

Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

June 2007 | Volume 16 | Number 4

inside this issue



11
Heart scan software could help save lives



15
How climate change will impact on health



19
Historic decade for Hong Kong



23
World-class architect praises Adelaide's heritage



Photo by Randy Larcombe

The future is bright for solar hybrid car

Engineering

Engineering students at the University of Adelaide have launched their plans to design and build a hybrid solar-electric car.

The project involves 13 final-year students from the University's School of Mechanical Engineering and the School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.

The vehicle will incorporate a revolutionary 'skateboard' chassis for improved handling, safety and design flexibility, said the project team's Managing Director, student Aaron Russell.

"At the moment a commercially viable solar-electric hybrid vehicle doesn't exist," Aaron said. "But as fuel costs rise and public awareness of environmental issues grows, solar power and electricity become increasingly viable.

"Our overall project aim is to design and build a commercially viable hybrid vehicle. We think our manufacturing method, combined with the latest technology, has the potential to lay the foundation for a real alternative to petroleum-based vehicles."

The student team recently launched their project to motor vehicle and engineering industry representatives.

Above: Members of the solar-electric hybrid car team Brynn De Gooyer and Nageswary Karuppiah

"The project launch was a great success, with all company representatives in attendance agreeing to support the project in one way or another," Aaron said.

Adelaide-based Internet provider Internode has emerged as the major sponsor so far, providing \$20,000 towards the project.

"Internode has shown us overwhelming support, which is a great vote of confidence in the students and what they can achieve," Aaron said.

continued on page 6



Adelaidean is the official newspaper of the University of Adelaide.

It provides news and information about the University to the general public, with a focus on Life Impact.

Circulation: 11,000 per month (March to December)

Online readership: 39,500 hits per month (on average)
www.adelaide.edu.au/adelaidean

Editor:
David Ellis

Design and Layout:
Chris Tonkin

Writers:
Candy Gibson
Robyn Mills

Contributors:
Nick Carne
Charles Bodman Rae
Helen Simpson
Dennis Coleman

Deadline for July issue:
Tuesday 12 June, 2007

Editorial/Advertising enquiries:
Tel: +61 8 8303 5414
Fax: +61 8 8303 4829
Email: david.ellis@adelaide.edu.au

Mailing address:
Adelaidean
Marketing & Strategic
Communications,
University of Adelaide,
SA 5005
Australia

Material may be reproduced without permission but acknowledgement must be given to the *Adelaidean*.

Printed by:
Lane Print Group
Tel: +61 8 8179 9900
Fax: +61 8 8376 1044
Email: lane@laneprint.com.au
Web: www.laneprint.com.au

Distribution:
Lane Print Group
Passing Out Distribution Co.

Registered by Australia Post
No 565001/00046

Giveaways
Congratulations to Judith Stock, Judith Waters, Janette Webb and Amelia Zecevic on winning the double passes to the Selby & Friends concert, and to Don Deieso for winning the copy of *First Among Equals*, all offered in last month's *Adelaidean*. Bob Sutherland was the winner of *Ngarindjeri Nation*, which was offered in our April issue.



From the Vice-Chancellor

I thought for a moment, when listening to the Federal Budget, that my ears were deceiving me. After all of these years, was the Government finally putting higher education on the political agenda? Surely not. But there it was, splashed all over the news that night, and the following day, and at least the few days after that. We'd made more than one news cycle, so it wasn't some dream that I would wake from, and for once people actually wanted to know what was happening in higher education and what we thought we should be investing in our country.

I wish every year were an election year.

In reality, regardless of which political party wins the next election, one thing is clear: the Federal Government and the Australian people need to take higher education seriously, for the benefit of our country economically and culturally. For too long in Australia, higher education has been considered a privilege when it should be considered a public good.

In order to do that, we need to grow higher education in Australia. We need to grow the investment in higher education – which is an investment in our future – and we need to grow the participation in higher education. In South Australia, one of the issues we face is raising the participation rate in higher education, because too few students actually complete their secondary education let alone go on to tertiary study. The Budget, despite all of the hoopla about it, does not provide the level of support to students that will ensure the success of those with financial or other challenges.

We also need to ensure that the quality of what Australian universities are providing to students in terms of education and facilities is world-class. I know there's a prevailing attitude in Government that Australian universities should all resemble Harvard. The truth is,

the very best universities are able to provide the best education and facilities because of the finances available to them. In Australia, for political, cultural, demographic and historical reasons, the majority of that funding has come from Government. Therefore, Government needs to recognise the importance of its role in sustaining and growing higher education in this country, and assisting Australian universities to be the very best. For example, at this stage there seems to be no political party with a plan to arrest deteriorating student-to-staff ratios. In many discipline areas, Australia has moved (and continues to move) to be among the worst in the developed world.

The fact that the University of Adelaide sees so many of its students year after year winning major scholarships – such as the Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford, the Fulbright Scholarship to US institutions such as Harvard, and the General Sir John Monash Awards to study anywhere in the world – means that we are producing quality, world-class graduates who have the opportunity to excel in their chosen fields.

We are on the right track, but we can always do better. We need to keep higher education on the political agenda beyond an election year. Quality higher education for Australia is not a dream, it's a vision. We have the vision – what we need is a Government that shares that vision.

JAMES A. McWha
Vice-Chancellor and President

Art & Heritage Collections

Milton Moon has been a ceramist for more than 50 years and has been both a lecturer and practising potter. His work is in all major Australian collections.

Moon's work shows an intersection of European and Asian influences. His creative inspirations are drawn from Australia's coastal, mountain and inland areas.

This platter illustrates how Moon's work can evoke a powerful sense of Australian landscape, with its rich blackish brown base infused with opalescent splashes. It is difficult to do justice to the shimmering quality of this artwork in a photograph, so please visit the University's Barr Smith Library to view the piece yourself.

The University has three of Moon's artworks in its Visual Arts Collection. Moon's *Mandala* incorporates the ancient Chinese Yin-Yang symbol, symbolising male/female, and light/dark. This work can be seen in the Library's Special Collections Reading Room. The third piece is an untitled ceramic pot.

■ Anna Gardner, Collections Officer, Art & Heritage Collections



(Untitled) Ceramic ironstone free-form platter, by Milton Moon (1926 Melbourne), part of the Marringabi Series. This work was purchased by the University of Adelaide in 2006.

It is on display in the foyer of the Barr Smith Library during June.



Boost in student numbers leads to \$100m building

■ Engineering

A new \$100 million state-of-the-art building at the University of Adelaide will cater for the significant growth in students in Engineering, Computer & Mathematical Sciences.

The building will be constructed on the site currently occupied by the Mathematics Building on the lower level of the University's North Terrace Campus.

The eight-storey building will provide more than 11,000 square metres of space for learning, teaching, research, and other student and staff facilities.

"The new building will be a much-needed addition to our teaching facilities and our campus life," said the University's Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor James McWha.

"It will allow the University to develop and grow, and will also improve the overall campus environment, with a three-storey atrium and other open spaces, and public art that will help to reinforce a sense of place and purpose," he said.

The University's Faculty of Engineering, Computer & Mathematical Sciences currently has more than 3200 students enrolled, and is predicted to grow to 3400 students by 2011.

"The unprecedented growth in the mining, technology and defence industries in Australia has created a high demand for quality graduates in engineering disciplines," Professor McWha said.

"This new building will help the University to play a key role in providing skilled graduates for South Australia, the nation and the world."

Federal Education Minister the Hon. Julie Bishop recently presented a \$3.5 million cheque to the University of Adelaide to contribute to the cost of the new building. Ms Bishop and Dr Andrew Southcott, the Federal Member for Boothby, presented the cheque to Professor McWha and the Chancellor, the Hon. John von Doussa QC, during a visit to the University last month.

"The \$3.5 million contribution from the Federal Government is extremely welcome, and will assist the University of Adelaide to remain at the forefront of teaching and research in engineering, computer science and mathematics," Professor McWha said.

Work on the new building is expected to begin in late 2007.

Main image: How the new engineering building is expected to look

Image by Tucker Creative

Inset: A \$3.5 million cheque is presented to the University of Adelaide (from left): the Chancellor, the Hon. John von Doussa QC, Federal Education Minister the Hon. Julie Bishop, Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha, and the Federal Member for Boothby, Dr Andrew Southcott. Ms Bishop and Dr Southcott are both University of Adelaide graduates.

Photo by David Ellis

■ Story by David Ellis

\$2.3m awarded for industry-linked research



Photo by Randy Larcombe

■ Research

The University of Adelaide has been awarded more than \$2.3 million to fund seven major new projects with industry partners.

The latest round of the Australian Research Council Linkage Grants includes funding for projects to improve crop and pasture production, expand our knowledge of how cells work, and devise novel therapies for cancer treatment.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research), Professor Alan Johnson AM, said the University of Adelaide's success rate from its funding applications was above the national average and the total funding received was the highest of South Australia's three universities.

"What this highlights is the quality of our research, the diversity of our research and the relevance of our research," he said.

"We are good at blue sky research, as shown by our success in winning funding from other sources, but Linkage Grants underline our ability to work with industry and apply our findings to industry needs."

The largest of the new grants, worth \$900,000 over four years, will support collaborative research by the University of Adelaide's School

of Agriculture, Food & Wine and DuPont-Pioneer into the efficient use of nitrogen in maize. The collaboration was established by the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics, of which the University is the largest shareholder.

