

Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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Hospital admissions could be avoided: report

Public Health

A new report released by the University of Adelaide's Public Health Information Development Unit shows that almost 9% of hospital admissions in Australia should have been avoided, with highest rates among the oldest and most disadvantaged Australians.

The *Atlas of Avoidable Hospitalisations in Australia: ambulatory care-sensitive conditions* examines hospitalisations which should be able to be avoided with preventive care and early disease management.

"This measure is primarily one of access to health care," said John Glover, Director of the Public Health Information Development Unit, a collaborating unit of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

"Higher rates of avoidable hospitalisations indicate less access to effective and timely primary health care, delivered for example by a general practitioner or at a community health centre.

"Key factors important in the number of avoidable hospitalisations are age, socioeconomic status and remoteness."

The report shows that in 2001/2002, 8.7% or 552,000

hospital admissions were potentially avoidable, with 27.1% occurring in the 75 years and over age bracket.

The report shows that socioeconomic status was important with 61% more avoidable hospitalisations among people in the most disadvantaged areas of Australia compared to those in the least disadvantaged areas.

"There is a distinct, step-wise socioeconomic gradient evident in total avoidable hospitalisation rates in Australia, with each increase in disadvantage accompanied by an increase in admissions from these conditions," Mr Glover said.

continued on page 14





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Correction
It has come to our attention that some information in our story about the University of Adelaide's Uni Games success (*Adelaidean*, November 2006) was incorrect. The University was not overall champion of rockclimbing (Adelaide came second overall). Not mentioned in the story was the fact that Adelaide also won gold in the lightweight four (coxless) rowing event. The online version of this story has now been updated to correct these inaccuracies.

From the Vice-Chancellor

In her speech to the *Australian Financial Review* Higher Education Summit in Melbourne last month, Education Minister the Hon. Julie Bishop said the Federal Government was committed to "less red tape, less regulation and greater flexibility" for Australian universities.

Personally, I don't see any evidence of that. Although Ms Bishop was speaking about university governance in that context, it seems like an odd statement to make at a time when the Government is not exactly leading by example.

If anything, the red tape – that is, the amount of extra administrative work the Government demands of us – appears to have increased in my time here. You need only to look at the Government's new Research Quality Framework (RQF) for an example of that.

I should point out that I agree with the basic aims of the RQF – that is, a framework designed to ensure that Australia's universities are conducting quality research. I fully support the idea of ensuring that all research is quality research.

However, it's difficult to understand why the Federal Government is persisting with this particular model, which is costing the taxpayers millions of dollars, costing universities large amounts of money and time, and ignores the basis on which most of our research funding is provided.

We compete for most of the funding we receive, and industry will only fund quality outcomes that are relevant to their needs. Funding from the Australian Research Council and the National Health and Medical Research Council is both competitive and peer reviewed. So we compete for the money, we win the money, and then after we're done, under RQF, somebody says: "Now we want to conduct another process to see how good you are." We've already won the money – we must have been quite good to get it in the first place. Certainly, a

peer review process only recommends further funding on the basis of excellence.

What the Government seems to be saying is that a framework used by the British 10 years ago, which they are abandoning, is good enough for us to try now. Unfortunately the RQF in its current form is too complex and too expensive.

The Government has, of course, committed substantial amounts of money to helping universities prepare for the RQF, but that won't come close to covering the costs. Australian universities everywhere are already incurring large costs preparing for the RQF.

If the Government wants to make universities and research groups more accountable for their research, there are several ways of doing it. The Government already has all of the metrics that we supply about our research, and I think you could get pretty close to making a judgement based on the information we provide.

According to the newspapers, the Labor Party says it might abandon the current scheme in favour of one that is metrics driven, with a bit of peer review and a balance between the disciplines. I'd have to say that's a better idea, and that's what the Group of Eight universities have been saying all along. And it certainly would involve less red tape.

I wish that research were the only example of bureaucracy soaking up money in an already under-funded university system. Regrettably it is not.

JAMES A. McWha
Vice-Chancellor and President

Art & Heritage Collections

To mark Reconciliation Week (27 May to 3 June) the focus of the Visual Art collection for this month is Joel Hayes's evocative piece *My Homeland*.

Hayes is an Aboriginal artist based in Geelong, Victoria. He is a member of the Arunta people from Central Australia and is related to Albert Namatjira.

His art reflects both traditional and contemporary styles. He is a painter in the traditional sense, but also uses the technique of "glass slumping", where Aboriginal cultural designs are impressed into high-quality glassware using high-temperature kilns.

Hayes has created a number of large glass works commissioned for the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

■ Mirna Heruc, Manager, Art & Heritage Collections



My Homeland by Joel Hayes (1999 Geelong) in impressed (slump) glass. This work was donated through the Cultural Gifts Program and is part of the University of Adelaide Art Collection.

It is on display in the foyer of the Barr Smith Library for the month of May.



Bob's haircut pays off

Fundraising

More than \$9000 has been raised to date for vital research thanks to the snip of one lock of hair – and donations are still coming in.

Professor Bob Hill has finally given up his ponytail, which has been with him most of his life. The Executive Dean of the University of Adelaide's Faculty of Sciences first grew a ponytail in his undergraduate student days, and only agreed to have it cut off to raise funds for the Brain Foundation (SA).

The event occurred on the University's Barr Smith Lawns, hosted by ABC Radio 891's Tim Noonan and drawing a large crowd of curious spectators.

"The actual haircut took on some aspects of a public execution," Professor Hill said.

"It was a difficult lead up, given it has been part of me for a long time. The hour beforehand seemed much longer. However, the organisers were fantastic and I was really impressed by the way people gave up their time so freely for such a good cause," he said.

Former University of Adelaide science student Luke Rosenzweig

was the wielder of the scissors. Luke is a previous recipient of a Brain Foundation scholarship, following a car accident that left him severely injured.

"I am very pleased with the outcome from the whole event," Professor Hill said. "I had no idea how important this was to the Brain Foundation and I would never have expected to raise so much money for what is, in the end, such a trivial sacrifice.

"Interestingly, most people take a while to notice that it has happened, so I obviously haven't changed much.

"I think it is fair to say that people are unlikely to see an Executive Dean of Sciences with a ponytail for another few years at least, and I don't think it will be me."

You can still make a donation to support research into brain disorders, diseases and injury at the Brain Foundation (SA). To make a donation, call (08) 8303 3607 or visit the website: www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au/ponytail/

Above: Professor Bob Hill holds his freshly cut ponytail as Grant Nelson, Manager of South 21 hairdressing salon, gives the professor's remaining hair an all-important trim

Photo by David Ellis

■ Story by David Ellis

News in Brief



Jazz Awards concert

Six outstanding jazz musicians from the Elder Conservatorium of Music have been nominated for jazz awards this year.

The award winners will perform and be presented with their awards at the University of Adelaide's Scott Theatre, off Kintore Ave, on Wednesday 9 May at 7.30pm.

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

Tickets are \$8 at the door (no concession). Subscribers to the Elder Conservatorium Evening Concert Series can purchase tickets to the Jazz Awards at a special price of \$6 per person.

For more information, visit: www.music.adelaide.edu.au

New General Manager of Student Services

Dr Judy Szekeres has been appointed General Manager, Student Services at the University of Adelaide.

Dr Szekeres is currently Division Manager in the Division of Business and Enterprise at the University of South Australia, a position she has held for nine years. Prior to that she was Deputy Director of the Co-op Program at the University of New South Wales before spending a brief period as Careers Adviser at the University of Adelaide.

Dr Szekeres holds a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Mathematics, a Certificate of Music and a Graduate Diploma of Education in Secondary Music, a Master of Arts in Theatre Studies, and in 2005 was awarded a Doctor of Education from the University of South Australia with a thesis topic of "Experiences of administrative staff in the corporate university".

She takes up her position on 21 May.

News and events website

For all the latest news and events from the University of Adelaide, visit: www.adelaide.edu.au/news/

This concert is simply Guitarissimo

Music

A new breed of South Australian musical talent from the University of Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium of Music will perform in May as a part of the recently established Guitarissimo concert series for guitar players.

In the transition from the classroom to the concert stage in the Guitarissimo series, the students are being mentored by the Event Director, internationally acclaimed German guitarist Oliver Fartach-Naini.

Following successful concerts in July and November last year, the May concert will showcase the talents of Elder Conservatorium musicians Jody Fisher, Ben Brakenridge, Jason Williams and Kirsty Forbes (clarinet) alongside guests Andrey Lebedev (guitar), Laura Pierce (flute) and the Marryatville Guitar Ensemble.

