the end of the war, the family settled in the north of Scotland, rather than return to Communist Poland. Here George completed his secondary education in a new language, English. He went on to graduate with a PhD in Chemistry from Edinburgh University, followed by a Research Fellowship at Lincoln College, Oxford.

In 1965, George was appointed Lecturer in the Department of Education at the University of Adelaide and began researching the experiences

of minority ethnic children in Australian schools. The humanistic sociological approach he adopted made it evident that many children of minority cultural background deeply regretted that they were losing their home language because the school provided no opportunity for them to gain literacy in it. This also meant that Australian society was losing the language resources which immigrants brought into the country.

With his research students, he extended his investigations to include a wide range of ethnic groups and published the results in more than 230 book chapters and articles in leading academic journals in Australia, the United Kingdom and Europe. He elaborated the theory derived from this research in six books, as well as a number of shorter monographs. He also presented papers at international conferences in many parts of the world. His research and publication record led to his election as a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia (1976), his appointment to a Personal Chair in Education (1987), and the award of the inaugural UNESCO Linguapax Prize for research on language policy (2002).

George was also a member of a number of government committees and community organisations working to implement multicultural and languages education policy. He was a

Senior Consultant on Multiculturalism to the Fraser government and in South Australia chaired the 1984 Task Force to Investigate Multiculturalism in Education. As a result of its recommendations, English plus another language became part of the education of all primary school children in this state and opportunities to study minority ethnic languages were extended. He was Chair of the Multicultural Education Committee for 20 years and Director of CISME, the University's Centre for Intercultural Studies and Multicultural Education for almost as long. In 1988 he was awarded an AM for his services to Australian multiculturalism.

For George, the focal point of life was his family. He cared devotedly for his parents and was deeply committed to the welfare and education of his children. His young grandchildren were one of the delights of his last years. He was a most loyal, generous and hospitable friend and always sought to include his friends in the family circle. His strong Catholic beliefs were reflected in his membership of the Sovereign Order of the Knights of Malta.

He is survived by his daughter Camilla, his son Christopher, and two grandchildren, Jeremy and Olenka.

Contributed by Margaret Secombe and the Smolicz family

# Are we ready for this?

## ■ Health Sciences

Can Australia cope with a mass casualty evacuation in the wake of a terrorist attack or natural disaster?

The country's top military medical and civilian experts recently took part in Australia's first Aeromedical Evacuation Think Tank at the University of Adelaide.

Designed to identify key strategies for major national disasters, the workshop brought together domestic and international experts from the Defence Forces, government, and civilian aeromedical evacuation providers.

The Head of the University of Adelaide's Centre for Military Veterans Health, Professor Sandy McFarlane, said the current global instability demanded a national approach to "significant disasters".

"The Bali bombings in 2002 showed us that we need an integrated approach between the military and civilian organisations. We need to be better aligned and improve our communication strategies," Professor McFarlane said.

"Australia is in a unique position due to the large continental land mass and

major distances between cities. With a significant number of our citizens travelling overseas, and in the light of the risk of major emergencies, we need to ensure our aeromedical evacuation capabilities are first class."

The workshop explored case studies such as the 2002 Bali bombings, which killed 202 people and injured more than 300, resulting in Australia's largest peacetime aeromedical evacuation.

Responses to other mass casualty incidents, including the 2005 Bali bombings and 2004 Bundaberg tilt train crash, were also analysed.

Lieutenant Colonel Marc Robins from the United States Air Force and Colonel Jim Stewart discussed lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina, which devastated New Orleans in 2005.

Workshop participants included Air Vice Marshal Tony Austin AM (Head of the Defence Health Services Division) and Mr Tony Pearce (Director General Emergency Management Australia).

Story by Candy Gibson

Satellite image of Hurricane Katrina approaching the Gulf Coast in 2005  
Image courtesy of MODIS Rapid Response Project at NASA/GSFC



# Young agent of change

## ■ Humanities

Two things stand out in Skye Riggs's personality: the first is her positive outlook, the second her boundless energy. This is a young woman on the move.

