

# Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

November 2007 | Volume 16 | Number 9

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Photo by Randy Larcombe

## Architecture school unveils new plans for 2008

### ■ Architecture

A new structure for studies in the University of Adelaide's School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design and the introduction of new Masters degrees are among the changes from 2008 announced recently to staff, students and members of industry.

The School is changing its course structure to bring it in line with international trends in design education.

Until now, the University's Architecture qualification has been a three-year Bachelor degree followed

by a two-year professional Bachelor degree.

From next year, students will do a three-year Bachelor of Design Studies and can then choose from three possible streams of postgraduate professional study:

- Master of Architecture;
- Master of Landscape Architecture;
- or the new Master of Planning/ Master of Planning (Urban Design).

A Master of Design (Digital Media) is also being offered by the School.

"2008 represents the 50th anniversary of Architecture at the University of Adelaide, and it marks the start of a new vision for the

School," said the Head of the School, Professor Nancy Pollock-Ellwand.

"The course structure will have an enhanced international focus and take in the new professional areas of planning and urban design. This follows an extensive period of consultation with our staff and various external stakeholders.

"The move ensures that we will continue to cater to industry and student needs within the State, the nation, and globally, and offer excellence in design, learning and teaching, and research," she said.

continued on page 3



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From the Vice-Chancellor

It's not my job to tell people who to vote for in the coming election, so I'm not even going to try. However, the election is a perfect excuse to talk about one of my favourite subjects: what the University of Adelaide contributes to society.

To do this, you need look no further than the various promises, comments and funding announcements being made throughout the election campaign. It's all about the big issues: climate change, industrial relations, the economy, health, telecommunications, education and skills – these are all critical to Australia's future, and we've been hearing a lot about them from the various political parties.

The University of Adelaide is closely linked with each and every one of these issues. Our academic staff have expertise in all of these fields – the kind of expertise that is recognised as among the best in the nation, and recognised right around the world.

Our academics in these fields and others – including Politics itself – have already spent a great deal of time in the media discussing policy decisions, the various promises, and the real or imagined impact of those campaign decisions on the general public. The University has perhaps never been as prominent in the process of political debate as we are today, and that is no surprise given that we are one of the most research-intensive universities in Australia and we have knowledge to share with the community.

There are many stories in this issue of the *Adelaidean* alone that reflect just a part of what we do in these fields. International and national recognition given to our staff for their work on climate change research

(including a Nobel Prize), comment on the state of water supplies and usage, research that seeks alternative energy sources and fuels, the latest efforts to improve people's health and wellbeing – many of these stories deal with the very election issues that Australia's voters are facing at the polls come 24 November. These issues are a part of daily life for many of our staff and students who are working hard to make new discoveries and to keep Australia at the cutting edge.

The recent award of a total of \$42 million in new research funding is also featured in this issue. This is a huge win for the University and our research partners and affiliates. A casual glance at the examples of new projects being funded demonstrates the importance of the University of Adelaide's work to the future of our nation.

University education and research has never been as important to Australia's future as it is today. Whichever government Australia ends up with after the election, that government needs to fully understand the role of higher education in dealing with current issues faced by our nation, as well as preparing us for the many issues that are yet to be identified.

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

## Art & Heritage Collections

This bronze bust of Sir William Lawrence Bragg CH, OBE, MC, BA (Hons), FRS, by sculptor John W Mills, was unveiled by His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent KG, GCMG, GCVO, ADC, FRS during his visit to the University of Adelaide on 3 October.

John W Mills PPRBS, ARCA, FRSA, is a distinguished sculptor and one of Britain's foremost numismatic artists.

Sir Lawrence Bragg agreed that the bronzes would be in an edition of six. In addition to the bust now belonging to the University of Adelaide, the original is at the Royal Institution of Great Britain, London, another is with the Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge, and a fourth is with the Bragg family. A fifth is at St Peters College, Adelaide, where Sir Lawrence attended school.

The bust can be viewed in the front foyer of the University of Adelaide's Physics Building.