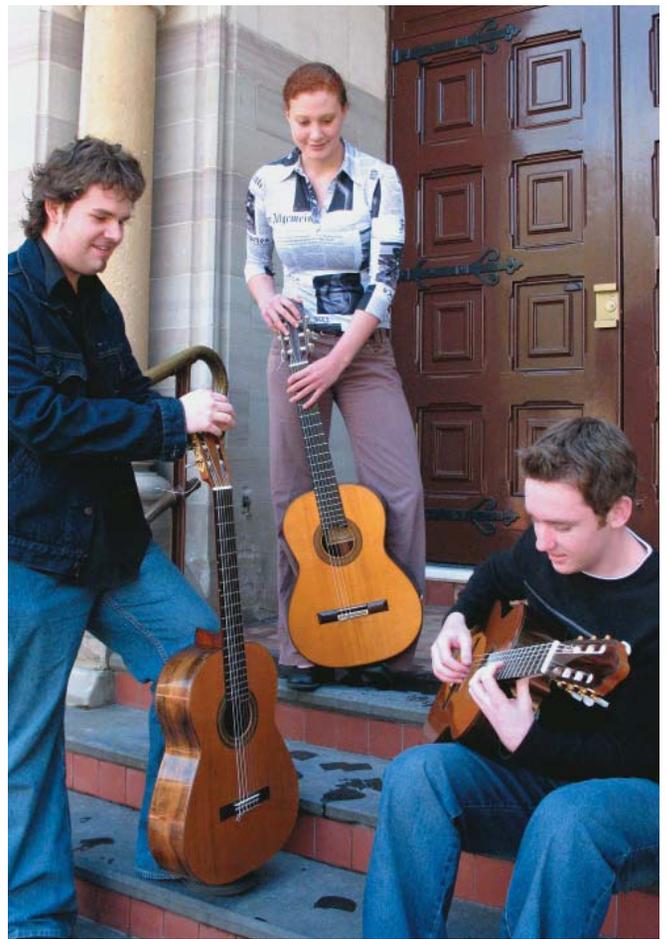
The concert program promises an exciting mixture of solo and chamber music with popular tunes as well as surprise gems. The first half of the concert (solo guitar) will feature the very rare complete performance of all 12 studies by Heitor Villa-Lobos. The second half of the concert (chamber music) will be focused around tango music and

includes the famous *Suite Buenos Aires* by Tango composer Maximo Diego Pujol for flute and guitar, Astor Piazzolla's *Verano Porteño* in an arrangement for guitar ensemble, and *Klezmer* for clarinet and guitar, as well as others.

"For guitar players, the Guitarissimo series has been a fantastic opportunity to perform and reach new audiences," said Elder Conservatorium guitar student Jody Fisher. "Oliver Fartach-Naini's ability to create new opportunities for students and facilitate visits by international guitarists to Adelaide, along with his involvement in Sydney and Perth music schools, is changing the future of guitar in Australia and allowing young artists to shine."

Oliver Fartach-Naini was a student of Laurie Randolph at the University of Arts Berlin, the Academy of Music and Theatre Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy in Leipzig and has participated in many international masterclasses. Today, in addition to lecturing at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, Mr Fartach-Naini performs extensively not only as a soloist but in various chamber music formats.

Guitarissimo will be held at 6.30pm on Monday 28 May at Pilgrim Church, 12 Flinders Street, Adelaide.



Tickets are \$15 adults/\$10 concession at the door or from all BASS outlets, BASS dial'n' charge 131 246 and online: www.bass.net.au

Proceeds from the concert will assist Elder Conservatorium of Music students to attend the Darwin International Guitar Festival in July this year. The Elder Conservatorium of Music is a Helpmann Academy partner school.

Some of the Elder Conservatorium music students who will take to the stage for Guitarissimo (from left): Jason Williams, Jody Fisher and Ben Brakenridge

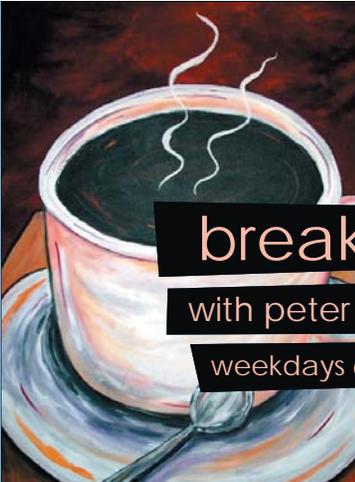
Photo by Josie Withers



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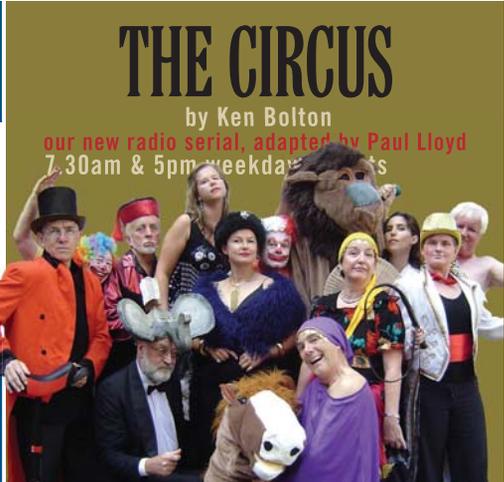


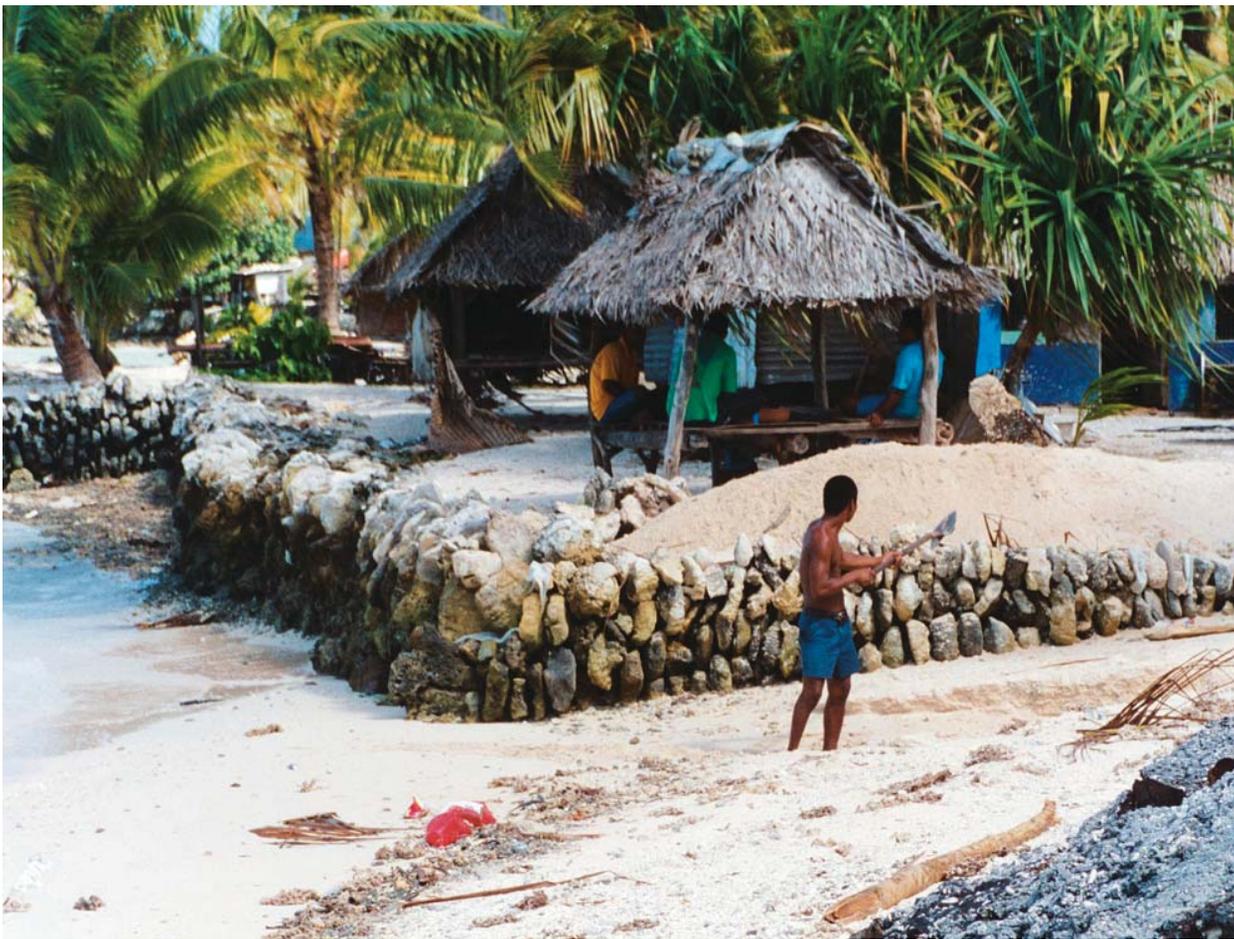
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our new radio serial, adapted by Paul Lloyd
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A local attempts to reclaim land on sheltered sides of the lagoon at Tarawa Atoll, Kirabati

Photo by Nick Harvey

Gloomy forecast from climate experts

■ Environment

“Many millions of people will be vulnerable to flooding by the end of the century due to rising sea levels”

More intense cyclones, rising sea levels and increased flooding will be the pattern for Australia’s coastal communities by 2050, according to one of Australia’s leading climate change experts, Professor Nick Harvey.

The University of Adelaide professor is one of five Australian lead authors on the Australia and New Zealand Chapter from the second Working Group of the IPCC, the global body assessing the scientific evidence for climate change.

IPCC (the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) released the group’s report, called *Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability*, in Brussels last month. It addresses the vulnerability of socio-economic and natural systems to climate change and options for adapting to them. The first volume of the IPCC report was released in Paris in February.

The second report reveals that, in Australia, sea levels are likely to rise by more than half a metre by the end of this century.