The 20-year-old Bachelor of Arts student, who is majoring in Politics and Anthropology at the University of Adelaide, is passionate about more than her studies. In between juggling assignments and tutorials Skye has immersed herself in youth programs and voluntary work.

In 2004 she was named Youth Ambassador for South Australia in recognition of her work with World Vision, an organisation she joined in high school.

Last month Skye (pictured) also represented Australia at the International Youth Volunteering Conference in Delhi, India, giving a speech on the importance of empowering youth.

It's a subject close to her heart and reflected in the extracurricular activities she chooses to pursue – host of Radio Adelaide student show, Stir, and chairperson of Vision Generation (VGen).

The latter's motto – to inspire, educate and empower young people in the fight against global poverty and injustice – sums up her individual philosophy as well.

"It's important for young people to have a voice in the community because they are the future leaders. If we don't engage youth now, they will not have the knowledge, passion and skills to make a difference when they are older," Skye said.

The theme of the United Nations-sponsored conference was "youth as agents of change" with the focus on the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and the Make Poverty History Campaign.

The eight MDGs – which range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, all by the target date of 2015 – form a blueprint agreed to by all the world's countries.

"These goals have been endorsed by our leaders but have not translated into policies at this stage," Skye said.

Skye is involved in youth forums that publicise the fight against poverty in a positive way. "Most young people are passionate about music, so we have a lot of fund-raising gigs, which support our cause."

Skye is keen to see volunteering opportunities developed for university students in partnership with the corporate world. "In this way, students can develop their skills in the commercial world, but also contribute to the community."

Story and photo by Candy Gibson

# Families get down to business



## ■ Business

More than \$1.6 trillion worth of assets in family-owned businesses will change hands in Australia over the next 10 years, yet 78% of them have not made any formal succession plans.

It's a statistic that should concern all business owners, but planning the changeover from one generation to the next or preparing a business for sale remains a tricky problem, especially for family-owned enterprises.

Dr Jill Thomas, a senior lecturer in the Adelaide Graduate School of Business, recently facilitated a session on Making Family Businesses Work at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Participants from two, third-generation family businesses contributed to lively debate.

Held during Small Business Month in October, the session explored both the challenges and benefits of the family business.

Family businesses comprise a significant part of the Australian economy, yet comparatively little research has been done to explain their complexities or verify their contribution. In Australia, it is estimated that almost 80,000 family businesses fail each year – a huge cost to the national economy.

"There is a lot of emotion involved in a family business and the resulting complexities need to be taken into account by their advisers. It's not purely a matter of processing legal or monetary requirements when a business is sold, or passed over to the next generation. There is a whole range of related issues that need to be appreciated," Dr Thomas (pictured above) said.

Family-owned businesses – which comprise 80% of the Australian business sector – do have



the edge on their independent counterparts in some respects. Flexibility, timeliness of decision making and sidestepping bureaucracy are all advantages, Dr Thomas said, but if there is not some formalisation of structure and policies to deal with issues such as succession planning, family recruitment, and ownership responsibilities, then some messy disputes may result.

"It is important to recognise that family businesses are not a homogenous sector. Some have multiple generations working in the business, as well as on the board, such as Coopers Brewery, a fifth generation family business. Others, such as the Oakbank winery J & AG Johnston – South Australia's oldest family owned business – employ no family members but are governed by a board of directors, all of whom are family shareholders."

Despite the complexities, many high-profile, South Australian family-owned businesses are living proof that careful planning can pay dividends.

"Sarah Constructions and Barossa Fine Foods (both of which participated in the Small Business Month panel) are two great examples. The first has already transitioned to the third generation and the latter has three sons working in the business, all with different responsibilities.

"Much of our research says that Generation Y is not willing to take on leadership responsibilities,

Dr Tim Cooper, the Managing Director of South Australian family business icon – Coopers Brewery – pictured with father Bill, who remains on the Coopers Board of Directors, having retired from the position of Managing Director in 2002

preferring a better work-life balance than their forebears, but these two businesses are wonderful exceptions."