■ Anna Rivett, Collections Officer, Art & Heritage Collections

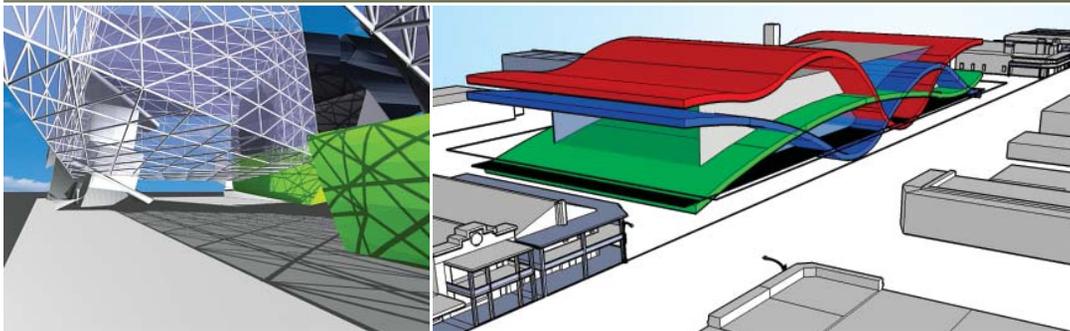
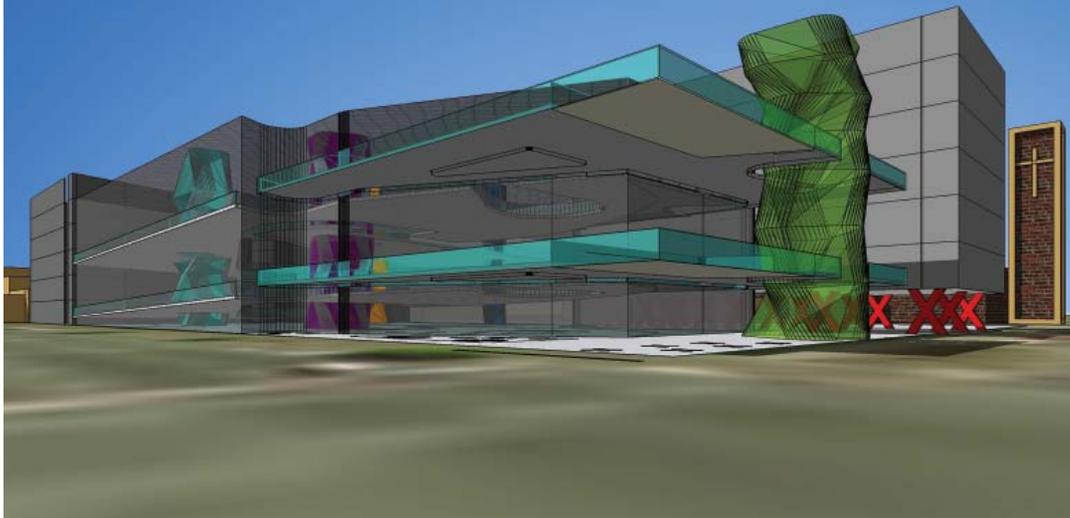


Bust of Sir William Lawrence Bragg (1890-1971) C.H., O.B.E., M.C., B.A.(Hons.) (Adelaide), F.R.S. by John W Mills (London 1933) 1962 (Morris Singer Art Founders, cast 2007) Braintree Bronze 38cm x 18cm x 22cm (maximum)

Photo by Mick Bradley

See main story on page 5.

# Students have designs on Le Cornu site



## Architecture school unveils new plans for 2008

continued from page 1

Professor Pollock-Ellwand made the announcement at a recent symposium on the Future of Architecture in Adelaide attended by staff, students and industry leaders.

The University of Adelaide started teaching its first Architecture students within the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning in 1958, in response to demand from the local profession.

Today, the School teaches more than 400 students and draws on the expertise of more than 100 staff and professional affiliates, most of whom continue to work actively within industry.

Among those to endorse the changes to the teaching of architecture and related fields is prominent Melbourne-based architect, University of Adelaide former student and now staff member, Professor Ian McDougall.

Professor McDougall took up the post of Professor in Architecture and Urban Design at the University in July this year. A partner in the award-winning Melbourne design consultancy ARM (Ashton Raggatt McDougall), Professor McDougall is maintaining his practice while working part-time at the University of Adelaide.

"The establishment of the Masters programs aligns us with international standards in professional education but it also signals our widening of the educational offer to our students. In the Planning/Urban Design program, we open up an exciting and important dialogue between centres of knowledge about the city – planning, design and urban geography. An Adelaide initiative, this is potentially a national leader in urban studies," Professor McDougall said.

"Students benefit from the widest possible education, and the all-important nexus between university and industry helps to inform that education as well as providing career pathways once they graduate," he said.

## Architecture

One of the most controversial development sites in Adelaide is the focus of a major architecture exhibition being launched by the University of Adelaide in November.

Almost half of the University's final-year architecture students will showcase their ideas to redevelop the old Le Cornu site in O'Connell Street, considered a blot on the North Adelaide landscape for almost 20 years.

The 2007 Final Year Architecture Project, to be exhibited in the Drill Hall at the Torrens Parade Ground, Adelaide, from November 14-18, will feature an array of design projects, including proposals for offices, car parks, apartments, retail shops, libraries, concert halls and community centres.

Many of the students have chosen the Le Cornu site project because it is directly relevant to Adelaide and its residents.

Coordinator of the project and renowned Australian architect Professor Ian McDougall said the redevelopment of the Le Cornu site offered students the opportunity to explore new city types and also possibilities for public space.