“We will experience more intense tropical cyclones and storms will be more frequent,” Professor Harvey said. “Places like Cairns and southeast Queensland will be most vulnerable.”

The report discloses that unusually high sea surface temperatures have bleached up to 50% of reefs in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park since 1979 and freshwater swamps in northern Australia have been infiltrated by saltwater since the 1950s.

Further south, about one fifth of Tasmania’s coastline is at risk of serious erosion in the next 50-100 years as a result of rising sea levels.

“On a global scale, sea levels have risen at an average of 1.8mm a year between 1961 and 2003,” Professor Harvey said.

“Many millions of people will be vulnerable to flooding by the end of the century due to rising sea levels, especially in densely-populated and low-lying settlements. The greatest populations at risk are in Asia and the Pacific.”

Professor Harvey, from the University of Adelaide’s School of Social Sciences, has had a long involvement with scientific global change research.

He was Vice-Chair of the international peak body examining the effect of global change on the world’s coastlines, LOICZ (Land Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone) from 1997-2002. Professor Harvey is currently Chair of the international START-Oceania

committee, based in Fiji, dealing with global change research and training. He has also authored more than 100 scientific papers and books.

He is also a member of the University of Adelaide’s Research Institute for Climate Change and Sustainability and the only IPCC lead author from South Australia.

On the issue of causes of climate change, Professor Harvey said: “Cycles of climate change are evident from the geological record, but human impact is now adding to the natural cycle. In fact a few years ago the prestigious scientific journal *Nature* published an article referring to a new geological era called the ‘Anthropocene’ reflecting the significance of human influence on global change.”

IPCC was established by two United Nations organisations – the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).

The report, *Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability*, is the second volume of the IPCC’s Fourth Assessment on global warming involving 2500 of the world’s most respected scientists, including 25 from Australia.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

Little Women has big cast of graduates

■ Alumni



University of Adelaide music graduates will this month play a major role in the Australian premiere of an opera production of *Little Women*.

A huge hit on Broadway and across the United States, this opera about the power of family, friendship and romance is composed by Mark Adamo based on Louisa May Alcott's famous coming-of-age, Civil War-era novel.

Little Women is the poignant chronicle of the four March sisters – Jo, Beth, Meg and Amy – in 19th century New England. Adapted many times for the stage and screen, it is a tale of the power of family, friendship and romance.

Opening at the Dunstan Playhouse on 19 May, the Australian premiere of *Little Women* is the result of an "exciting and historic collaboration" between State Opera and the State Theatre Company, said State Theatre Company Artistic Director Adam Cook.

Conducted by Timothy Sexton and directed by Cook, the production sees a number of Elder Conservatorium graduates come to the fore.

Mezzo-soprano Sally-Anne Russell stars in the key role of Jo; sopranos Eleanor Blythman and Jessica Dean are Amy and Beth

respectively; baritone Andrew Turner is Mr Dashwood; and David Thelander plays John Brooke. Fellow Conservatorium graduate Anthony Hunt is the repetiteur for the rehearsal period.

Sally-Anne Russell has had a distinguished career, performing with many companies including the Oper der Stadt Köln, the Spoleto Festival in Italy, Victoria State Opera, State Opera of South Australia, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide International Festivals, and Canterbury Opera in New Zealand. She has presented concerts and recitals in the Netherlands, Austria, England, Canada, Japan and New Zealand.

Eleanor Blythman recently completed a Bachelor of Music in classical voice performance with Honours at the University of Adelaide. In 2005 she made her professional debut in *The Mikado* for Opera Australia and the Adelaide Festival Centre. Later this year Eleanor will take up further study at the Royal College of Music, London.

Jessica Dean, who this year will be taking up a scholarship in London on the Royal Academy of Music's prestigious Opera Course, has performed extensively in Adelaide. A First-Class Honours graduate of the Elder Conservatorium of Music,

she played opposite Anthony Warlow and David Hobson in Opera Australia's production of *The Mikado* for the Adelaide Festival Centre.

Adelaide baritone Andrew Turner studied singing at the Elder Conservatorium and the Luxembourg Conservatoire. He has performed operatic roles in Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Romania, Finland and Singapore. He has toured Australia with Co-Opera and regularly sings with the State Opera of SA.

David Thelander is a graduate of both the Elder Conservatorium of Music and the Australian Opera Studio. David has appeared in concert with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, the Southern Sinfonia, Dunedin and the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, Tokyo. He made his debut for the Australian Opera Studio singing the role of Ariodant in Handel's *Xerxes*.

Conductor and repetiteur Anthony Hunt is a first-class honours graduate of the Elder Conservatorium in both Piano and Organ performance. In 2005 and 2006 he participated in the Symphony Australia Conductor Development Program and is a regular guest player with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra.

Among the cast of *Little Women* at the Dunstan Playhouse are University of Adelaide music graduates (back, from left) Eleanor Blythman and Sally-Anne Russell and (front left) Jessica Dean, pictured with fellow cast member Kylie Bailey

Photo courtesy of the State Theatre Company of SA



Wool research could help human disorder

■ Animal Science

Sheep gene research at the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus, aimed at helping maximise wool production for Australian producers, has shed light on a human genetic hair and skin disorder.

PhD student Hayley McGrice has won this year's SARDI Suffrage Science Bursary for her research into the genes and molecular signals that affect wool follicle formation in lambs.

Her research has used novel techniques to investigate which specific genes are turned on and off during key points of the wool follicle formation.

Two of the genes measured in this way are known to be important in the human genetic condition ectodermal dysplasia. People with this genetic condition are often born with extremely sparse hair and have abnormal or missing teeth and poorly developed sweat glands.

"Wool follicles are only initiated once during any mammal's life, so if we can determine which genes or pathways are responsible, we can manipulate the development of follicles – perhaps producing many more wool follicles – so as

to maximise the lifetime wool-producing potential of sheep," Ms McGrice said.

"Because of the similarity of hair and wool follicle initiation across mammals, these findings are relevant to research in human hair conditions. Mutations in two of the genes I have measured have been previously established as causative in ectodermal dysplasia. My work has shown how these genes are important in the formation of wool follicles and the signalling processes involved, and thus may benefit further research into this hair disorder."

Ms McGrice said this fundamental research into the genes and pathways involved in wool follicle initiation could lead to the production of pharmaceuticals or food additives, with the potential to increase the number of follicles initiated during development, or increase the rate of wool growth. Similarly it could lead to benefits for human hair conditions such as ectodermal dysplasia.

The SARDI bursary will help Ms McGrice attend the 5th International Congress of Hair Research in Vancouver in June to present her findings.

Above:
Hayley McGrice

Photo courtesy of SARDI



Win tickets to the Janakai String Trio

Four lucky readers of the *Adelaidean* have the chance to win a double-pass to the latest in the Selby & Friends concert series, featuring the award-winning Janakai String Trio from the United States.

The new national tour of acclaimed pianist Kathryn Selby and her trio, Selby & Friends, has already caught the attention of critics around the country.

This month, Selby & Friends welcomes the Janakai String Trio for their first visit to Australia, for a single performance in Adelaide on Sunday 20 May, 2.30pm at Elder Hall at the University of Adelaide's North Terrace Campus.

Comprising violinist Serena McKinney, violist Katie Kadarach and cellist Arnold Choi, these young musicians have been recently hailed by the *New York Times* as having "irresistible electricity" and presenting "earthy, magnificently polished" performances.

Founded at the Colburn School of Music in Los Angeles in early 2005, the Janakai String Trio won the 59th Annual Coleman Chamber Music Competition in the same year. They first came to international attention when they won the prestigious Concert Artists Guild International Competition in 2006.

Tickets for the National Touring Season for Selby & Friends range from \$27-\$48 and are available by calling (02) 9969 7039 or (02) 9405 5532, or by email: info@selbyandfriends.com.au

Ticket order forms can also be downloaded from the website: www.selbyandfriends.com.au

To win one of four double-passes to the 20 May concert in Adelaide, be the first callers through on (08) 8303 5414.

Tickets are valued at \$48 each.

■ Story by Robyn Mills

Student looks beyond the borders

■ Social Science

Imagine: more than 600 of the world's brightest young minds, exchanging ideas with global experts from six continents.

It's an idealist's dream – and one that came true for University of Adelaide student Linty McDonald earlier this year.

The 22-year-old Health and Social Sciences final-year student spent a week in Abu Dhabi in late February as the sole South Australian participant in the biennial Education Without Borders conference.

The international student conference is held every two years in different locations to discuss solutions to some of the world's most pressing social challenges.

Students, representatives from the humanitarian sector and leaders of business, technology and education participate in a collaborative forum that culminates with a commitment to action.

Hosted by the Sheikh of Abu Dhabi this year, the conference featured workshops, presentations and debates involving speakers from more than 20 countries.

2006 Nobel Peace Prize Winner Professor Muhammad Yunus, Nicholas Negroponte, the innovator behind the non-profit project "One Laptop Per Child", and United Nations diplomat Dr Shashi Tharoor were among the guest speakers.

"It was so inspiring to experience this collaboration of cultures," Linty said. "I met some amazing people who are committed to social justice and ridding the world of poverty."

"The conference brought home to me the responsibility that our generation holds for an equitable future for all. We need to ensure basic human rights, sustainable housing, health, education, water and food for everybody," she said.