"The aim is to identify nitrogen-linked traits that can be incorporated into new lines of maize, targeted at reducing grower dependence on nitrogen fertilisers that can have serious environmental costs," Professor Johnson said.

The other projects and the University's industry partners are:

- \$315,000 to develop a critical component for laser range finders used widely in defence industries (School of Chemistry & Physics with BAE Systems Australia)
- \$280,000 to improve the capacity for local firms to use greenhouse neutral waste and low-grade biomass fuels in cement kilns (School of Mechanical Engineering and School of Chemical Engineering with FCT-Combustion)
- \$240,000 to improve knowledge of how cells and whole organisms sense and respond to oxygen deficiency, which has implications for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases such as stroke and cardiovascular disease (School of Molecular & Biomedical Science with FibroGen Inc.)

- \$227,000 to study how insects impact on the conservation and regeneration of casuarinas and how biocontrol agents might be used against casuarinas that have become environmental weeds (School of Earth & Environmental Sciences with the Australian Biological Control Laboratory and the SA Museum)
- \$202,512 to further investigate how a patented combination of three biosynthetic molecules promotes effective tissue repair (School of Molecular & Biomedical Science with Tissue Therapies Ltd)
- \$147,310 to develop a novel cancer therapy that will improve existing treatments by reducing the required dose and the risk of side effects (School of Molecular & Biomedical Science with CSL Ltd).

ARC Linkage Grants specifically fund projects in which academic institutions are working with industry bodies, businesses, state governments, community organisations or not-for-profit groups.

This announcement follows the awarding of ARC grants worth \$12.7 million to the University of Adelaide last October to fund 47 other research projects.

■ Story by Nick Carne

"Linkage Grants underline our ability to work with industry and apply our findings to industry needs"

Google honours students with nation's first prize

Computer Science

Search engine provider Google Australia will offer an annual prize to the best Computer Science Honours student at the University of Adelaide.

It is the first university award of its kind the company has established in Australia.

The engineering director for Google Australia and New Zealand, Alan Noble, made the announcement while addressing an Australian Information Industry Association lunch in Adelaide last month.

"The prize is for \$1000 and it brings with it a lot of kudos," said the acting head of the School of Computer Science, Associate Professor David Munro. "The Google name is synonymous with success.

"Alan is an alumnus of the University and is keen to help us keep creating the best software engineers. There are plenty of good openings in this field."

Mr Noble graduated in Electrical Engineering from the University of Adelaide but was attracted to software engineering while completing a PhD at Stanford University in the United States.

He joined Google from NetPriva, the Adelaide-based software company he co-founded.



He had previously created a similar company in California.

"Alan's priority is to oversee substantial growth in Google's engineering and R&D capability in Australia," Associate Professor Munro said.

"He came back to the University recently to deliver a seminar and is interested in talking to prospective students during our Open Days."

■ Story by Nick Carne

"The Google name is synonymous with success"

News in Brief

Blacks & Blues all over campus

An exhibition to celebrate the rich tradition of sporting activity at the University of Adelaide is currently being displayed simultaneously in the Barr Smith Library entrance foyer, the Sports Hub and Rumours Café.

Sport has been an integral part of life for University of Adelaide students and staff since its formal commencement in 1876. The University Archives, in collaboration with the Sports Association, are staging an exhibition to display selected items from the wealth of documents and artefacts that constitute the sporting heritage of the University.

The display celebrates and promotes the prominent place sport holds in University tradition and its role in the University's objective to produce well-rounded graduates recognised worldwide for their creativity, knowledge and skills. It highlights the broad spectrum of sporting pursuits undertaken by members of the University community and honours the successes of teams and individuals.

The exhibition is on display simultaneously across three locations on the North Terrace Campus: the Barr Smith Library, and the Sports Hub and Rumours Café in the Union Building.

The exhibition runs until Friday 29 June.

Research cooperation with Germany

Research collaboration between Australia and Germany will be enhanced through a new researcher exchange scheme between the Group of Eight (Go8) universities and the German Academic Service (DAAD).

The DAAD is Germany's national agency for the support of international academic cooperation. With a budget of over 250 million euros (AUD410 million), it is one of the world's largest and most respected organisations in its field.

Under the Go8 Australia Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme, the Go8 and the DAAD have each agreed to provide AUD200,000 a year from 2008 to 2010 to meet the travel and living costs of researchers who spend time at collaborating institutions in Australia or Germany.

The University of Adelaide is a member of the Go8.

www.go8.edu.au/europe/research/

Mitsubishi COLT Range

Available at

The Great Great Guys

Australian Motors

COLT Cabriolet Hard Top Convertible



For Only

\$29990
Drive Away

COLT ES From \$13990*



+ For \$750 upgrade to Alloys & 6-stack MP3/CD at *The Great Great Guys*

For all enquiries contact Danielle Weber 0405 606 334

The Great Great Guys
Australian Motors

Wayville – Edwardstown – Morphett Vale
www.australianmotors.com.au



*Price excludes government statutory charges and dealer delivery. \$350 metallic paint extra.

Future is bright for solar hybrid car



continued from page 1

"Support like this means that our team can design to a higher budget and ultimately design and produce a better product with less budgeting constraints."

Aaron said the students would gain a lot of invaluable practical experience from working on such an innovative vehicle.

"In this project, with such a large scope, we can apply a systems approach to engineering, where the car is broken down into systems and then broken down again into subsystems. Applied to design, it is much easier to work on and also much easier to manage," he said.

Aaron said the solar-electric hybrid car was the only cross-School student project being undertaken in engineering.

"I think the students enjoy the opportunity to work with another discipline, and this may lead the way for further interaction between the disciplines," he said.

The student team is working under the supervision of Dr Colin Kestell, Senior Lecturer in the School of Mechanical Engineering, and Dr Nesimi Ertugrul, Senior Lecturer in the School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering.

The students would like to hear from anyone interested in sponsoring their project. Please contact Aaron Russell on 0401 927 502 or Dean Caruso on 0401 021 585.

■ Story by Robyn Mills and David Ellis



Rebecca awarded \$50,000 scholarship

■ Achievement

Above:

Hawker Scholar Rebecca Schultz in Canberra, flanked by the Master of St Mark's College, the Hon. John Bannon (left), and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Member for Wannon and Hawker family member, the Hon. David Hawker MP

Photo by Cameron Major
www.seventyeight.com.au

University of Adelaide student Rebecca Schultz has been awarded one of Australia's most prestigious scholarships at a ceremony in Old Parliament House, Canberra.

Rebecca, 18, who is in her first year of a double degree in Law and International Studies, was the only South Australian among 10 new Charles Hawker Scholars from around Australia announced last month.

An outstanding student, who achieved a TER of 99.65 after graduating from Seymour College in 2006, Rebecca was described by the scholarship trustees as "a dynamic, charismatic young woman with an innovative, creative mind and a gift for relating to other people".

Rebecca intends to pursue a career with the United Nations after finishing her degree.

The Charles Hawker Scholarships, valued at up to \$60,000 over four years, are the most generous privately funded scholarships available to graduates and postgraduate students in Australia.

The scholarship perpetuates the memory of one of Australia's most respected pastoral pioneers, Charles Allan Seymour Hawker, born in 1894

and raised at Bungaree homestead near Clare, in South Australia.

Charles Hawker served with distinction in the First World War and went on to become a distinguished scholar and leading figure in Australia's Federal Parliament prior to his untimely death in an aircraft accident in 1938.

His sister, the late Lilius Needham, established the scholarship scheme in 1991 in memory of her brother. To date, the scholarship has provided more than \$2 million to 50 young Australians.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Member for Wannon and Hawker family member, the Hon. David Hawker MP, presented the scholarship certificates to all 10 students at a ceremony in Canberra. Former SA Premier the Hon. John Bannon was also present. Mr Bannon is Master of St Mark's College in North Adelaide, where Rebecca resides.

"The scholarship pays for all my tuition fees and full board at St Mark's College for the next three years," Rebecca said. "I'm very fortunate because now I can concentrate fully on my studies."

■ Story by Candy Gibson



Alexander is composed about his latest theatre role

■ Theatre Guild

Alexander Mitchell's violin skills were on show last year during the second production in a series of 17th and early 18th century plays by the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild.

For this year's third instalment he has also composed the score and will lead the ensemble. "Musically speaking I guess the buck stops with me," he observed, with no hint of trepidation.

That's probably not surprising though, given that he graduated from the Elder Conservatorium in 2005 with First Class Honours in a Bachelor of Music (Composition) and his Masters thesis is examining "composition with collaboration".

Early 17th century theatre provides great scope for just such collaborations between composer and director, with the songs and music crucial to maintaining the tempo of the play.

Alexander Kirk directed last year's production of *London Cuckolds* and

is at the helm again for *The Custom of the Country*, a tragicomedy both deplored and adored at the time for its bawdiness.

"Alex approached me about writing the score and it seemed like too good an opportunity to miss," Mitchell said. "We let the idea develop then about six months ago things became more serious."

Kirk sourced lyrics from the period, which he then handed to Mitchell to set to music. The result is a dozen songs ranging in length from one to four minutes plus longer sections of incidental music for the overture, introductions and interval.

The result, Mitchell said, was more like a musical than a modern-day soundtrack, with each song introduced by an actor's cue and reflecting the mood and sentiment of the text. "Alex did a fantastic job sourcing the lyrics and it is hard to believe they were not written specifically for this play," he said. "We did not change or edit them."