"The project offers the opportunity to propose a new life for this main street in North Adelaide. Sites of this scale can accommodate the span of urban functions, retail, residential and public," Professor McDougall said.

Professor McDougall is a director of Ashton Raggatt McDougall, one of Melbourne's leading architectural firms specialising in culturally sensitive design resolutions. Adelaide residents may be familiar with the company's design for the controversial Marion Cultural Centre.

Clockwise from top: Designs for the Le Cornu site in North Adelaide by students Tianzhe Xu, Robbie Bentley and Mat Murphy

Story by Candy Gibson

### Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships appeal

After only one month, generous donors have already given more than \$25,000 to support students at the University of Adelaide through the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships Fund.

The appeal asks alumni and the wider community to help ease the financial pressures faced by undergraduate students, particularly those who move from rural or remote areas in order to begin their studies.

"All too often, worthy students are faced with financial barriers to study, from rising living expenses to the cost of course materials and fees," said University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha.

"It is through the generosity of donors that the scholarships are able to help students begin their studies and achieve all that they can during their time at the University of Adelaide."

The Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships are entirely funded by the public, so every donation makes a difference.

For more information about the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships Fund Appeal, please contact the Manager, Fundraising and Development on (08) 8303 4275 or email [helen.paul@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:helen.paul@adelaide.edu.au) [www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/giving/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/giving/)

### Marketing excellence rewarded

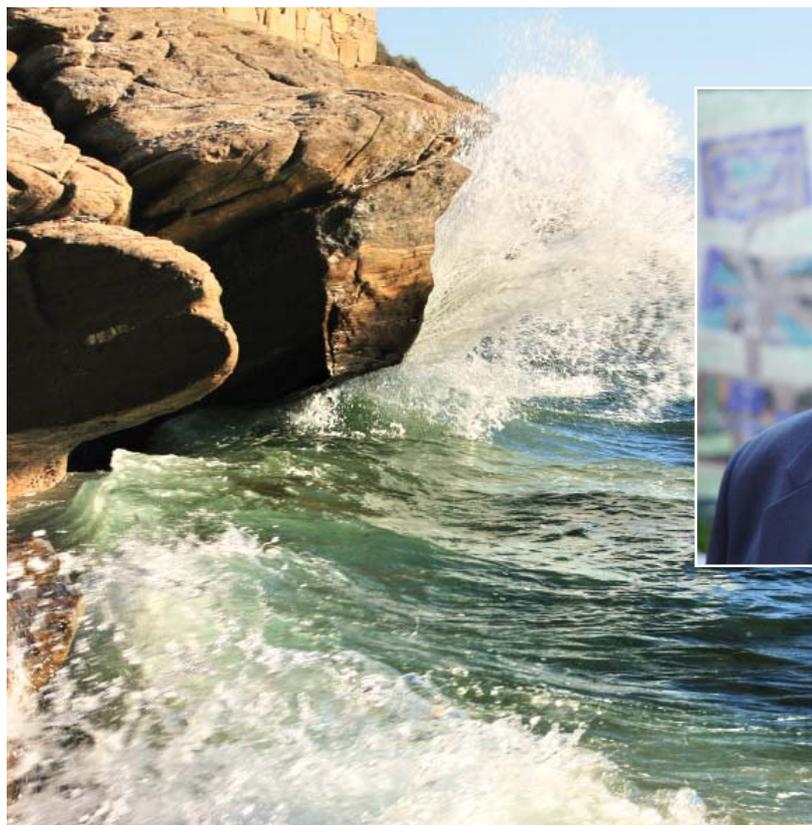
The University of Adelaide has for the second year running dominated awards for marketing excellence in South Australia.

The University won three of the 2007 State awards run by the Australian Marketing Institute (AMI) in the categories of Social Marketing, Marketing Communications, and Multimedia and Interactive.

The University won the awards for its Life Impact on Campus campaign and for the marketing of its 2006 Open Day.

The 2007 awards follow similar success in 2006, with awards in that year in the categories of Corporate Social Responsibility, Education, and Social Marketing.

The 2006 Open Day, adopting for the first time the slogan Living Life Impact, was recognised for its success in broadening the event's appeal to a wider community through an expanded range of popular community-based events.



Professor Nick Harvey

# Executive Dean among Nobel Prize scientists

## ■ Achievement

"It is good to see recognition of the important work done by the IPCC and an honour to be involved in a project of this stature"

The University of Adelaide's Professor Nick Harvey is one of the global team of scientists recognised in the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize.

This year's Nobel Peace Prize was awarded jointly to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and former US Vice-President, climate change campaigner Al Gore for "their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change".