Dr Thomas is Chair of the Education Sub-Committee of the South Australian Chapter of Family Business Australia, which along with the Small Business Development Council recommended the appointment of Dennis Jaffe as Thinker in Residence in 2007.

The Premier announced the successful Jaffe appointment at the Small Business Conference last month. The San Francisco-based businessman and family business scholar/author has spent the past 30 years helping family businesses all over the world deal with transition and create effective management teams.

"This is a real coup for us because it's the first time that South Australia has had a Thinker in Residence in the business area," Dr Thomas said. "Considering the importance of business to our State, it's a great opportunity to take advantage of his expertise."

Story by Candy Gibson

# Two photos, six graduates and 50 years

## Alumni



The chance to re-enact a photo taken fifty years ago brought all remaining 1956 Electrical Engineering Honours graduates back to the University of Adelaide last month.

The 1956 Graduates' Golden Jubilee Reunion provided the ideal occasion for the graduates to reunite, reminisce and re-enact the photo taken on their "special" graduation 50 years ago.

The seven original Electrical Engineering Honours students – Brian Chase, Robert Bogner, Roger Smith, Terry Wollaston, Henry d'Assumpcao, Bernie Wadsworth and Keith Breynard – didn't graduate at the same time as other students from their year.

Honours Supervisor and the Head of Electrical Engineering at the time, Professor Willoughby, wanted the group to do extended work on their theses, so their graduation was delayed until July 27 of 1956. The seven had their own graduation ceremony, and their own group photograph to mark the occasion.

The photo shows a small assemblage of students holding the parchments earned through their years of study, fresh-faced and ready for life.

In the 50-year intermission between photos, lives have been lived, careers established, marriages built, children and grandchildren born.

A lot may have changed in five decades, but for Brian Chase, who hadn't seen his fellow alumni since graduation, recognition wasn't a problem.

"I recognised everyone as soon as I saw them – they haven't changed much at all, just look at the photos!"

It was a reunion that Brian was initially worried wouldn't happen at all. After reading about the upcoming Golden Jubilee in the University's magazine, *Lumen*, Brian was concerned the University might not be aware of their unique circumstances.

"When I read about the Reunion I wondered, did the University know about our special graduation? So I got in contact with the University and we started to get the names together, and we found everyone who was on the list," he said.

After making contact with all remaining graduates (sadly, the seventh member of the group, Keith Breynard, had

**1956** (from left) Rear: Brian Chase, Robert Bogner, Roger Smith. Front: Terry Wollaston, Henry d'Assumpcao, Bernie Wadsworth and Keith Breynard

**2006** (from left) Rear: Brian Chase, Robert Bogner, Roger Smith. Front: Terry Wollaston, Henry d'Assumpcao, Bernie Wadsworth and Carlein Gurr (Secretary to the Head of Electrical Engineering and Honours Supervisor, Professor Willoughby, in 1956)

passed away) all six came to the Jubilee, travelling from as far afield as the US, as well as from interstate, to attend. Taking Keith Breynard's place for the photograph is Carlein Gurr, who was Professor Willoughby's secretary in 1956.

"It was just great to see everyone again," said Brian. "The day went remarkably well, it was very pleasant and well organised."

This year marked the 21st consecutive Golden Jubilee Commemoration, which has proven one of the largest and most successful events in the University's Reunions Program.

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

Story by Lana Guineay



## Parking Permits

The Alumni Association After Hours Parking Permits for 2007 will be available soon!

This permit allows you the convenience of parking on campus before 9.15am and after 4.30pm Monday to Friday as well as all day Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays.

Alumni that purchased a permit in 2006 will automatically receive a renewal letter in December.

For those alumni that didn't take up the opportunity in 2006 but would like to register your interest in a parking permit for 2007, please contact us on +61 8 8303 5800.

## December Graduations

The December graduation ceremonies are fast approaching. Development and Alumni offers a range of official merchandise to keep your memories of the University of Adelaide alive.