Topics covered included inequitable access to education and technology, responding to natural disasters and how universities are responding to globalisation.

"The conference has redefined my perspectives in relation to my studies and the developing world. I realise now the privilege of education and the importance of both practical experience and



Linty McDonald

Photo by Candy Gibson

academic accuracy to facilitate the alleviation of poverty," she said.

Linty has since become a volunteer with Multicultural Youth South Australia, which provides a variety of services for migrant and refugee young people in Adelaide.

She intends to pursue a career in the international health and social welfare field when she graduates at the end of this year.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

Tougher crops for a warming world A Research Tuesday with Mark Tester



Professor Mark Tester

The University of Adelaide's **Research Tuesdays** seminar series continues on **Tuesday, 8 May at 5:30pm**.

Professor Mark Tester, a Federation Fellow from the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics and the School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, will talk about how we are hunting down the 'toughness' genes in plants and moving them into our crops to enhance crop yield and sustainability.

Venue:

Research Tuesdays will take place in the Napier Building (Lower Ground) on the North Terrace campus at 5.30pm. Duration one hour. Admission is free.

Booking essential:

Ph: 8303 3692 or email: research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au

Coming up in the series...

12 June

Professor Richard Pomfret

What use is research in international trade policy and economic development?

10 July

Professor Zbigniew Michalewicz

The science of making profitable decisions.

For more information:

Visit the University of Adelaide's Research website: www.adelaide.edu.au/research

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Hepatitis C rife in our prisons

Public Health

Hepatitis C infection is endemic among the South Australian prison population, with 42% of the State's 1700 prisoners infected with the virus, according to a University of Adelaide study.

Epidemiologist and University of Adelaide PhD graduate Dr Emma Miller said injecting drug use is common among the State's prison population and responsible for the high rate of the blood-borne virus in SA's prisons.

"Seventy per cent of people entering our prisons have a history of injecting drug use and although most of them modify that behaviour in prison, contaminated needles represent a significant threat to other prisoners and staff," Dr Miller said.

Tattoos also account for up to 5% of all newly notified cases of Hepatitis C in South Australia, the study found. The majority of these tattoos are applied within the prison system.

Approximately 700 inmates were interviewed for the 15-month study of South Australia's eight publicly operated prisons, which revealed an entry prevalence of Hepatitis C approximately 40 times higher than in the general population.

The figure for female prison entrants is even higher, at 65%.

In a bid to reduce the spread of Hepatitis C in the prison system, Dr Miller has made several recommendations to the SA Department for Correctional Services and SA Department of Health.

"A successful methadone program is already well established and positively evaluated in all of our prisons, but it's currently the only systematic strategy in place specifically aimed at reducing the transmission of blood-borne viruses in prison," she said.

Dr Miller conducted the study as part of her PhD in Medicine, which she completed in 2006. She graduated at an offshore ceremony in Hong Kong last month, along with 40 other University of Adelaide students.

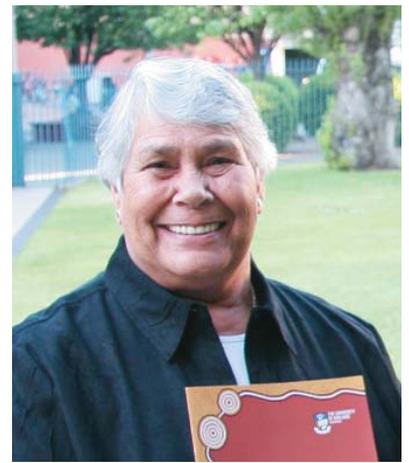
Dr Peng Bi from the School of Population Health and Clinical Practice supervised Dr Miller's PhD.

Dr Miller is now working as an epidemiologist at the Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory in Melbourne.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

"Seventy per cent of people entering our prisons have a history of injecting drug use"

Photo by David Ritter



DON DUNSTAN FOUNDATION
FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Lowitja O'Donoghue Oration

The Don Dunstan Foundation is proud to announce the establishment of the Lowitja O'Donoghue (Annual) Oration. The Oration has been established to honour Professor O'Donoghue's work in promoting the rights of Indigenous Australians.

The Oration, held during Reconciliation Week in 2007, will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the 1967 Referendum when Australians voted to remove from the Australian Constitution language that discriminated against Aboriginal people.

Professor Lowitja O'Donoghue AC CBE will deliver the inaugural Oration:

Date:

Tuesday 29 May

Time:

7.00pm – 8.00pm

Venue:

Bonython Hall at the University of Adelaide

Cost:

\$15, \$10 DDF Subscribers/Concession

RSVP:

Through the Foundation on (08) 8303 3364 or via email to: josie.convino@adelaide.edu.au

***Detainee 002: The Case of David Hicks* – in conversation with author Leigh Sales**

Leigh Sales, ABC's National Security Correspondent who visited Guantanamo Bay twice, will speak about the experiences that led her to write her book, *Detainee 002: The Case of David Hicks*.

Copies of the book will be available for sale and Leigh Sales will be available for book signing.

Date:

Tuesday 15 May

Time:

5.30pm for 5.45pm start – 8.00pm

Venue:

Room 102, Napier Building at the University of Adelaide

Cost:

Gold coin donation

RSVP:

Through the Foundation on (08) 8303 3364 or via email to: josie.convino@adelaide.edu.au

www.dunstan.org.au

A guide to keeping the blues away

■ General Practice

General practitioner and University of Adelaide researcher Dr Cate Howell has released a guide to keeping depression at bay.

The multi-faceted guide, combining a manual and CD, provides a 10-step program to help reduce the severity and relapse of depression, which affects more than one million adults and 100,000 young people in Australia each year.

Keeping the Blues Away was launched in Adelaide recently by Gail Gago, the Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

General practitioners in Adelaide have endorsed the program after trialling it with 100 patients over the past 12 months.

"Depression is often a relapsing or recurring problem and it can be associated with anxiety," Dr Howell said.

"It is a very common problem that can affect people from all walks

of life, from politicians to sporting heroes, and of all ages. It impacts on the individual, their family and the community."

In 2004, as part of her doctoral studies, Dr Howell began developing a primary care treatment program aimed at reducing the relapse of depression.

"The book is written for patients to use, ideally guided by a GP or mental health professional," she said.

"There has been very limited research into relapse prevention programs in the past, but this literature supports a range of treatment strategies that help prevent the recurrence of depression."

Dr Howell is a general practitioner and senior lecturer in the Discipline of General Practice at the University of Adelaide. She is also Director of the University's Primary Care Mental Health Unit.

■ Story by Candy Gibson



Dr Cate Howell with her book, *Keeping the Blues Away*

A photograph of Emily Stone, a young woman with reddish-brown hair, smiling and holding a large, dark wood bassoon. She is wearing a denim jacket over a red top and a black necklace. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Elder Conservatorium of Music

Impact in Performance

Emily Stone is studying for a Masters degree in Music Performance at the University of Adelaide and was the Australian Youth Orchestra's principal bassoonist in 2006.

"The Elder Conservatorium at the University of Adelaide has an intimate environment and a culture of accessibility, for lessons or just a chat, even with senior staff. I feel as though people are interested in my success. It has had an impact on my ability to develop as a performer."

To find out more about how you can become part of our lively community of musicians, contact music@adelaide.edu.au

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How do children view mental illness?

■ Psychology

Parents with a mental illness and their children are sought for a University of Adelaide study into how they both view the parent's illness.

PhD student Brooke Ferguson, in the University's School of Psychology, is seeking parents who have a mental illness and are living in the community with at least one child in their care to be interviewed about their understanding of mental illness. She would like to interview both the parent and any children seven years or over.

She hopes her research will help the development of education programs badly needed for children to help them understand and cope with their parent's mental illness.

"A recent report suggests there could be as many as a million children in Australia who have a parent with mental illness," Ms Ferguson said. "But despite this large number, there has been little research into the understanding both parents and children have for the illness they are living with as a family.

"I'm interested in how children describe their parent's illness, what they think are the causes, what they think about the symptoms, their views on whether it can be controlled or cured. And I also want to find out about the parents' understanding of their illness – that too is little researched. This will help us know whether parents with mental illness want their children to be educated about their illness, and how."

Ms Ferguson would like to hear from parents with mental illness including anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and personality disorders.

Parents and children will take part in separate interviews to examine their ideas about aspects of mental illness. All responses will be anonymous. Just parents or just children can be interviewed if desired.

To take part or enquire further, please contact Ms Brooke Ferguson on (08) 8303 3818 or email: brooke.ferguson@adelaide.edu.au

Ms Ferguson is undertaking her PhD under the supervision of Dr Lisa Kettler, psychology lecturer and registered psychologist.

■ Story by Robyn Mills

"There could be as many as a million children in Australia who have a parent with mental illness"

Photo by Shutterstock photography



Travelling mace makes maiden voyage

The University of Adelaide prides itself on a number of traditions, including the use of the University mace at graduation ceremonies.

"The original mace has had a solid 80 years of use and quite a number of trips overseas. But the overseas graduations have proven detrimental to its condition, and its size and companion wooden box also became problems when travelling due to aircraft cabin luggage restrictions and customs requirements," said the Manager of the University's Art & Heritage Collections, Mirna Heruc.