Mitchell said the creative process was challenging but rewarding and he is more than happy with the

result. He is not a specialist in the music of the period, but has always liked it. "I tried to approach it with an open mind," he said, noting that the hardest part was "getting into the zone with such a large body of work".

Mind you, it was not all he has had on his plate, with his Masters research taking him as far afield as Shanghai and Taipei to work with choreographers, dancers and directors. His work with *The Custom of the Country* will form part of his Masters, which pleases him and the Guild.

Mitchell will again perform with a cellist and singers, but both tuned and untuned percussion have been added this year to add even more texture to the score.

The Custom of the Country will play at the Little Theatre, Cloisters, at the University of Adelaide's North Terrace Campus on 7 and 8 June at 7pm. All tickets are \$10 and can be booked through the Guild office on (08) 8303 5999 or the website: www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild

■ Story by Nick Carne

"Alex approached me about writing the score and it seemed like too good an opportunity to miss"

Above:
Alexander Mitchell

Photo by Nick Carne

Adelaide and China join forces on environment

The University of Adelaide and the Chinese Academy of Sciences have established a new research institute based in Australia and China, which aims to tackle some of the biggest environmental issues facing both countries – including water and soil quality.

■ Partnership

“This venture recognises the unique scientific talent in both nations and what we can collectively achieve to overcome key issues”

The new China-Australia Environmental Science and Technology Institute will bring together complementary research groups from both countries to focus their efforts on food and water security and sustainability.

“This new research institute is a major step forward for both Australia and China,” said the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research) at the University of Adelaide, Professor Alan Johnson AM.

“This venture recognises the unique scientific talent in both nations and what we can collectively achieve to overcome key issues facing our countries, as well as other countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

“The joint research to be conducted at the institute will help to ensure that our water supplies are fit for consumption by humans and animals – for domestic, agricultural and industrial purposes – and that land management systems will sustain both countries’ natural resources.”

The formation of the institute will contribute towards achieving the objectives of the declaration of intent between the Australian and Chinese Governments to work

together on water scarcity, recently signed by the Federal Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, the Hon. Malcolm Turnbull.

Professor Johnson said the institute would have a strong focus on encouraging the exchange of students and early career researchers, which will help to develop networks of scientists between the two countries that will last into the future.

“China is investing heavily into science, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences is a highly regarded and prestigious scientific organisation internationally,” Professor Johnson said.

“Professor Yongguan Zhu, who is one of the joint leaders of this new institute, was recently given an award for being in the top 10 young scientists in the Academy, which gives an indication of the strength of the research group we are teaming up with.”

Associate Professor Justin Brookes, a nationally renowned researcher in water quality from the University of Adelaide, has been appointed a joint leader of the new institute.

“The institute will address environmental degradation of

soil and water resources using a holistic approach, which requires cooperation from researchers with a range of disciplines,” Associate Professor Brookes said.

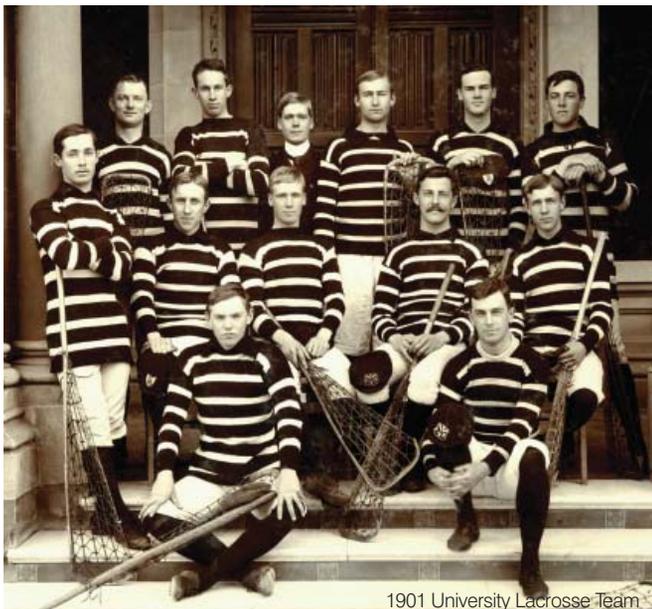
“By working together, we will be more responsive to global threats, such as climate change, and be better placed to capitalise on new and emerging technologies that can help us to treat soils and water and ensure their sustainability.”

Professor John Taplin, Pro Vice-Chancellor (International), said the creation of the new China-Australia Research Institute was another welcome boost to the University of Adelaide’s ties with China.

“The University of Adelaide has a strong relationship with Shandong University in China and has successfully launched a Confucius Institute to promote Chinese culture, study and cooperation,” Professor Taplin said.

“This new collaboration, with the Chinese Academy of Sciences, is further proof that China and Australia recognise the importance of cooperation and the quality of what we each have to offer in solving some of the world’s biggest environmental problems.”

■ Story by David Ellis



1901 University Lacrosse Team

BLACKS & BLUES

Sporting Tradition at the University of Adelaide

16 May - 29 June 2007

A display of selected sports-related items from the University Archives and the Sports Association is being exhibited in the Barr Smith Library, the Sports Hub (Level 5 Union Building) and Rumours Café (Level 6 Union Building).



Professor Heiner Niemann

Meet our new Federation Fellow

■ Research

The University of Adelaide has been awarded another highly prestigious ARC Federation Fellowship aimed at attracting and retaining world-class researchers.

The University's newest ARC Federation Fellow is a world-renowned expert in animal biotechnology, Professor Dr Heiner Niemann.

Professor Dr Niemann is currently Head of the Department for Biotechnology at the Institut für Tierzucht (FAL) (Institute for Animal Husbandry) in Mariensee, near Hannover, Germany.

With a background in Veterinary Medicine, Professor Niemann has specialised in reproductive biotechnology, and over the past decade he has further specialised in molecular and gene technologies.

His research combines reproduction, embryology, and molecular and cellular biology, and is aimed at benefiting agricultural industry (such as addressing the high embryonic losses in livestock breeding programs), medical science (such as using animals as models for research into ageing) and the community.

At Adelaide, Professor Niemann will be a joint appointment in the School of Agriculture, Food & Wine and the School of Molecular

& Biomedical Science, where he will use his skills to establish multidisciplinary research into animal biotechnology.

"The techniques and knowledge that Professor Niemann has developed during his research career are unique and world-leading, and he will be an outstanding addition to the University of Adelaide's – and Australia's – research efforts," said the University of Adelaide's Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research), Professor Alan Johnson AM.

"Professor Niemann is an almost perfect fit at the University of Adelaide, which already conducts extensive and internationally recognised research into large animals, particularly cows, sheep and pigs.

"His appointment will be an excellent complement to the University's bid to establish a School of Veterinary Science at its Roseworthy Campus.

"With a research focus on 'Embryo Genomics for Engineering Change', Professor Niemann's research will be of national benefit to Australian agriculture and medical science," he said.

Professor Niemann is expected to begin his appointment at the University of Adelaide in early 2008.

■ Story by David Ellis



2007 Young Tall Poppy Science Awards

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Download a Nomination Form
www.tallpoppies.net.au/awards/2007
 Closing date Friday 15 June 2007
 Awards announced Thursday 16 August 2007



Guest Speaker
Professor Ian Frazer
 Clinical Immunologist
 Australian of the Year 2006
 Merck Sharp & Dohme Florey Medal Winner 2007-2008

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 State Manager South Australia
 Phone: 0402 228 507
McLeod.Pamela@saugov.sa.gov.au



TALL POPPY CAMPAIGN



Government of South Australia
 Department of Further Education,
 Employment, Science and Technology



THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE AUSTRALIA



University of South Australia

Call for Nominations



Twin cellists begin national tour

Two of the University of Adelaide's celebrated recent music graduates – twin cellists Pei-Jee Ng and Pei-Sian Ng – are returning to Australia for a national tour.

Winners of the Elder Conservatorium and Victoria League scholarships to study at the Royal Northern College of Music in the UK, the Ng twins will begin their national tour on Saturday 30 June at the Adelaide Town Hall.

Joining the twins on their tour is Melbourne-born, Julliard-trained gifted pianist David Tong. Works by Barrière, Chopin, Rachmaninov and Elena Kats-Chernin will feature.

The tour follows the recent news that Pei-Sian Ng has won the First Prize of £5000 and Gold Medal at the 55th Royal Over-Seas League (ROSL) Annual Music Competition. He joins an illustrious list of cellists who have won the competition.

Pei-Sian also won the ROSL Award for Strings and the Tait Memorial Scholarship for an Australian musician – taking his total prize money to £7000.

The Ng twins' national tour concludes at the Governor's Ballroom in Perth on 22 July.

For more information about the tour, visit:
www.twincellists.com

One of Adelaide's historic buildings – St Peter's Cathedral – will resound with some of the most beautiful choral music ever composed, during the second concert in the Elder Conservatorium Evening Concert Series this month.



Cathedral concert allows music to soar

Music

The latest Elder Conservatorium concert, on Saturday 9 June at 6.30pm, is part of both the Conservatorium's Evening Concert Series and St Peter's Cathedral Concert Series.

This collaboration between the University's Elder Conservatorium of Music and St Peter's Cathedral grew out of the excellent historical relationship that exists between the two institutions and because of the close association that the Conservatorium's Director of Choral Music, Carl Crossin, has had with the Cathedral over a number of years.

"The Cathedral is the perfect venue for this fabulous music, not only because of the wonderful acoustic of St Peter's, but because this music was composed specifically for such lofty spaces," Mr Crossin said.