You can purchase a Graduation Bear with a hood in your faculty colours for \$45.

For further information visit Alumni's merchandise website, or come in and see us at Level 1, 230 North Terrace, Adelaide, opening hours 11.30am-3.30pm.

To find out about other alumni benefits visit [www.edu.au/alumni/membership/services.html](http://www.edu.au/alumni/membership/services.html)

## Annual meeting of the university community 12-1pm, Monday 26 February 2007, Bonython Hall

Section 18 of the University of Adelaide Act 1971 requires the University Council to convene a meeting of the University community within 2 months of the commencement of each financial year. (The University's financial year commences on 1 January.) Accordingly a meeting of the University community will be held at 12-1pm on Monday 26 February 2007

in Bonython Hall. The Vice-Chancellor will preside at the meeting.

"University community" means the Council, members of the academic staff, members of the general (professional) staff, graduates and students.

**Heather Karmel**  
Council Secretary

## Development & Alumni Events

### Entrepreneurship and Commercialisation Chapter (ECIC)

Event: Launch of ECIC alumni chapter and ECIC Christmas Party  
Date: Thursday 14 December  
Time: 6pm - 8pm  
Cost: Free  
Location: De Castella's Room (Ground Floor Wine Centre)  
RSVP: Zrinka at [zrinka.tokic@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:zrinka.tokic@adelaide.edu.au) or phone 8303 7422



# New student markets explored

## Continuing Education

Central and South America are emerging as potential markets for students wanting to study English, who also want to go on to further study in Adelaide.

Professional & Continuing Education (PCE) at the University of Adelaide recently investigated South America for its student potential.

PCE's English Language Centre offers a number of programs that provide opportunities for overseas students to improve their English.

The main programs available are the Pre-Enrolment English Program (PEP), for students planning to study at the University of Adelaide, and the General English for Academic Purposes (GEAP), for students seeking the experience of studying English in the academic environment of a leading Australian university.

Two staff from PCE recently attended an education roadshow in Chile and Brazil run by Australian Education International (AEI). AEI is aiming for Latin American student numbers to Australia to reach 18,000 by 2008, which equates to 5% of total international student numbers.

An "amazing number" of students attended the exhibitions in Santiago, Chile and Porto Alegre and Sao Paulo, Brazil – almost 20,000 students in total, said PCE's Director, Liz Pryzibilla.

"On day one of the first exhibition in Santiago, the interest was so strong that every institution ran out of promotional material in the first two hours," she said.

"The two-day exhibition in Santiago was the first of its kind in Chile and received a lot of media attention. There was 10 minutes dedicated to it on the evening news.

"The quality of the students and enquiries that we received at all of the exhibitions was impressive.

"Students were predominantly seeking English language programs, postgraduate research and coursework programs, both Masters and PhDs."

Ms Pryzibilla is no stranger to tapping into new markets, having visited South Korea in 2004.

"From our first trip to South Korea we identified a real need for a general English program, which led to the development of our newly introduced program, the GEAP. We now have 28 students from Korea studying the GEAP this year," she said.

"There have been many other positive outcomes from that first visit, including ongoing arrangements with a number of Korean education institutions who send study tour groups to our University each year."

One of the many South American students who already have good things to say about Adelaide's GEAP is Carlos Eduardo Hernández Castillo, a Masters in Economics student from Colombia.

"The GEAP course is very useful for me because it is focused on developing academic skills, such as studying abilities and writing," Carlos said.

"Since I have plans for doing a PhD in the future, developing these skills is very important for me."

It might not be too long before others like Carlos start to see the benefits of English language programs at Adelaide.

"If the kinds of enquiries we received were anything to go by during our visit, PCE and the University of Adelaide stand to gain from the strong interest in our programs in South America," Ms Pryzibilla said.

Story by David Ellis  
Photo by Randy Larcombe



## Want to learn over summer?

### Summer is a great time to study.

A wide range of short courses for personal or professional needs is available over summer from Professional & Continuing Education (PCE) at the University of Adelaide.