"These considerations led the University to commission a new mace specifically for travelling overseas, to carry with it the spirit of the old mace."

The travelling mace was designed by Catherine Buddle of Buddle Design and hand crafted by silversmith Peter Coombs, both Adelaide-based artists. Catherine has strong links to the University through her early career as a laboratory technician in Zoology, and more recently as a graphic designer for both Art & Heritage Collections and Development & Alumni.

"Catherine's design embodies the contemporary vision of the University with its slick shape and sparkling finish," Ms Heruc said. "The travelling mace is made out of brushed silver with gold highlights depicting a stylised University crest and Southern Cross. It is lightweight and can be dismantled for ease of travel."

The travelling mace is also an art object and is the latest addition to the University's Visual Art Collection.

Its maiden trip last month has taken it to graduation ceremonies in Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore.



Tropical architect returns to Adelaide

Noted architect and former University of Adelaide student Hijjas bin Kasturi is returning to Adelaide to launch a public exhibition and to give a free public lecture in May.

The skyline of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia wouldn't be the same without the work of architectural firm Hijjas Kasturi Associates. From the sprouting "bamboo shoot" design of the Menara Telekom tower, to the Islamic-inspired "hourglass" of the Tabung Haji government building (pictured), and the Maybank Tower (which until the Petronas Towers were built was the tallest building in KL), the work of Hijjas Kasturi Associates is always impressive and memorable.

Hijjas bin Kasturi studied at the University of Adelaide, and in the 1960s went on to complete his Bachelor of Architecture at the University of Melbourne.

He is closely linked with an important development in suburban Adelaide, having been a draughtsman with the South Australian Housing Trust from 1959-61, where he helped to prepare the Master Plan for the town of Elizabeth.

A highly respected architect, he will launch an exhibition of Hijjas Kasturi Associates' work, to be held at the University of Adelaide's School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urban Design from Monday 21 May to Friday 25 May. The launch will be followed by a public lecture at 7.30pm on Tropical Architecture.

For more information about these events, contact Development & Alumni on (08) 8303 5800.

Photo by M. Rosley Omar

Adelaide degree wins high recognition

■ Graduation

Chinese lawyer Zhenyu Liu will use his newly acquired Master of Laws from the University of Adelaide to help his company smoothly negotiate changes in domestic law reform.

Mr Liu, who works for the law firm Andao Yonghua in southern China, said his year-long study program at the University of Adelaide in 2006 had updated his knowledge in the areas of insolvency, company and competition law – all crucial to his firm's success.

"Andao Yonghua is a rapidly growing law firm in Guangzhou and the partners give high recognition for overseas study and the development of company law from an international perspective," Mr Liu said.

The 25-year-old began working for Andao Yonghua in 2005 after graduating with a law degree from the South China Normal University in the Guangdong Province.

"My father worked for a big, government-owned company and his job involved handling legal cases, so he was probably my biggest influence. My dream of becoming a lawyer, and eventually a judge, goes back to my high school days."

Mr Liu chose the University of Adelaide for two reasons: the Masters program offered company law subjects directly related to this work, and the lifestyle appealed.



"My hometown Guangzhou is a crowded metropolis of 12 million people and I was looking for something different – a beautiful, small city in which to live and study.

"Adelaide and my study experiences at the University have given me the most wonderful memories of my life so far. I wouldn't hesitate to go back there to further my skills," he said.

Mr Liu graduated with 38 other students at the Hotel Intercontinental in Hong Kong on 17 April.

Zhenyu Liu, of Guangzhou, southern China

Photo by Candy Gibson

■ Story by Candy Gibson

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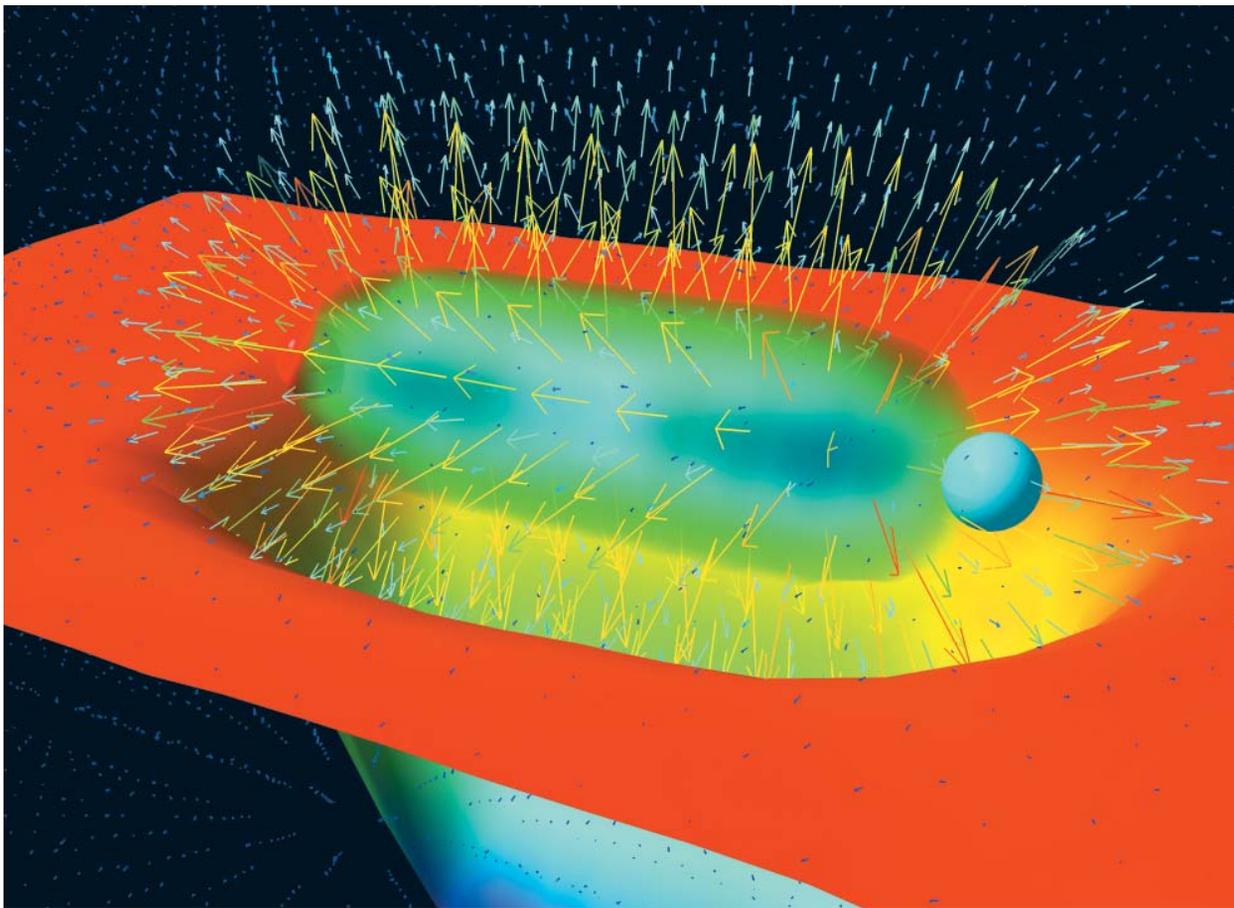
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Researchers use the high performance of supercomputers for visualisation methods to see and understand their work. This image, used by theoretical physicists, is of a Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD) flux tube between two quarks. QCD is a theory used to describe the interactions of quarks and gluons, fundamental sub-atomic particles which comprise more familiar particles such as protons and neutrons.

Image by Associate Professor Derek Leinweber

New supercomputer boosts research capability

■ Research

A new, hi-tech supercomputer capable of six trillion calculations per second will help South Australia to tackle some of the big issues in scientific and applied research, such as water resources and environmental management.

The new high-performance supercomputer will be used by the South Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing (SAPAC) to support research and development by governments, industry and universities in key areas of need.

SAPAC is a partnership of the three South Australian universities – Adelaide, Flinders and UniSA. The new supercomputer, to be installed at the University of Adelaide next month, has been purchased from SGI, one of the world's leading high-performance computer companies.

In the tradition of naming cluster-based supercomputers after stellar constellations, the new supercomputer will be called "Corvus", the constellation of the crow. It will effectively replace the retiring "Perseus", the oldest of SAPAC's four existing supercomputers, which was built in the late 1990s.

"This new supercomputer is a major leap forward for the South Australian research and development community," said Professor Tony Williams, Director of SAPAC.

"The power that this computer offers is desperately needed by South Australia's research community to make a real impact in areas of strategic need.

"It will be used to tackle some of the most demanding scientific and technical problems, ranging from bioinformatics, fluid dynamics, water resource and environmental management, physical oceanography, computational chemistry, and physics.

"We believe that Corvus will be the fourth fastest computer in Australia and, for dedicated R&D, second only to the Australian National Facility in Canberra," he said.

Professor Williams said Corvus would become an integral part of the evolving national Grid, a network of high-performance computers, data repositories, scientific instruments and related software and services.

In addition to the supercomputer itself, SAPAC had also purchased "massive and expandable data storage infrastructure and technologies", Professor Williams said.

"South Australia's research data collections are growing rapidly, and this new infrastructure will help us to create a sustainable repository for data in this State."