"The music comes alive and soars into every part of the building. There is nowhere else in Adelaide where this concert would work so effectively."

The concert features the Elder Conservatorium Chorale, with soloists and current students Louise McKay (cello), Robert Macfarlane (tenor) and Thomas Flint (baritone), together with recent graduates Anthony Hunt (organ), who is also the assistant organist at the Cathedral, and Greta Bradman (soprano).

The major work being presented is the Australian première of *Innocence* by John Tavener, which was written in 1994 in memory of the victims of World War II, and "positively surrounds the audience with everything from voices and organ to bells – the exceptionally high and low vocal in this work has to be heard to be believed", said Mr Crossin. It was originally premièred by the Choir of Westminster Abbey in October 1995 and recorded by Sony Classical (SK66613).

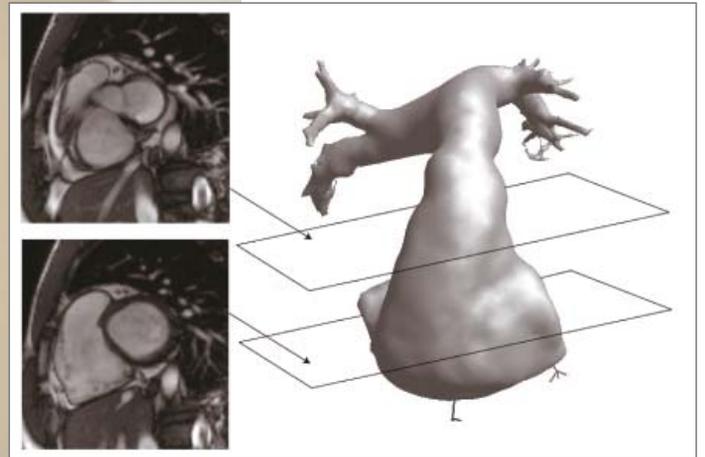
Two other pieces being performed are Morten Lauridsen's at once sensuous and uplifting sacred work *Lux Aeterna* (for choir and organ), and the justly famous *Miserere* by Gregorio Allegri, composed in the 1630s for the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

Above:
St Peter's Cathedral on King William Road, North Adelaide

Photo by David Ellis

Tickets are \$25 adult/\$20 concession/\$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



Heart scan software could help save lives

■ Biomedical Engineering

New software developed at the University of Adelaide could help to detect and measure cardiac defects in millions of patients right around the world.

The software, named MedFlovan, has been developed in collaboration with the University's Centre for Biomedical Engineering, the Cardiovascular Research Centre, and the Cardiovascular Investigation Unit.

The developer of this program is PhD student Kelvin Wong from the School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering. Mr Wong has drawn on a range of expertise – including computer science, medicine, physics and mechanical engineering – to develop a new way of quantifying abnormalities in the heart and arteries.

"The software is a diagnostic system for detecting cardiac abnormalities and assessing their degree of defects," Mr Wong said.

MedFlovan analyses images taken from MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) scans. It measures the changes from one scan to the next and provides vital information about blood flows and turbulence in the heart and arteries. Understanding blood flow patterns in the heart helps to determine the cause of the problem.

"This research can be used for identification or quantification of septal defects (a form of congenital heart defect that causes

irregular blood flow between the left and right sides of the heart), atherosclerotic arteries (an inflammation or 'hardening' of the arteries), defective heart valves, and certain other cardiac phenomena in the chambers of the heart, such as shunts between the pulmonary and aortic circulations and obstructions inside the heart.

"The information can then be used by doctors to diagnose the cardiac problem, determine its severity, and then help to prepare their strategies for the treatment of patients," Mr Wong said.

MedFlovan is the culmination of years of hard work by Mr Wong, and a specific desire to do something that benefits society. His presentation on blood flow assessment, based on the software, recently earned him a Young Investigator Award in Singapore at the 15th International Conference on Mechanics in Medicine and Biology.

Mr Wong's academic supervisors are Adjunct Professor Jagannath Mazumdar (School of Mathematical Sciences and School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering), Professor Derek Abbott (School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering), Professor Stephen Worthley and Professor Prash Sanders (School of Medicine), and Associate Professor Richard Kelso (School of Mechanical Engineering). His work has also benefited from collaboration with

Mr Pawel Kuklik, who is currently a Research Fellow at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

"There are many aspects of MRI technology that are unexplored," Mr Wong said. "It takes a lot of dedication and motivation to try to understand MRI in depth. We are fortunate to have had advice and expertise from various specialists in this area, from the field of computer vision, medical imaging and engineering perspectives.

"Various systems have previously been developed for analysing blood flow in arteries and the aorta – they are more specifically designed to do real-time measurement and to physically measure the properties, and not computationally measure it. These other systems are successful and are widely researched, so not many people have focused on the feasibility of developing the type of solution that we proposed," he said.

There has been some interest in this work from MRI manufacturers and medical centres, which bodes well for the future commercialisation of the software.

To help organise the protection of this research and prepare it for commercialisation, Adelaide Research & Innovation (ARI), the University of Adelaide's commercial development company, has been assisting the research team and has recently filed a provisional patent.

Above (inset): A 3D reconstruction of the right atrium from scans of cardiac chambers. The selected magnetic resonance (MR) images that correspond to the sectioning of left and right atria are used for examination and flow analyses.

Image courtesy of Kelvin Wong

Above left: Photo by istock

■ Story by David Ellis



Singapore: City of success

The recent University of Adelaide graduation ceremonies at the Ngee Ann-Adelaide Education Centre in Singapore saw 94 students graduate with qualifications in a range of disciplines. Three of the graduates who attended those ceremonies are featured here. All are excelling in their chosen fields, and all represent the breadth and depth of quality graduates from the University of Adelaide.

Stories and photos by Candy Gibson

Helping Singapore to stay green

It's easy being green in Singapore, a country with a global reputation as a garden city, with 5% of its island reserved for nature.

Since the early 1990s its government has trumpeted green policies, setting an environmental agenda for its citizens, nurtured by educational programs and the formation of the Singapore Environment Council.

High-profile property developer Eddie Wong has been part of this green wave, ensuring his company – City Developments Ltd – has striven to meet Singapore's stringent environmental laws in the design and construction of some of the city's biggest buildings.

Mr Wong, a familiar face within the Singapore construction industry, has taken his commitment a step further by completing a Masters in Environmental Management at the University of Adelaide.

As general manager of City Development's Project Division, Mr Wong is responsible for some 50 building projects within Singapore and overseas.

He helped spearhead the development and implementation of Singapore's green policies within his own company, resulting in a swag

of awards for their environmentally friendly buildings.

"City Developments has managed to deliver about one third of Singapore's Green Mark certified building projects," Mr Wong said.

In 2006 it took out 10 building and construction awards in Singapore, including four Green Mark Gold prizes for its environmentally sustainable projects as well as accolades from the Singapore Government.

Its award-winning green buildings in Singapore include City Square Residences, St Regis Hotel & Residences, The Sail @ Marina Bay and King's Centre Plot 3 development.

"The Masters in Environmental Management has provided me with a global and national view of the environment, which we take for granted," Mr Wong said.

"The course has helped me to better understand the impact of buildings on the environment, the demand for depleting natural resources, the waste that the industry has created and the social impacts of our industry. I am now qualified to set up some new management systems to address these impacts."



Eddie Wong

Lena's a high flier in every sense

Few people are prepared to travel more than 5000 kilometres to attend a lecture at the University of Adelaide, but company manager Lena Low did just that – 18 times.

While completing her MBA, the businesswoman boarded a flight from Tokyo to Singapore every four weeks for 18 months to attend lessons at the University's Ngee-Ann Adelaide campus.

At the time Ms Low was Head of Operations for the Japan office of International SOS, a worldwide leader providing international corporations with medical services in far-flung corners of the globe.

MBA graduate gets down to business

Singapore-based Judy Howison is using her newly-acquired MBA from the University of Adelaide to provide career advice to students of one of the world's leading executive education schools.

Ms Howison is a counsellor at the INSEAD Singapore Campus, contracting her services through her private company, Consulting for Global Business.

INSEAD is an international business school with campuses in Europe (France) and Asia (Singapore). More than 7000 executives from around the world take part in its programs each year.

Ms Howison grew up in Melbourne and worked in the UK and Europe before returning to Australia with her husband in 1990 and relocating to Asia in 1996. She has enjoyed a successful career in the executive search, IT, higher education, media and construction industries.

"Living and working in Singapore has been a great experience, but it presented some challenges in the beginning. The positive work attitude and high level of productivity now reflect a globalised nation where people can

share innovative ideas, start new businesses and engage in exciting career opportunities."

Her consulting company provides services in human resources, counselling and English language to firms and individuals throughout Asia Pacific.

Despite her extensive experience, Ms Howison found that in order to keep pace with a dynamic business environment, an MBA was necessary. In 2006 she enrolled at the University of Adelaide's partner campus in Singapore, the Ngee Ann-Adelaide Education Centre.

"I chose the University of Adelaide because of its long reputation in education and the convenience of a campus in Singapore. Because of the flexibility the MBA allowed, I was able to continue running my own business and allocate blocks of time to study."

A spin-off of her MBA qualification will be a new series of communication workshops offered by her company to corporate organisations in Singapore.

"The MBA has been a wonderful learning experience and opened up some great opportunities for me to expand my company," she said.