A number of the courses deal with business skills, people skills and communication.

Among the new programs on offer is "Baby Boomers, Gen X and Gen Y - How Do We All Work Together?" This promises to be invaluable for anyone hoping to get the most out of a multi-generational workforce, and is ideal for managers, supervisors, colleagues, or anyone wanting to gain an insight into how the generational gaps can be bridged.

Another new course is "Confidently Say What You Really Want to Say!" This aims to teach people how to have more personal impact and become clearer and more intentional in their speaking - something that many struggle with.

PCE also has an outstanding language and cultural program, with Intensive Language Courses for beginners and Advanced Courses.

The Intensive Language Courses are designed for those who wish to learn a language in a short period of time for business, personal interest or travel. Classes are held twice weekly, condensing a full year of study into 10 weeks. The teaching enables students to retain grammar and vocabulary and develop communication skills at a greater rate than in similar courses of longer duration. Intensive French, German, Italian, Japanese, Chinese (Mandarin) and Spanish are all available.

Secondary students feeling daunted by the prospect of a tough time ahead in Year 12 next year can take some comfort in the following: PCE offers Year 12 Subject Preparation Courses, a course in "Coping With Year 12", and another course in effective essay writing.

**For more information about PCE's Summer Program, visit [www.adelaide.edu.au/pce](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/pce) or call (08) 8303 4777.**



# CASM says thank you

Maureen Ritchie (front) is thanked by the CASM choir, Keriba Wakai  
Photo by David Ellis

## ■ Benefactors

How do you thank a person who has given you a major donation?

The University's Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM) did it in the way they know best – by throwing a barbecue and concert.

The event, held recently on the lawns outside the CASM studios in Adelaide, was held in honour of local business identity Maureen Ritchie.

Ms Ritchie, a property investor, is well known for her generosity towards the arts. CASM has become one of the latest arts-based programs she has chosen to support, in part thanks to the inspiration of former CASM student David Page, who performed his one-man autobiographical show, *Page 8*, at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival last year.

"As David's story shows, the programs run by CASM can be a life-

changing experience. It's important for young people and emerging artists to be given the opportunity to develop their talent, and that's exactly what CASM enables them to do," Ms Ritchie said.

"When I first looked into CASM, it seemed straight away that it was a very good program. The centre's dealings with remote communities and the exchange of culture and knowledge was something that appealed to me personally," she said.

"The music aspect of it is also important – I like the idea of indigenous music and culture being incorporated into a university setting. University should be an attraction to Aboriginal people to come to, so I like the idea of helping to promote that."

Ms Ritchie's gift to the University will help CASM to boost its outreach program into rural and remote communities. CASM has been conducting workshops and

performances in remote South Australian communities for many years, but these have always been on an ad hoc basis as funding allowed.

"We are so grateful to Maureen for her support. It will enable CASM to build on prior relationships within the community and to build new partnerships to create a sustainable program of activities," said CASM's Academic Programs Coordinator, Jenny Newsome.

"It simply would not be possible for CASM to develop and sustain these programs without this kind of support.

"A really important aspect of her support is that it will broaden opportunities for our students to participate in outreach, to deliver community-based education programs, and to build on their performance experience," she said.

Ms Ritchie, who has been involved in philanthropy for the past nine

years, said it was important to her to "reinvest in the country I live in".

"In my opinion, funding the arts is not just something that is a predominantly government responsibility," she said.

"Culture is a very important part of who we are. Art and music are fundamental to our culture. I love Australian culture, and I want to do what I can to help its development.

"The ongoing dialogue with CASM was something that appealed to me. CASM is very much like a family, they have a big family feel to them. There's often a lot of satisfaction in seeing the outcomes, and for this project I'm sure I will definitely see and enjoy the outcomes."

CASM's thankyou celebration for Ms Ritchie included performances by the CASM choir Keriba Wakai, the band and dancers. Students and staff alike joined to thank Ms Ritchie for her generosity.

Story by David Ellis