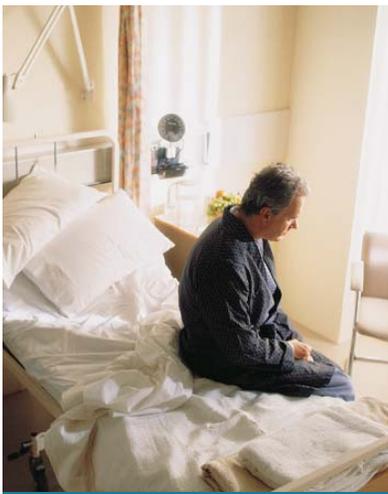
Corvus has been funded in part by an Australian Research Council LIEF grant with contributions from the three South Australian universities and SAPAC itself.

It complements SAPAC's existing supercomputers, which include "Aquila", purchased in 2004 from SGI through a grant from the South Australian Government.

"We chose SGI again as the supplier since they offered us the best overall package and a total technological solution to create an integrated, high-performance computing and data management system," Professor Williams said.

www.sapac.edu.au

■ Story by David Ellis



Hospital admissions could be avoided: report

continued from page 1

The Northern Territory (10.7%) and Tasmania (9.5%) both had higher than national average avoidable hospitalisations, the ACT was below national average (8.2%) and the remaining states all close to national average.

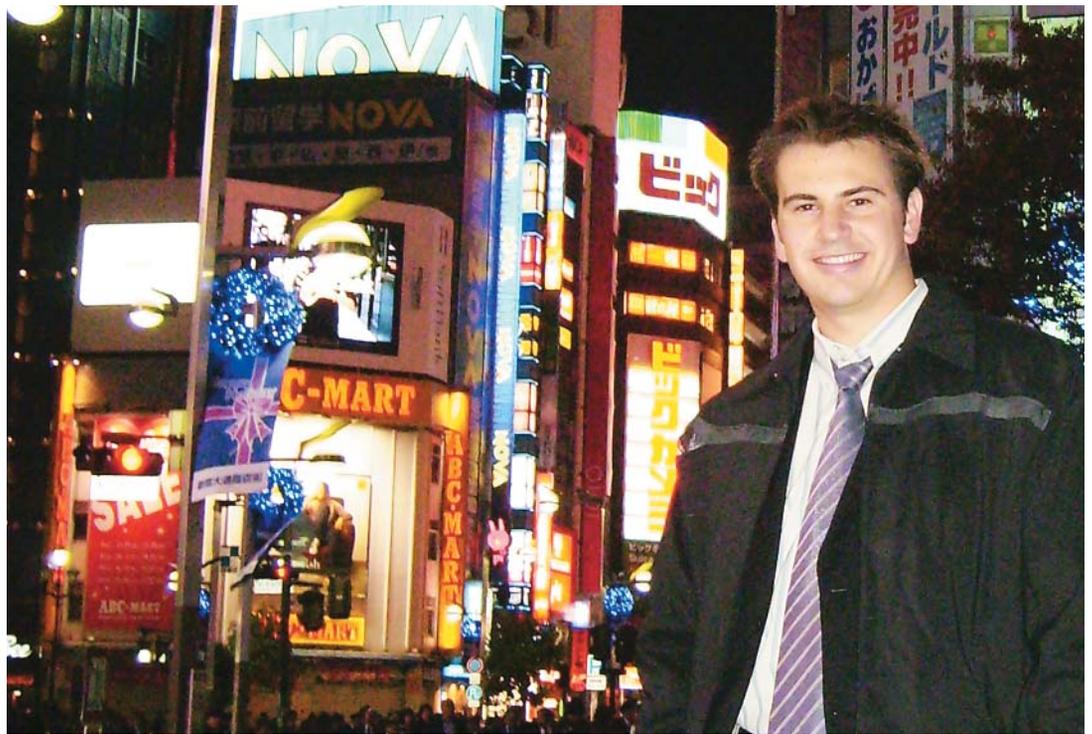
Almost two-thirds of avoidable hospital admissions were attributable to chronic conditions, with large numbers from diabetes complications and circulatory and respiratory conditions. Just over one-third were attributable to acute conditions (dental conditions, dehydration and gastroenteritis, ear, nose and throat infections, convulsions and epilepsy, and cellulitis). A small proportion were due to vaccine-preventable conditions (mainly influenza and pneumonia).

Atlas of Avoidable Hospitalisations in Australia: ambulatory care-sensitive conditions is available from www.publichealth.gov.au

It can also be viewed online using the Interactive Mapping software accessed from the website which allows searches by state and regions.

More detailed maps, with additional data about socioeconomic status, prevalence of chronic disease and risk factors are also featured on this website.

■ Story by Robyn Mills



Asian gateway to working life

■ Commerce

Three University of Adelaide commerce students had a valuable early taste of working life when they won highly sought-after Asian internships through CPA Australia.

Third-year double degree commerce (accounting) and economics student Raymond Radice was one of only two Australian students awarded a three-week Japan placement through the CPA Australia International Work Experience program.

Raymond went to Phillip Financials KK in Tokyo, a member of integrated financials services group PhillipCapital, where he spent a packed three weeks learning about the company's operations and Japan's finance industry.

"Working for a retail foreign exchange firm gave me a great insight into the Japanese economy and how it interacts with the global economy, the foreign exchange and commodity markets," said Raymond.

"I gained so much more from the experience than I can just list off. The people were fantastic and I especially appreciate the efforts the Chief Executive Officer, Chellapa Panickar, put into my time there."

Two other commerce students, Sylvester Kong and Shin Yin Pang,

both won two-month Malaysian placements through the CPA Australia Asian Internship Program.

Double degree commerce (accounting) and law student Sylvester was assigned to audit firm Moores Rowland Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur as a trainee auditor.

"This internship program not only opened up my first gate to the real working world but also provided a platform for me to evaluate my ability to work with professional auditors," said Sylvester.

During his internship, Sylvester was put in charge of a dormant company's account and he was involved in the audit of five different companies as well as stocktaking company inventories.

Final-year commerce (accounting and corporate finance) student Shin Yin won a trainee placement with PricewaterhouseCoopers Malaysia where she assisted professional auditors in various aspects of company audits.

"I enjoyed working with different team members, travelling around and changing working environments while attached to six different clients," Shin Yin said.

"I have discovered that I am really interested in assurance and this is the kind of job that I wish to have in the future. I would not have known this without experiencing it."

Above: Raymond Radice in Tokyo, where he spent three weeks on a CPA Australia internship

Photo by Vanessa Lee

"Working for a retail foreign exchange firm gave me a great insight into the Japanese economy and how it interacts with the global economy"

■ Story by Robyn Mills



Elder Conservatorium
PhD student Joanna
Drimatis and Honours
Performance tenor
Robert Macfarlane
outside Elder Hall

Photo by David Ellis

Evening concert casts a spell

■ Music

Australian composer Robert Hughes will attend the first concert in the 2007 Elder Conservatorium of Music Evening Concert Series, which features one of his works – *Sea Spell* – composed in the 1970s.

Written in 1973 as a commission by the Australian Dental Association-International Conference for one of its subscription concerts, *Sea Spell* was originally performed by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra in the Opera House on 18 July 1973 – before the official opening of the Opera House.

Hughes, who recently celebrated his 95th birthday, will be at Elder Hall at 6.30pm on Saturday 26 May to see his piece conducted by Elder Conservatorium PhD student Joanna Drimatis.

Drimatis will share conducting honours with Keith Crellin for the first concert in the evening series, called *Illuminations*, which features the talents of the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra.

The name of the concert is derived from Benjamin Britten's

Les Illuminations for high voice and strings. This work will feature Honours Performance tenor Robert Macfarlane with the strings of the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Crellin.

Britten's song cycle, written in 1939, is set to a poem by the young genius Arthur Rimbaud, and is quintessentially Brittenesque. It displays many of the young Britten's characteristics – fantasy, extravagance and high energy, which are the hallmarks of many of his works.

The final work in the program, the Suite from *The Fairy's Kiss* by Stravinsky, was written to commemorate the 35th anniversary of Tchaikovsky's death in November 1928.

Stravinsky adapted several of Tchaikovsky's songs and piano pieces for this work, which was written as a ballet commissioned by the wealthy dancer, Ida Rubinstein. In the words of Britten's biographer, Roman Vlad: "His fondness for Tchaikovsky led him to compose one of his most tenderly lyrical works, in which nostalgia for

bygone days is expressed quite openly."

Tickets to the Evening Concert are \$25 adult/\$20 conc/\$14 student, available from BASS or dial'n'charge 131 246. (There is still time to subscribe to save!) University of Adelaide staff at concession price.

For further information or to subscribe, please contact the Manager, Evening Concert Series on (08) 8303 5286 or email: helen.simpson@adelaide.edu.au

Illuminations is the first in the five-concert Evening series for 2007:

Illuminations – Elder Hall
Saturday 26 May 6.30pm

Innocence – St Peter's Cathedral
Saturday 9 June 6.30pm

Mancini – Elder Hall
Saturday 11 August 7.30pm

Star Wars – Elder Hall
Saturday 13 October 6.30pm

Finale – Elder Hall
Saturday 24 November 6.30pm

www.music.adelaide.edu.au

Podcasting has taken the world by storm, and software and hardware such as Apple's ever-present iTunes and iPod are now finding their way into conferences and classrooms. The University of Adelaide's Centre for Learning and Professional Development (CLPD) is receiving international recognition for its work into podcasting thanks to a profile on the Apple Education website. Allan Carrington from the CLPD's Online Education Unit discusses some of the benefits of podcasting for knowledge sharing.