Judy Howison

Six months before completing her MBA, the 32-year-old businesswoman secured a job with the world's leading software company, Microsoft, becoming the Senior Regional Service Delivery Manager for Asia Pacific and Japan.

Now based in Singapore, Ms Low manages all Microsoft's outsourced call centre business for Xbox in the region, ensuring the quality and efficiency of the product and directing the business strategy for the Asia Pacific. She reports to the United States.

"The fact that I was within reach of an MBA qualification and had demonstrated such a strong commitment to the program, flying between two countries, really made an impression on the interview panel at Microsoft," she said.

She is confident her MBA will open up more career opportunities, leading to senior management and

hopefully a chief operating role for a major company within the next decade.

"Having an MBA is a pre-requisite for moving into senior management positions in Asia. I chose the University of Adelaide because it is one of the prestigious Group of Eight universities in Australia and has an outstanding reputation in Singapore," Ms Low said.

Ms Low completed an undergraduate degree at the National University of Singapore in 1996 and won a scholarship a year later to study for her Graduate Diploma in Japanese Studies at Tsukuba University.

She enrolled in the MBA program at the University of Adelaide in 2004, with an international working background which included stints in the United States, France, Britain, China and Japan.



Lena Low

Volunteers have place in university history

Volunteers

Max Duldig and Brian O'Donnell have very different connections to the University of Adelaide's past, but an equal commitment to preserving it as volunteers in the University Archives Volunteer Group.

Mr Duldig worked in the Physics workshop from 1944 to 1949, returned in 1956 to study Economics and is the father of current Vice-President (Services & Resources) Paul Duldig.

Mr O'Donnell, on the other hand, having studied in England, can claim to have been no more than "a water boy for the University hockey teams" when his son, an Honours graduate in Science, and younger daughter played.

He was, however, one of the first to sign up when the Archives initiated its volunteer program in 2003 to help bring its records into the computer age. "Our first task, on day one, was to make boxes," he recalled.

Mr Duldig came on board three years ago and there are now 36 regulars who make up an average 24-strong working team every Tuesday.

Most take over the Council Room, to read, transcribe, index and preserve the masses of documents

a university accumulates over 132 years. Mr Duldig, for example, is transcribing all the letters written by Mr John Davies, who managed two properties in the State's mid north that were subsequently bequeathed to the University in 1968.

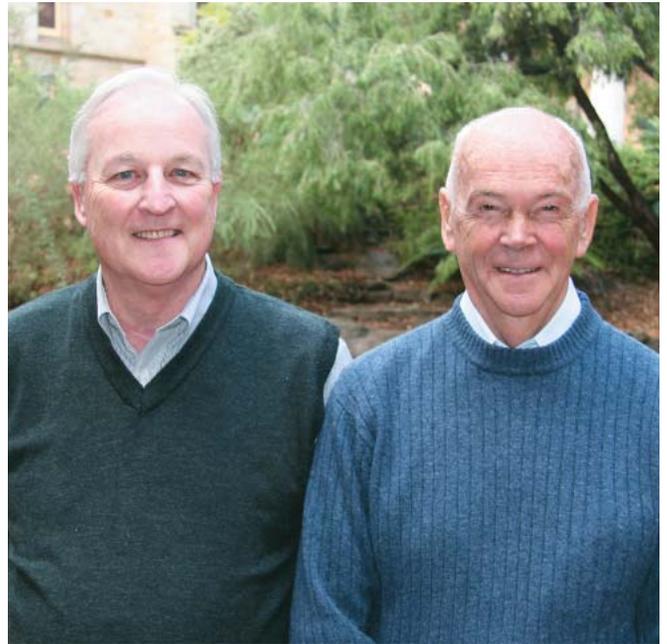
Mr O'Donnell works solo elsewhere, taking images of old newspaper cuttings and processing them to go online. He has even developed his own rolling copy stand.

He doesn't miss the catch up over morning tea, of course, but it was not until he and Mr Duldig were interviewed together for this story that they discovered both had worked at the then Weapons Research Establishment (now DSTO Salisbury) during the 1960s.

Both are invited to an even bigger morning tea in Bonython Hall at 10am on Friday 8 June, hosted by the Patron of University of Adelaide Volunteers, Mrs Lindsay McWha.

The event will formally thank all of the University's 1000-plus volunteers for their commitment in the lead up to South Australia's Volunteers Day on Monday 11 June. Senior staff and a number of special guests also have been invited.

"All members of the University Archives Volunteer Group are very committed and passionate about the work they do and we look forward to seeing them all each



week," said the Executive Officer, Corporate Communication, Tupp Carmody.

"As a result of their efforts, the Archives Collection is becoming much more accessible to our researchers and the broader community."

If you are interested in joining the group please contact Ms Carmody on (08) 8303 4194 or email: carmody@adelaide.edu.au

■ Story by Nick Carne

From left: Archives volunteers Brian O'Donnell and Max Duldig

Photo by David Ellis



After 35 years, Lanes has a new name – Lane Print & Post – to better reflect exactly what it is we do.

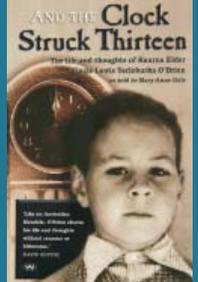
Lane Print & Post is the largest privately owned dedicated **Printing, Mailing and Distribution** Company in South Australia. We also have offices in Sydney and Jakarta as we like to spread ourselves around.

With clients like the **University of Adelaide** and **SA Life**, we really don't need to be introduced, but rather reintroduce ourselves – so the next time you pick up this publication or the incredibly successful (and beautifully printed) SA Life Magazine, you will now know that it was printed and delivered by **Lane Print & Post**.




South Australia's largest privately owned dedicated Printing, Mailing and Distribution Company.

CALL 8179 9900 and speak to an Account Manager about your next print project. www.laneprint.com.au



Book giveaway

And The Clock Struck Thirteen is the life and thoughts of Kaurna Elder Uncle Lewis O'Brien, as told to Mary-Anne Gale.

Printed by Wakefield Press, the book sells for \$27.95.

To win a free copy, be the first caller on (08) 8303 5414.



How climate change will impact on health

Public Health

As the world debates how to deal with the realities of climate change, its impact on population health should not be underestimated.

That is the clear message from new research at the University of Adelaide which examined the association between climatic factors and selected infectious diseases and then predicted the likely future disease burden associated with climate change and an ageing population.

In her recently submitted PhD thesis, Ms Ying Zhang projects that the morbidity burden (assessed in terms of years lost due to disability or YLDs) for Ross River Virus infection and salmonellosis, associated with climate change, might double by 2050, compared with 2000, in both temperate and subtropical regions in Australia, if other factors remain constant.

The figures are even more alarming in China, where the YLDs for malaria and bacillary dysentery related to climate change might triple over the same period, whether in temperate or subtropical regions.

Ms Zhang, who previously

lectured at China's Shandong University, recently completed her research in the University of Adelaide's Discipline of Public Health, under the supervision of Dr Peng Bi and Professor Janet Hillier.

Earlier this year she received a China Scholarship Council award from the Chinese Government, recognising her as one of the best Chinese PhD candidates worldwide.

The award, worth US\$5000, is judged on the basis of a candidate's scholarly output (Ms Zhang has co-written seven papers in peer-reviewed journals while in Adelaide and presented at six conferences in Australia, China, France and Thailand) and the contribution the research will make to China.

"This study aims to provide scientific evidence for policy makers, researchers, public health practitioners and local communities in the development of public health strategies at an early stage in order to prevent or reduce future risks," Ms Zhang said.

"Public and preventive health strategies that consider local climatic conditions may be important in reducing the future impact of climate change."

The research found that maximum and minimum temperatures are

important in the transmission of both vector-borne and enteric diseases in various climatic regions in Australia and China, while river flow or high tides may also play a role.

More papers on the subject will follow, although Ms Zhang's primary research focus will now turn to the epidemiology of healthy ageing – another issue that is as relevant in China as it is in Australia. She will be based at the University of Adelaide for the next two years.

Ms Zhang was joined last year by her microbiologist husband Dr Yang Kong, who is a 78th generation descendant of Confucius (whose surname also was Kong).

There is a neat symmetry here, as Shandong University – where both Ms Zhang and Dr Kong studied – is the key partner in the University of Adelaide's Confucius Institute, which was launched in March to promote the study and understanding of Chinese language and culture and its economy.

Strong links also are emerging between public health academics from the two universities.