Podcasting: a whole new bite at the education Apple

■ Commentary

“Podcasting will and must go past the one-way broadcasting paradigm”

Photo by Kevin O'Daly,
Aspect Photographics

For anyone who has attended a conference – regardless of its subject or industry focus – it will hardly come as a surprise that there is just as much, if not more, knowledge among the audience than with the speakers. It's for that reason that we've embarked on an exercise that has underpinned what is set to be a major change in knowledge sharing.

In 2005, I was invited by the convenors of the EDUCAUSE conference in Florida to create audio podcasts of post-presentation interviews with conference presenters. My initial thought was that it would be little more than duplicating the material already presented. What happened, though, was that the presenters were more relaxed and started talking about things they hadn't discussed in the presentation. In most cases it was that relaxation that resulted in my ability to capture the real passion about what they do and why they do it.

The wealth of community wisdom and its practical application that you can find at any conference is staggering. Talking to people who are just wandering around after a presentation can easily give you a whole new perspective on a range of subjects.

With podcasting, you have the opportunity to share that perspective and take conference knowledge sharing well beyond the typical presenter-attendee paradigm.

At that conference I met Randy Meredith, a like-minded professor

from Spring Arbor University in Michigan. Randy was already conducting a series of trials using podcasting in education. Since that meeting, we've been in constant contact, working to promote good pedagogy in podcasting.

The results I'd had at EDUCAUSE were then duplicated back home at another conference, ASCILITE 2006, Australia's largest regional conference focusing on education and technology. Again we found that podcasting using this model enriched the archive of knowledge sharing from the conference and improved the learning outcomes. Conferences need to seriously look at this model for the future.

Podcasting lends itself ideally to education. The technology exists and it's already sitting with the vast majority of educational institutions and students. The "Net Generation" is charging in, and it's up to us to redefine the way in which we capture and share knowledge.

Apple has a big role to play in all this. Apple has inspired and encouraged people to experiment and investigate the whole podcasting world and is now light years ahead in providing people with an environment in which creating, producing, delivering and playing podcasts is integrated and seamless.

In the education environment specifically, the entire Apple podcasting environment is highly relevant to the Net Generation. When you look at the Apple hardware and software, it relates directly to the way they learn and

function. Because of this, and the accessibility and ease of use of the technology, integrating podcasts as a fundamental component of education will rapidly become commonplace.

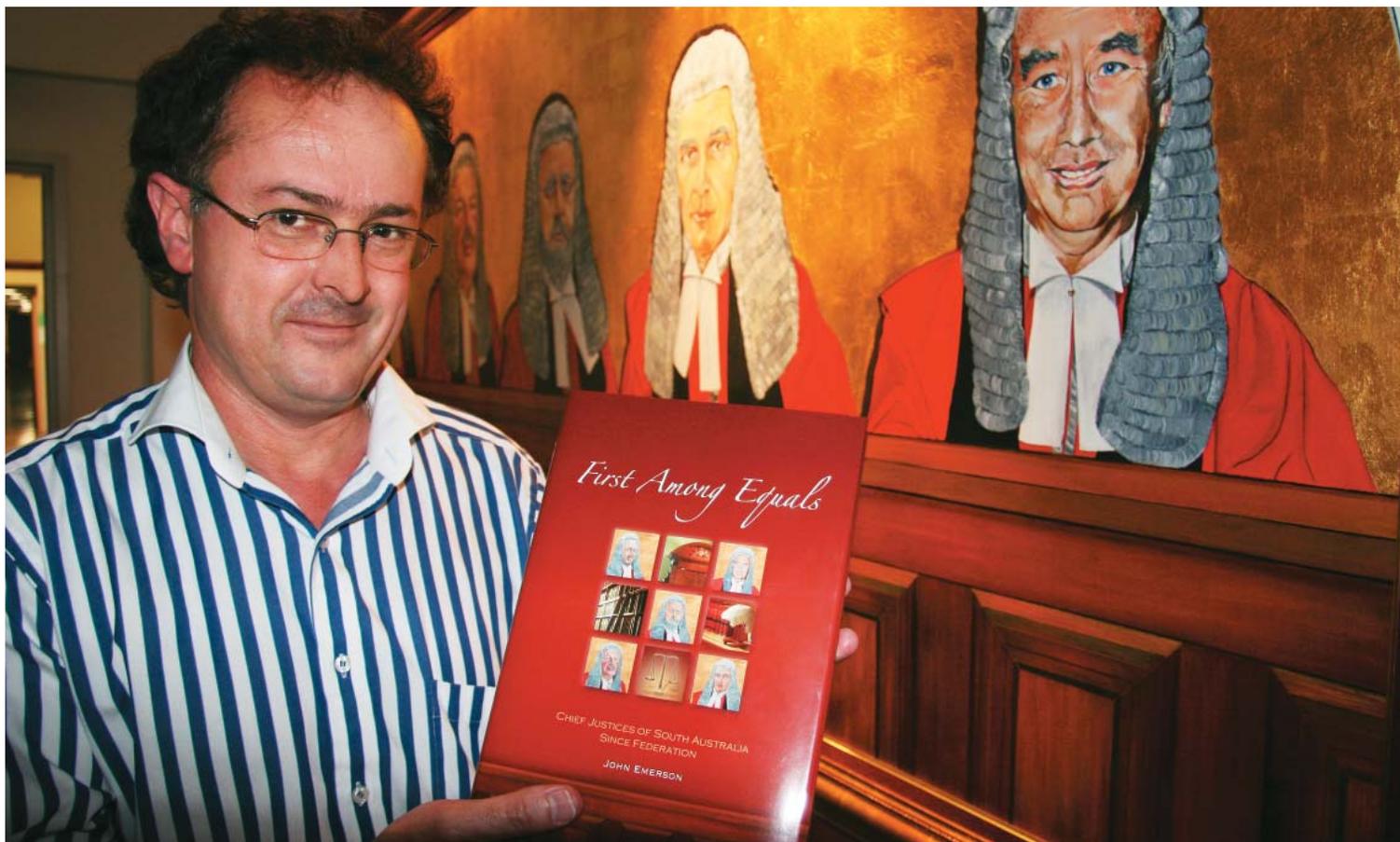
Randy Meredith coined the term "podagogy". At Spring Arbor, lectures are recorded and placed online for subscribers. A separate 10-minute podcast prepared by the lecturer also covers additional information or poses particular questions or problems to the students. Randy says: "What this achieves is a change in pedagogy – engaging students outside class time and getting them to think harder and longer. Hence, the term podagogy."

It won't be long before the students themselves start using podcasts to respond to those of their lecturers and teachers, making the use of podcasting a logical evolutionary stage for a wide range of web-based and educational activities.

Podcasting will and must go past the one-way broadcasting paradigm. The next stage we need to reach is using the podcast medium as a two-way dialogue – we just need the underpinning software to manage that process and make it as easy as possible. The CLPD is currently researching ways to do this.

This is an edited version of the profile that appears on the Apple Education website, and has been edited and reproduced with Apple's permission.

www.apple.com/au/education/profiles/uniadelaide/



Legal lives explored in new book

■ Law

A close look at the lives of South Australia's Chief Justices has led a University of Adelaide scholar to discover more about the University and the city of Adelaide than he had ever expected.

Dr John Emerson was commissioned by South Australian Supreme Court Justice Tom Gray to write a book about the five Chief Justices in the State since Federation. At the time, Justice Gray was president of the John Bray Law Chapter of the alumni.

"Justice Gray said he wanted someone who didn't know too much about the law, because then I could tell a story to a broader audience than just lawyers and historians," Dr Emerson said.

By his own estimation, Dr Emerson said he was up to the task: "I never even knew what a Chief Justice was when I first started it – my background is in French. So I had to start from scratch," he said.

More than three years later, the results of Dr Emerson's hard work have been published. His book, *First Among Equals – Chief Justices of South Australia Since Federation*, provides a unique insight into the

lives of Sir Samuel Way, Sir George Murray, Sir Mellis Napier, John Bray and Len King, and their impact on the State.

"The book is first and foremost a social history of South Australia, which happens to be seen through the lives of five of our Chief Justices," Dr Emerson said.

What Dr Emerson discovered when writing the book was how important many of the Chief Justices were to the history of the University of Adelaide.

"The book is partly a history of the University of Adelaide because four of the Chief Justices (Way, Murray, Napier and Bray) were also Chancellors of the University, over a period of 100 years," he said.

"They are all men who, particularly in Samuel Way's case, were visionaries and were all determined.

Way was one of the main driving forces for the whole foundation of the University of Adelaide, and the University's development would have been much slower without him driving things along.

"During Murray's term in particular the University really expanded, and he put a lot of his own money into that.

"Murray is one of the biggest single donors to this University – as

far as I can tell, he gave a total of about £150,000 of his own money to the University.

"The Murray Building itself cost him £10,000, which back then was five times his salary as Chief Justice," Dr Emerson said.