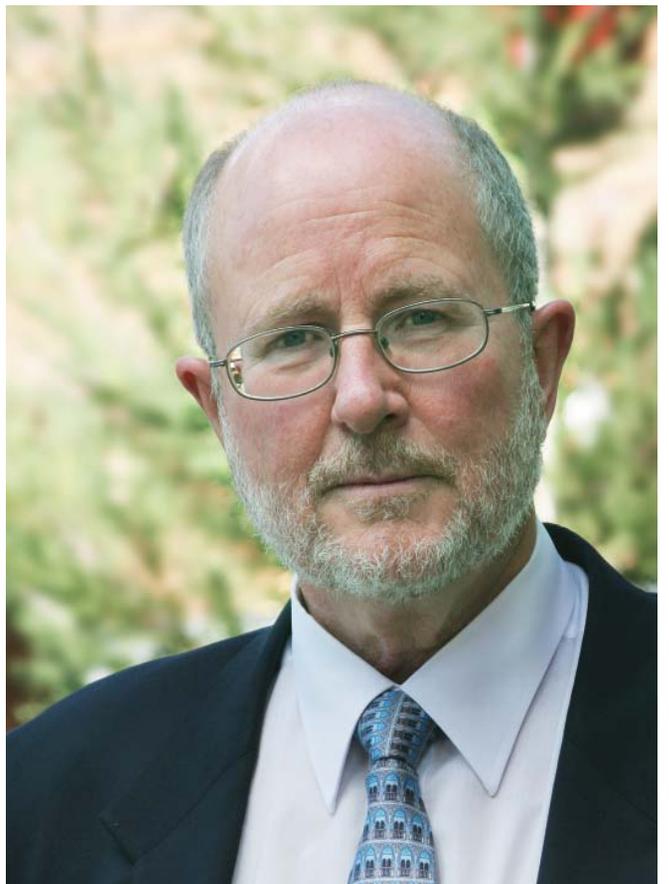
"Public and preventive health strategies that consider local climatic conditions may be important in reducing the future impact of climate change"

Above:
Public Health researcher
Ying Zhang

Photo by Nick Carne

■ Story by Nick Carne

“If you can buy time, you can often save a life” – Professor Robert Goldney



■ Psychiatry

An international expert on suicide, Professor Robert Goldney, has been appointed the new Head of the University's Discipline of Psychiatry.

Professor Goldney is recognised as one of the world's most foremost researchers on suicide and depression, receiving a number of international awards for his work.

His most recent accolade came from the American Association of Suicidology who last month presented him with the Louis I. Dublin Award for his contribution to the field of suicide prevention. Professor Goldney is only the second Australian in the 34-year history of the award to receive the honour.

“Suicide is a very complex issue,” Professor Goldney said. “We certainly don't have all the answers and we will never stop all suicides but we can do a lot towards reducing the numbers.”

“It is important we take a multi-faceted approach to preventing suicide, using both standard psychiatric and psychological therapies, as well as making it harder for people to take their own lives.”

He said new gun laws introduced in the wake of the Port Arthur massacre in 1996 had contributed significantly to the drop in firearm-related suicides in Australia.

Other effective measures include telephone crisis services, the

prescription of anti-depressants, restricting barbiturates and ready access to substances such as pesticides, erecting barriers on bridges and discouraging sensational media reporting of suicides.

“It is logical that by alleviating risk factors there should be an impact on suicidal behaviour. If you can buy time, you can often save a life.”

“Research shows that only 10% of people who have survived potentially lethal suicide attempts actually go on to commit suicide,” Professor Goldney said.

He also commended organisations such as beyondblue, the national depression initiative which has helped remove the stigma of mental illness in Australia by using high-profile sportsmen and women to openly discuss their battles with depression.

Although statistics show that overall suicide rates in Australia have remained relatively consistent over the past 100 years, there are some dramatic differences among males.

Young men (aged 15-24) have trebled their suicide rate since 1900 (due in part to access to alcohol and drugs), but the rate for older men has fallen considerably. This is attributed to a better understanding of mental illness among older people, improved treatment for physical illnesses and better social security safety nets.

Contrary to popular belief, the media plays only a minor role in

terms of triggering copycat suicides, Professor Goldney said.

“The media have been unfairly used as a whipping post when it comes to their impact on people taking their own lives. Their influence accounts for only about 2% of suicides overall in the community and they may actually help prevent suicide by destigmatising depression.”

Professor Goldney has enjoyed a long association with the University of Adelaide. He gained his medical degree here in 1967 and commenced psychiatry in 1969. Between 1974 and 1981 he was a lecturer in the Discipline of Psychiatry before establishing a research unit at Glenside Hospital.

In 1987 Professor Goldney went into private practice and continued with his research into suicide.

He was appointed Clinical Professor at the University of Adelaide in 1992 and in 1996 became Professor and Medical Director at The Adelaide Clinic, a leading provider of psychiatric services in South Australia.

Professor Goldney hopes to establish more research opportunities within the Discipline of Psychiatry, focused on clinical work and mental health initiatives.

“We have many well-trained clinicians and I would like to see more research focused on the delivery of mental health services in South Australia,” he said.

“We certainly don't have all the answers and we will never stop all suicides but we can do a lot towards reducing the numbers”

Above:
Professor Robert Goldney

Photo by Candy Gibson

■ Story by Candy Gibson



Forensic science comes to schools

■ Outreach

CSI fans, eat your heart out. South Australian secondary school students acted out a real-life forensic crime scene last month, thanks to the University of Adelaide.

Seven research scientists from the University, in conjunction with the Australian Society for Medical Research, visited senior students at five Adelaide high schools from 7-11 May, giving them a hands-on experience of forensic DNA techniques in a bid to encourage them to consider a career in science and medical research.

The Year 11 and 12 students delved into the world of forensic science for a day, obtaining DNA from a simulated crime scene to determine "whodunnit?"

The researchers – all University of Adelaide PhD students – are working in the scientific and medical fields. They are all passionate about science and keen to recruit new colleagues to their field.

Kylie Dunning, 27, is an ex-Golden Grove High School student who completed her Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree majoring in genetics in 2002. She is currently undertaking her PhD in reproductive medicine at the University of Adelaide.

"The aim of this outreach program is to give students a more realistic view of science and debunk the myth of the white lab coat image and boring, mundane work. Science is a fascinating career, full of options and exciting challenges," Kylie said.

"We gave the students an introductory talk about the career path we have all chosen, the subjects we studied at university and the options available to them as a science undergraduate or PhD candidate."

A DNA fingerprinting experiment was conducted at each school, incorporating a role-play scenario in which a teacher was kidnapped and suspects narrowed down with the help of DNA.

Up to 50 students from each school took part in the forensic science experiment. The high schools included Findon, Woodville, Parafield Gardens, Paralowie and Smithfield Plains.

"This is the first year that we've offered the outreach program to metropolitan schools. The initiative has been running since 2004 and each year the response is outstanding," Kylie said.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

"The aim of this outreach program is to give students a more realistic view of science and debunk the myth of the white lab coat image"

Above: Students from Findon High School get their chance to play forensic scientist for a day

Adelaide features in Cochrane Library

The University of Adelaide is prominent in the latest issue of *The Cochrane Library*, with academics contributing to three new reviews.

The online publication is one of the main international resources for clinicians and consumers seeking information to help them make decisions about appropriate and effective health care. This is presented in the form of systematic reviews, or Cochrane Reviews, which are considered among the most rigorous in the world.

Each quarterly issue adds about 150 new or updated reviews to the existing 3000; of these, 10 to 20 deal with pregnancy and childbirth. Australia is an active contributor in this field, providing around a third of all reviews, but three from one university in one edition is noteworthy.

The contributors were Professor Caroline Crowther and Dr Jodie Dodd (who assessed trials examining the value of specialised antenatal clinics for women with a multiple pregnancy), Dr Joseph Thomas (the use of Phenobarbital to reduce jaundice in babies born to mothers with incompatible blood) and Ms Philippa Middleton (the use of zinc supplementation to improve pregnancy and infant outcomes).

The University of Adelaide is the Australian support centre for academics contributing to the international publication in the pregnancy and childbirth area. Ms Middleton acts as the Cochrane Systematic Review Coordinator.

Reviewers apply to fill gaps in current research knowledge based on their own research experience or interests, or from a list of areas nominated by an editorial committee.

Australia is one of the first countries to negotiate a national subscription to *The Cochrane Library*, funded by the Federal Government. All Australians have free access through the Internet at: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/mrwhome/106568753/HOME>

■ Story by Nick Carne

Col. (Ret'd) Dr Richard Hin Yung

MBBS (1960), FAMS (1969), FROG (1981)

Born: 30 August 1933, Peking, China
Died: 24 April 2007, Singapore



Obituary

Richard Yung, a Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Adelaide, was much admired by his colleagues, friends and family. He was a humble person despite his many and great achievements, a dedicated and passionate worker, a wonderful friend who was much loved for his sincerity, and of course a loving husband, father and grandfather.

Richard never forgot the good times he spent in Adelaide. He had fond memories of Lincoln College and the University of Adelaide. Despite his hectic schedule as a gynaecologist and a part-time Colonel in the Singapore Armed Forces, he found time for his *alma mater*, setting up the Alumni chapter in Singapore.

Whilst in practice as a doctor, Richard also took time off to serve in the Singapore Armed Forces. According to Dr Tow, "Richard was a soldier at heart. Medicine was a pastime. This is not to say that he treated his medical practice lightly.

No, Richard was [in] a class of his own. Whatever he did, he put in all he had – be it medicine, soldering, family, Church, friends. Richard worked his way up in the army – from field medical staff command to commander of a combat division. He was awarded the rare distinction of a regular colonel's appointment for a part-time volunteer. He won the coveted Command Appointment Plaque and the Meritorious Service Award. He was more professional than the professionals."

A rare and final achievement that Richard did before he said 'goodbye' to the world to be with the Lord, was he managed to publish his book tracing the family roots in dedication *To Our Grandchildren*. Through the papers that were left behind by his father, he managed to trace his roots back almost a thousand years. Proudly in 1998 he gathered all the Yungs together for a grand rally at the Yale University in Connecticut and in 2003 he organised another gathering of his

maternal branch – the Kwan clan – in California.

Richard was instrumental in initiating a commemorative book entitled *The Southern Lights – Enlightening and Enriching* for the Adelaide University Alumni Association Singapore in 2006. He worked tirelessly to get the book published despite the many occasions where his health was not that good.

Richard loved his God and was a regular worshipper in the mandarin congregation at the St Andrew's Cathedral. As a talented singer, he was a leading member of the church choir and led the church in singing hymns during services.

Richard was a perfect father and husband. Together with his wife May, they raised three sons, Shing Wai, Shing Jit and Shing Gene, and a happy band of grandchildren. At 2.10pm on Tuesday 24 April, in the presence of his wife May, his three sons, brother Allen and sister Geraldine, Richard passed into the presence of his Maker. This ended his earthly sojourn of 73 years.

Contributed by David Goh, President, Adelaide University Alumni Association Singapore

With reference to: *To Our Grandchildren* by Richard Yung, Eulogy by Tow Siang Haw, and the Distinguished Alumni Award Citation by Harry Medlin

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



Professor
Richard Pomfret

The University of Adelaide's **Research Tuesdays** seminar series continues on **Tuesday 12 June at 5:30pm**.

Why are economists held in low esteem in Australia when their policy advice has been so enormously beneficial to Australians? Richard Pomfret discusses the value of supporting Australian university research in international trade and economic development.

Richard Pomfret has acted as an adviser to the Australian government and also to international organisations such as the United Nations and the OECD in Paris. He has written widely on international trade and development economics.

Coming up in the series...

10 July
Professor Zbigniew Michalewicz
The science of making profitable decisions

14 August
Professor Rob Norman
The reproductive revolution:
have we gone too far?

11 September
Professor Tanya Monro
Optical fibres: our future beyond
telecommunications

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

Life Impact



CRICOS Provider Number 00123M

Historic decade for Hong Kong



Hong Kong businessman Danny Tse obtained his MBA from the University of Adelaide in 2006.

He has lived in Hong Kong for more than 30 years and travels frequently between Hong Kong and China, thanks to his position as HR & Administration Manager of a Brazilian trading firm.

On the eve of the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to China, Mr Tse reflects on the past decade since the British handover.

Q. What have been the major changes under Chinese governance in Hong Kong?

A. From a business perspective, the opportunities have opened right up. China's free trade agreement with Hong Kong has provided easier access to the mainland and vice-versa. Tourists can travel freely between the mainland and Hong Kong, boosting retail sales figures for both regions. The Chinese Government has also promoted more traditional festivals and practices in Hong Kong, giving residents a more in-depth understanding of the Chinese culture. Putonghua (Mandarin) has become a compulsory subject for all primary and secondary students and an essential language tool in the business community.

Q. What areas have not been affected, or only subject to minimal change?

A. We have experienced very little change in our lifestyle and environment compared to British rule. Apart from the property slump after 1997 after the handover, life has continued as normal. Hong Kong's architecture has been retained as well because residents were very keen to keep the historical buildings that are unique to the city – for example, the Star Ferry Terminal.

Q. How different is the ambience in Hong Kong now, compared to British governance?

A. Hong Kong people still enjoy a lot of freedom to express ideas, to travel and to live the same lifestyle they enjoyed previously. But residents continue to put pressure on the Government to speed up democratic reforms and sustain economic development.

Q. Has the mix of residents changed? Was there a mass emigration of British people after the handover, or did many stay on?

A. A lot of people have moved to Hong Kong from the mainland, but many are unskilled and unemployed, which has increased our public expenditure in housing, social and medical costs. Although some British people left, many returned because they missed their friends and the lifestyle.

Q. What activities are planned in July to commemorate the 10-year anniversary?

A. Celebrations are being held throughout the year. In May, the Central People's Government (CPG) gave Hong Kong two new giant pandas from Wolong, Sichuan to celebrate the anniversary. Trees are being planted in 18 districts in Hong Kong, reflecting the Chinese belief that it takes 10 years for trees to reach maturity. On 1 July 2007 (the actual anniversary date) a flag raising ceremony will be held, a special issue of commemorative stamps issued and a spectacular fireworks and symphony of lights display will take place over Victoria Harbour in Hong Kong.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

Military historian honoured

Honours

One of the world's leading military historians, Emeritus Professor Trevor Wilson of the University of Adelaide, has been appointed an Honorary Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia.

Professor Wilson has received his honour for service to education in the area of World War I military history through teaching, writing and historical research. He has taught history at the University of Adelaide since 1960.

"I am delighted that historians are thought to be worthy recipients of this honour," Professor Wilson said. "The fact that people in authority recognise the importance of history, both through writing and teaching, gives me a lot of pleasure."

Professor Wilson is regarded internationally as the author of some of the most distinguished texts on the Great War. His first military book – *The Myriad Faces of War: Britain and the Great War, 1914-1918* – published in 1986, is widely acknowledged as revolutionary in its view of war.

A Visiting Professor at the University of Adelaide and co-author

Emeritus Professor
Trevor Wilson

Photo by Candy Gibson



of four of his military texts, Robin Prior, said Professor Wilson was the first author to look at war in all its dimensions. "He gave an overall perspective of war, covering not only the specific battles, but also the social and political impacts of the Great War. In that respect, he really broke the mould with this book," Professor Prior said.

"As a teacher, his encyclopaedic knowledge and enthusiasm for history has inspired students for more than 40 years."

Professor Wilson's other military books, which he has co-authored with Professor Prior, include: *The Somme* (2005); *The First World War* (1999); *Passchendaele: The Untold Story* (1996); and *Command on the Western Front, 1914-1918* (1992).

His most recent books were launched by SA Premier Mike Rann, General Peter Cosgrove (then Chief of the Defence Force), and former Federal Opposition Leader Kim Beazley, reflecting the esteem in which he is held in Australia.

Despite "officially" retiring from the University of Adelaide in 1993, Professor Wilson continues to teach honours classes and supervise PhD students.

The University of Adelaide itself has strong connections to World War I: more than 500 staff and students fought in the war, with the first South Australian to be awarded the Victoria Cross, Captain A.S. Blackburn, a Law graduate.

"As a teacher, his encyclopaedic knowledge and enthusiasm for history has inspired students for more than 40 years."

■ Story by Candy Gibson



Radio Adelaide 101.5 FM

radio.adelaide.edu.au

BLAK NITE showcasing SA's young Indigenous talent
Monday June 18, 7pm on Nunga Wangga
Saturday June 23, 9pm on Rhythm+Stick

Subscribe in JUNE
and go into the draw to win

An exciting **Gold Double Pass** to more than 30 movies showing at the Palace Nova Cinemas from August 1st 2007 to November 30th 2007!

Total prize value is **\$980**

PALACE NOVA - screening the very best in contemporary arthouse cinema from Australia and around the world.
8222 3434
www.palacenova.com

subscribe at
www.radio.adelaide.edu.au/subscribe
or phone us on 8303 5000

coming soon
the Adelaide Festival of Ideas
ON AIR
12 noon
monday july 9
to friday july 20

- broadcast
- streaming live
- podcast



Colleague development: working together to improve learning and teaching

The Faculty of Health Sciences has recently introduced the Colleague Development Program to improve the quality of learning and teaching, and to improve support for Faculty teachers. The program is open to anyone who teaches and can be adapted to suit both early career and experienced teachers. Associate Professor Maree O'Keefe, the Associate Dean Learning and Teaching, explains.

■ Commentary

While student surveys provide valuable information to teachers about student experiences of learning and teaching, feedback from teaching colleagues is also valuable. Colleague feedback can complement student feedback by providing information on aspects of teaching that students may find hard to judge, such as the currency of subject matter, the appropriateness of student learning objectives or the validity of the assessment program. Colleagues can share personal experiences and also make suggestions to improve teaching.

In 2006, the Faculty of Health Sciences introduced the Colleague Development Program. The program – supported by funds provided through the University of Adelaide Learning and Teaching Development Budget – gives teaching staff opportunities to develop their teaching skills and to explore innovative teaching and/or assessment techniques. Faculty teachers from a number of disciplines were involved in developing the program.

The Colleague Development Program is built around providing constructive feedback and on promoting collegiality within and across traditional discipline boundaries. One of the key aims is to facilitate peer observation partnerships between teachers. Participating teachers ask a trusted teaching colleague to act as an

observer of their teaching. Before the observation begins, the teacher tells their observing colleague which aspects of their teaching they would like feedback on. The observing colleague's task then is to tell the teacher what was done well, what was done less well and to make specific suggestions for improvement. The colleague observer and the teacher discuss these observations and suggestions and the colleague observer prepares a written summary of mutually agreed outcomes.

Each participating teacher attends an introductory seminar and receives an information pack with observation and reporting proforma. A number of lunches are scheduled where teachers come together over the course of the program to share their experiences in an informal setting.

While this approach to stimulating interest in learning and teaching and enhancing teacher skills is not a new concept, the key to the Colleague Development Program's success is its flexibility and efficiency. Teachers identify specific aspects of their teaching for feedback to guide the observation. As the observation and feedback process is focused, the actual time commitment to complete the program can be as little as four to six hours. On completing the program, teachers receive a certificate of participation. This certificate can then be included in a

teaching portfolio together with the written evaluation of their teaching and suggestions for improvements.

More than 40 teachers joined the program in 2006 and the response this year has been excellent, with participants from across all disciplines of the Faculty of Health Sciences signing up.

The Colleague Development Program has been a welcome and successful addition to Faculty learning and teaching professional development activities. The feedback from teachers is very positive. Participants report increased confidence in teaching, exposure to new ideas, a feeling of institutional support and a greater sense of collegiality. In particular, teachers find the program very relevant to their day-to-day teaching development needs and can apply information from the program easily to improve their teaching.