Dr Emerson, who is now a Visiting Research Fellow with the University's Law School, said writing *First Among Equals* was a very satisfying experience. It has given him a greater appreciation of how Adelaide has developed over the years and the roles that key figures have played in that development.

"I never saw any sign of them flagging," he said of the Chief Justices. "They never doubted themselves. If something didn't work they'd pick themselves up and have another go."

First Among Equals – Chief Justices of South Australia Since Federation is published by Barr Smith Press and sells for a RRP of \$60. The book was launched by the current Chief Justice of South Australia, the Hon. John Doyle AC.

The *Adelaidean* has one free copy of *First Among Equals* to give away to a lucky reader. To win, be the first to call (08) 8303 5414.

■ Story by David Ellis

Above: Dr John Emerson with his book *First Among Equals*, standing near Lauren-Jade Ryan's artwork, *Chief Justices of South Australia*. The art, on display outside the Moot Court in the University of Adelaide's Law School, also features on the cover of Dr Emerson's book.

Photo by David Ellis

Library offers electronic resources to alumni



Library

University of Adelaide alumni around the world can now enjoy access to selected e-journals and databases through the Barr Smith Library.

The Library has recently expanded alumni services to include a range of electronic resources, giving alumni access to more than 5000 journals, magazines and newspapers, as well as another 4000 country-specific industry reports, from any internet-enabled computer, no matter where it is located.

Using resources provided largely through two databases – Academic Search Alumni and Business Source Alumni – University of Adelaide alumni will have access to a range of generalist publications, such as *Time Australia*, *Business Week*, *New Scientist* and *Scientific American*, as well as highly specialised academic journals in most disciplines.

These resources are now available to alumni who are Library borrowers, and are provided on the understanding that material is for personal research and educational use.

“This service has the potential to be well received by alumni, as it begins to answer one of their most

frequently asked questions of us: can they have access to Library e-resources when not on campus or when living away from Adelaide?” said University Librarian Ray Choate.

“We see it as an important step forward in the Library’s provision of services to what is a largely external section of the University community. If it is difficult for our alumni to visit the Library, then this service helps to bring the Library closer to them.”

Access for the rest of 2007 is provided to alumni at no extra charge beyond the current borrowing fee. From 2008, the Library may introduce separate charging for online resources, which would give members the opportunity to register solely for online resources.

To find out more about the Barr Smith Library’s new electronic resource service, visit: www.adelaide.edu.au/library/membership/alumni.html#databases

If you are not yet a registered borrower, information on joining the Library is available at: www.adelaide.edu.au/library/membership/alumni.html or by contacting the Services Section, Barr Smith Library, on (08) 8303 5124 or email: library-services@adelaide.edu.au

■ Story by Lana Guineay

“This service has the potential to be well received by alumni, as it begins to answer one of their most frequently asked questions”

Development & Alumni Events

John Bray Law Chapter

Event: Big Band Dance with the Adelaide Art Orchestra, conductor Timothy Sexton, vocalist Johanna Allen and a Ballroom Dancing Show

Date: Saturday 5 May 2007

Time: 7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Cost: \$65 per person \$45 students/concession. BYO Supper and Drinks

Venue: Bonython Hall

RSVP: phone (08) 8303 6356 or email gaynor.tyerman@adelaide.edu.au

Friends of the University of Adelaide Library

Event: “Geoff Harcourt: his life and times in Adelaide” by Dr John Hatch

Date: Thursday 10 May

Time: 6:00pm for 6.30pm

Venue: Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, Barr Smith Library, University of Adelaide

Cost: Free and open to the public: gold coin donation invited

RSVP: by Tuesday 8 May to karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au or phone (08) 8303 4064

Entrepreneurship and Commercialisation Chapter (ECIC)

Event: Launch of Echallenge and Alumni gathering

Date: Sunday 13 May

Time: Drinks/launch: 6.00pm, dinner: 7.30pm

Cost: Drinks free, dinner TBA

Venue: National Wine Centre

RSVP: Development & Alumni Office on (08) 8303 6356 or fax (08) 8303 5808

United Kingdom Chapter

Event: Reception for the Premier, The Hon. Mike Rann, hosted by the Agent-General with the Combined Adelaide Alumni UK and South Australian Business Ambassadors Network (SABAN)

Venue: Australia House, London

Date: Wednesday 16 May

Time: 6.00pm–7.30 pm

RSVP: by Tuesday 8 May to michael.quinton@south-aus.edu

Florey Medical Chapter

Event: Film Evening: “Copying Beethoven”

Venue: Trak Cinema, 375 Greenhill Road, Toorak Gardens

Date: Thursday 24 May

Time: 7.15pm for 8.00pm showing

Cost: \$15 – includes complimentary glass of wine

RSVP: essential by close of business Tuesday 17 May to Development & Alumni, phone (08) 8303 5356 or fax (08) 8303 5808



Main photo:
James Smith (right) receives his award from State Labor MP Chloe Fox, Member for Bright

Above:
Professor Bob Hill, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Sciences, congratulates Sarah Crook, who took out the Science & Technology Award.

James is the highest achiever of all

■ Achievement

University of Adelaide PhD student and men's health researcher James Smith has been named the 2007 Young Achiever of the Year for South Australia.

James was selected ahead of 24 other finalists at a gala presentation dinner in March at the Hilton Hotel, attended by more than 400 people.

It caps off an amazing 12 months for the 26-year-old who took out the Young Australian of the Year for South Australia in 2006.

"I was stunned when they read out the result," James said. "The calibre of finalists was amazing and it's a real honour to be recognised in the same league."

Finalists vied for top honours in nine separate categories, with one overall winner. James won the Leadership Award as well as the top prize, securing a total of \$2000 prize money. He has already donated half of it to Project Australia, a youth-driven initiative linking young leaders across the country.

James is currently investigating men's help-seeking behaviours through the Discipline of Public Health at the University of Adelaide. This research forms part of the Florey Adelaide Male Ageing Study, for which he has already received a number of accolades.

"My research is debunking the myth that men are not interested in their health," he said. "They are, but they negotiate their health in different ways to women. They attempt to focus on solutions when they have a health problem. If they can fix it themselves then they may not seek help. It's a very masculine approach."

In late 2006 he was also awarded a \$15,000 scholarship by the Masonic Foundation to undertake a men's health policy study tour of the UK and Ireland in May/June this year.

One of his papers on men's health has been published this month in the *Health Promotion Journal of*

Australia. The web link is: www.healthpromotion.org.au/journal.php

James is also the current President of the Australian Health Promotion Association (SA Branch).

Another University of Adelaide student, Sarah Crook, a PhD candidate in Aerospace Engineering, took out the Science & Technology Award at the awards night.

Sarah, 24, is currently researching ways of reducing the intense noise and vibration produced by high-speed aircraft. Her long-term goal is to become an astronaut and in 2006 she was coordinator and moderator of the Moon to Mars Workshop in Valencia, Spain.

Four other University of Adelaide students were finalists at the 2007 South Australian Young Achiever Awards.

■ Story by Candy Gibson



Wilde classic makes a comeback

■ Theatre Guild

Adelaide theatregoers can look forward to one of the wittiest plays in the English language being performed by the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild in May.

Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* is being brought to stage under the guidance of experienced director June Barnes and her offside Ann Weaver, a seasoned actor who makes her directorial debut with Wilde's masterpiece.

Written in record time by the 19th century playwright, *The Importance of Being Earnest* is a witty observation of the late Victorian era, poking fun at marriage, morality and class.

"It is a very funny play, full of one-liners, puns and double entendres. A lot of people seeing it for the first time may not pick up on all the witticisms, but will still find it extremely enjoyable," Ann said.

Generally considered to be Wilde's best work, *The Importance of Being Earnest* showcases some of Adelaide's most talented young actors.

British-trained actor David Thring plays Jack Worthing, one of the two male leads, alongside Andrew Lawlor, a GP in real life, who uses his wicked sense of humour to great effect as the irrepressible Algernon.

Pam O'Grady, well-known to South Australian theatre buffs, takes the part of Lady Bracknell who delivers what is claimed to be the most interpreted line in English drama: "A handbag."

The phrase – referring to the handbag in which Jack Worthing was found as a toddler at a railway station – has reportedly given rise to the most varied readings, ranging from incredulous thought, to a scandalised expression, to just plain baffled.

"We have chosen the cast very carefully because this is a well-known play and a lot of the audience will have high expectations," June said.

"The onus is on us, as directors, to ensure that the actors deliver their lines in sympathy with the script, the Victorian era and the English aristocracy."

This is only the second time the Theatre Guild has performed Wilde's most famous play – the first production was in 1957.

June said audiences could expect "a great night out, with lots of laughs".

"It will also be a visual feast because the set is very colourful, based on impressionistic painters, and the actors will be dressed in period costume."

The Importance of Being Earnest will play at the Little Theatre, Cloisters, at the University of Adelaide's North Terrace Campus on May 5, 8-12 and 15-19 at 7.30pm.

Tickets (\$25 and \$20 concession) can be booked at BASS on 131 246, the Guild office (08) 8303 5999 or the website:

www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild

University of Adelaide staff and students can buy tickets for \$15 on Tuesday 8 and 15 May.

Above:
Marieka Hambleton plays Gwendolen in the Theatre Guild's new production of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*

Photo by David Ellis

■ Story by Candy Gibson