One teacher commented: "I appreciated someone actually observing my teaching. I've been doing a bit of teaching for a while but I haven't actually had someone sit down to observe me [before]. I learned a lot about my style of teaching and what engages students and what didn't."

In the words of another participating teacher: "Anything that improves teaching is worth doing, and this is worth doing."

■ By Maree O'Keefe



Award goes to Malaysian alumni leader

Alumni

High-profile Malaysian businessman Sim See Kee has been honoured with a Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Adelaide for his leadership and charity work.

Mr Sim, a highly respected figure in Malaysian corporate circles, is well known for his business acumen in the commercial and industrial sector, carving out a successful career in trading, rubber and oil palm plantations, quarries and property development.

A University of Adelaide alumnus, Mr Sim graduated with a Bachelor of Technology (Electronic Engineering) in 1965.

He was presented with his award by the University's Chancellor, the Honourable John von Doussa QC, at an alumni dinner in Kuala Lumpur in April.

Mr Sim's tireless work for charity over the past 40 years is well known. In the mid 1960s he founded the Apex Club of Petaling Jaya, spearheading the formation of the Selangor Foster Care Scheme to raise funds for ill and recovering children requiring temporary foster care.

In the late 1970s he initiated a fundraising drive to send

Malaysian children to Adelaide for reconstructive cranio-facial surgery.

As a student Mr Sim was an active participant in the Malaysian Student Association, organising National Day balls and other Asian Festivals both on and off campus, helping Australians to better understand the Malaysian culture.

In 1995, he served as an inaugural committee member on the University of Adelaide's West Malaysia Alumni Chapter and was its President over three terms. His encouragement for younger alumni to join the committee and take leadership roles has seen the chapter grow and strengthen over the years.

Mr Sim currently donates construction materials to upgrade schools and places of worship, irrespective of religion. He also helps to raise funds for the Buddhist charitable organisation Seu Tech Seam Tong in Muar, Johor, which runs a clinic providing free medical treatment to all, again irrespective of religion.

The Malaysian businessman is also recognised as an outstanding ambassador for South Australia.

Above (from left): Distinguished alumnus Mr Sim See Kee with university Chancellor the Hon. John von Doussa QC

Photo by Candy Gibson

■ Story by Candy Gibson

Development & Alumni Events

Friends of the University of Adelaide Library

Event: The Ups, the Downs: My life as a biographer

A free public talk by Hazel Rowley

Date: Thursday 7 June

Time: 6 for 6.30pm

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

Cost: free and open to the public: gold coin donation invited. Seating is limited.

RSVP: by Tuesday 5 June to karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au or phone (08) 8303 4064

Entrepreneurship and Commercialisation Chapter

Event: Launch of EChallenge 2007 and Alumni dinner

Date: Wednesday 13 June

Time: EChallenge 2007 launch: 6.00pm. Alumni Dinner: 7.30pm.

Cost: EChallenge 2007 launch: drinks and nibbles free. Alumni Dinner: \$30.

Venue: EChallenge Launch: National Wine Centre. Alumni Dinner: Taste of Kashmir Bollywood Lounge, 117 Melbourne Street, North Adelaide.

RSVP: for either or both events, contact Development & Alumni Office on (08) 8303 6356 or fax (08) 8303 5808

Friends of the University of Adelaide Library

Event: Manning Clark and the Muses

A free public talk by Professor Stuart Macintyre

Date: Thursday 14 June

Time: 6 for 6.30pm

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

Cost: free and open to the public: gold coin donation invited. Seating is limited.

RSVP: by Tuesday 12 June to karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au or phone (08) 8303 4064

West Malaysia Chapter

Event: Tips on Building a Successful Career in Malaysia - career guidance for newly graduated alumni

Date: 7-9 pm (tentative time) Wednesday 20 June

Venue: Function Room, Thomas Philip, Advocates & Solicitors, 5-1 Jalan 22A/70A, Wisma CLK, Desa Sri Hartamas, 50480 Kuala Lumpur

Cost: free for participating alumni

RSVP: Contact yus@thomasphilip.com.my, Tel: 03 6201 5678, Fax 03 6203 5678 (Yusnisah), or 019 233 0277 (Robert)

World-class architect

praises Adelaide's heritage



■ Alumni

Above:
Architect and former
University of Adelaide
student Hijjas Kasturi
outside Bonython Hall, one
of the University's many
heritage buildings

Photo by David Ellis

One of the greatest architects in the Asia-Pacific has defended Adelaide's skyline, and has warned against making changes that would damage Adelaide's reputation as a heritage city.

Hijjas Kasturi was a student at the University of Adelaide from 1960-63 and has gone on to become one of the most prominent architects in Malaysia, responsible for some of the Asia-Pacific's most distinctive high-rise buildings.

He returned to Adelaide for one week recently to give a free public lecture, "In Search of Identity in Architecture", and to launch a week-long exhibition at the University's School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urban Design. The exhibition showcased some of the best examples of 30 years of his company's work.

Although Mr Kasturi and his company are renowned for their cutting-edge work, including a number of skyscrapers in Kuala Lumpur, he said that approach shouldn't necessarily be taken with all cities.

"How does a city create its own unique architecture and identity? Adelaide has its churches, easily

identifiable and characteristic. Classical buildings set in spacious parks create a tremendous impact, and the well-defined grid system of the street layout also is characteristic of Adelaide," Mr Kasturi said.

"It isn't necessary to change the texture and fabric of the city just because you want to keep up with the rest of the world, because Adelaide has its own uniqueness: solid, orderly and well established. One has to be sympathetic in future development, so as not to demolish the image and familiarity of a place that has taken generations to create."

Mr Kasturi was visiting Adelaide at the invite of the University of Adelaide's Heritage Foundation. His visit helped to raise awareness of the distinctiveness of Adelaide's heritage buildings, including the many heritage buildings at the University of Adelaide.

"Adelaide has a very sound appreciation for its heritage that you want to preserve, and that is the beauty of the city – it can't be changed, it has a sense of stability and permanence that others would envy," he said.

While in Adelaide, Mr Kasturi also gave seminars to University of Adelaide architecture students and used his years of experience to provide feedback on their work.

Born in Singapore, Mr Kasturi represents the unique impact of Australian tertiary education on students from Singapore and Malaysia in the 1950s and 1960s – students who have gone on to become leaders in their fields in their home countries and right around the world.

Mr Kasturi said he had feelings of "nostalgia, fondness, familiarity of the old, a sense of belonging that can't be replaced, especially as I was in Adelaide at the most impressionable stage in my life".

"Adelaide remains solid and rooted in my affections," he said.

"I am forever indebted to the Australian Government for giving me the opportunity to study in Australia under the Colombo Plan."

For more information about the University of Adelaide's Heritage Foundation, contact Development & Alumni on (08) 8303 5800.

■ Story by David Ellis



Viola goes solo at international music event

Music

Above:
Keith Crellin, Head of
Strings at the Elder
Conservatorium, with
Bachelor of Music
(Performance) students
and violists (from left)
Cecile Ross, Thomas Giam
and Elsbeth Falster

Photo by David Ellis

The viola will step out from the rest of the orchestra this month when the 35th International Viola Congress is held in Adelaide – the first time that this major musical event has been held in Australia.

Drawing viola players from around the world, the Viola Congress will be hosted by the University of Adelaide’s Elder Conservatorium of Music from 29 June to 3 July.

The 35th Viola Congress is the brainchild of Keith Crellin, Head of Strings at the Elder Conservatorium and the founding violist in the original line-up of the Australian String Quartet.

Because of his extensive contacts with string players around the world, this event will see eminent musicians from many countries, including the Americas, Europe, the UK, South Africa, the Asia-Pacific region, Australia and New Zealand, take part in the five-day event.

The congress will include a large number of recitals and concerts as well as talks and masterclasses. The general public will be able to engage with the congress through the gala concerts in Elder Hall.

The University’s music students also stand to gain greatly from the event, according to Keith Crellin.

“Our students will be able to hear in one place a number of highly talented, brilliant viola players from all around the world and from within Australia. They will hear remarkable performances. Whilst the viola is a wonderful instrument, it’s not seen necessarily as a great solo instrument, so suddenly the students will be hearing the viola in its solo guise,” Mr Crellin said.

“Students will also hear lectures on the history of the viola, the history of violists, on teaching, on ways of playing... so many aspects of the instrument that, whilst we try to give it to them here at the University, obviously getting it in a five-day intensive session is going to make a lot of difference to how they see their careers and how they see their playing,” he said.

One of the groups performing in the gala opening concert (Elder Hall, 8pm Friday 29 June) will be the 12 players of Viola Viva!, otherwise known as the entire viola section of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. They will give

the Australian premiere of a new work by Australian composer-violist Brett Dean (formerly with the Berlin Philharmonic).

The second gala concert (Elder Hall, 8pm Sunday 1 July) will include the first professional performance of Peter Sculthorpe’s new *Elegy for Viola and String Orchestra* and the world première of a new viola concerto from the University’s Elder Professor of Music, Charles Bodman Rae, which has been specially commissioned for the congress by the International Viola Society.

“The viola has far fewer concertos than the violin and tends to be overshadowed by its smaller sibling. It really deserves to be under the spotlight more often so that we can hear its amazing expressive range,” Professor Bodman Rae said.

Tickets to the public concerts will be available through BASS, and full details of the program for the congress can be viewed at: www.plevin.com.au/violacongress2007