Professor Harvey is one of the lead authors on this year's IPCC Working Group II report. At the University of Adelaide, he is Professor in Geography and Environmental Studies and in July this year became Executive Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

In the IPCC Working Group II report *Impacts, Adaptations and Vulnerability*, Professor Harvey warned that more cyclones, rising sea levels and increased flooding would be the pattern for Australia's coastal communities by 2050.

"It is good to see recognition of the important work done by the IPCC and an honour to be involved in a project of this stature," Professor Harvey said.

He was contacted on announcement day by both IPCC Chairman Dr Rajendra Pachauri and the Chair of Working Group II, Dr Martin Parry, who had sent congratulations to all contributing authors. They stressed that the scientific authors should take a large measure of the credit for the award and were all recipients of the prize.

The IPCC has involved thousands of leading scientists and officials from more than 100 countries collaborating to assess the scientific evidence for global warming.

Professor Harvey is on a number of international scientific committees dealing with global change. He is currently Chair of the international START-Oceania committee, based in Fiji, dealing with global change research and training.

He has written more than 100 publications, including books, book chapters and scientific papers, on coastal management and environmental impact assessment.

Professor Harvey is a member of the Australian Government Advisory Group on Coastal Vulnerability Assessment and a member of the Executive Steering Committee for South Australia's State of the Environment Report.

■ Story by Robyn Mills



From left:  
The Premier, the Hon. Mike Rann, Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha, and His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent inspect the new bust of Sir William Lawrence Bragg

Photo by Ben Searcy, courtesy of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet

# Famous son comes “home” with help from royalty

## ■ Alumni



Bust of Sir William Lawrence Bragg

Photo by Ben Searcy

A bust to commemorate one of Adelaide’s most distinguished sons – world-famous scientist Sir William Lawrence Bragg – has been unveiled by His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent at the University of Adelaide.

Sir William Lawrence Bragg (Lawrence) graduated from the University of Adelaide in mathematics in 1908, and in 1915 won the Nobel Prize jointly with his father, Sir William Henry Bragg. Together they worked out how to determine the molecular structure of crystals using x-rays.

Lawrence Bragg remains the youngest scientist ever to win the Nobel Prize, at 25.

The bronze bust by sculptor John Mills is a twin to that located in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, cast especially for the University of Adelaide. Another bust will be located at St Peter’s College where Lawrence Bragg went to school, yet another is with the Cavendish Laboratory at the University of Cambridge, and a fifth is with the Bragg family.

HRH the Duke of Kent, who is President of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, was in Adelaide to

launch the new Royal Institution of Australia, of which he will be Patron. Both Lawrence and William Bragg had been Directors of the Royal Institution.

“It is a great honour to welcome the Duke of Kent to the University of Adelaide and for him to see where the work of these famous scientists, William and Lawrence Bragg, began,” said the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor James McWha.

“The University of Adelaide is extremely proud to have been involved in the education and research of these great minds, whose work touches many aspects of all of our lives, almost 100 years on.”

“Bragg’s Law” is fundamental to the determination of the molecular structure of materials. The Braggs’ work has had an enormous impact across modern science and its applications, in medicine, physics, chemistry and biological sciences, including determining the structures of proteins and DNA. Their techniques are routinely used in many industries, including the development of new drugs and chemicals and in the minerals industry.

For example, the Bragg techniques were used to develop the anti-influenza drug Relenza, which was developed in Australia using the x-ray crystal structural work of another University of Adelaide graduate and Australia Prize-winning scientist, Professor Peter Colman.

At the University’s School of Chemistry and Physics, the Duke of Kent signed the same University of Adelaide visitors book signed in 1901 by his grandfather, who laid the foundation stone for Elder Hall on that visit, and who later became King George V.

The Duke also saw some of the legacy of the Bragg research, highlighted in the SA Partnership for Advanced Computing’s Visualisation Laboratory, then unveiled the bronze bust of Sir William Lawrence Bragg before viewing Bragg memorabilia and meeting staff and students.

Sir William Henry Bragg spent 22 years at the University of Adelaide as Elder Professor of Mathematics and Physics from 1886 to 1908, and his pioneering work with x-rays and radium started at Adelaide.

■ Story by Robyn Mills

## Get used to living with less water

Southern Australia has become drier and we will all have to learn to live with much less water.

That was the stark warning from one of Australia's leading water policy reformers, Professor Mike Young, at the latest of the University of Adelaide's free Research Tuesdays seminars in October.

"It is now clear to all that the reliability of Australia's, and more particularly, South Australia's water supplies has declined," Professor Young said.

"The situation is worse than many realise. We are now borrowing from the future and it is prudent to assume that we will have to live with much less water."

Professor Young is Professor of Water Economics and Management in the University's School of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

At Research Tuesday he argued the need for urgent change.

"The more we delay planning to live in this new regime, the greater the costs of changing will be," he said in the lead-up to his public talk.

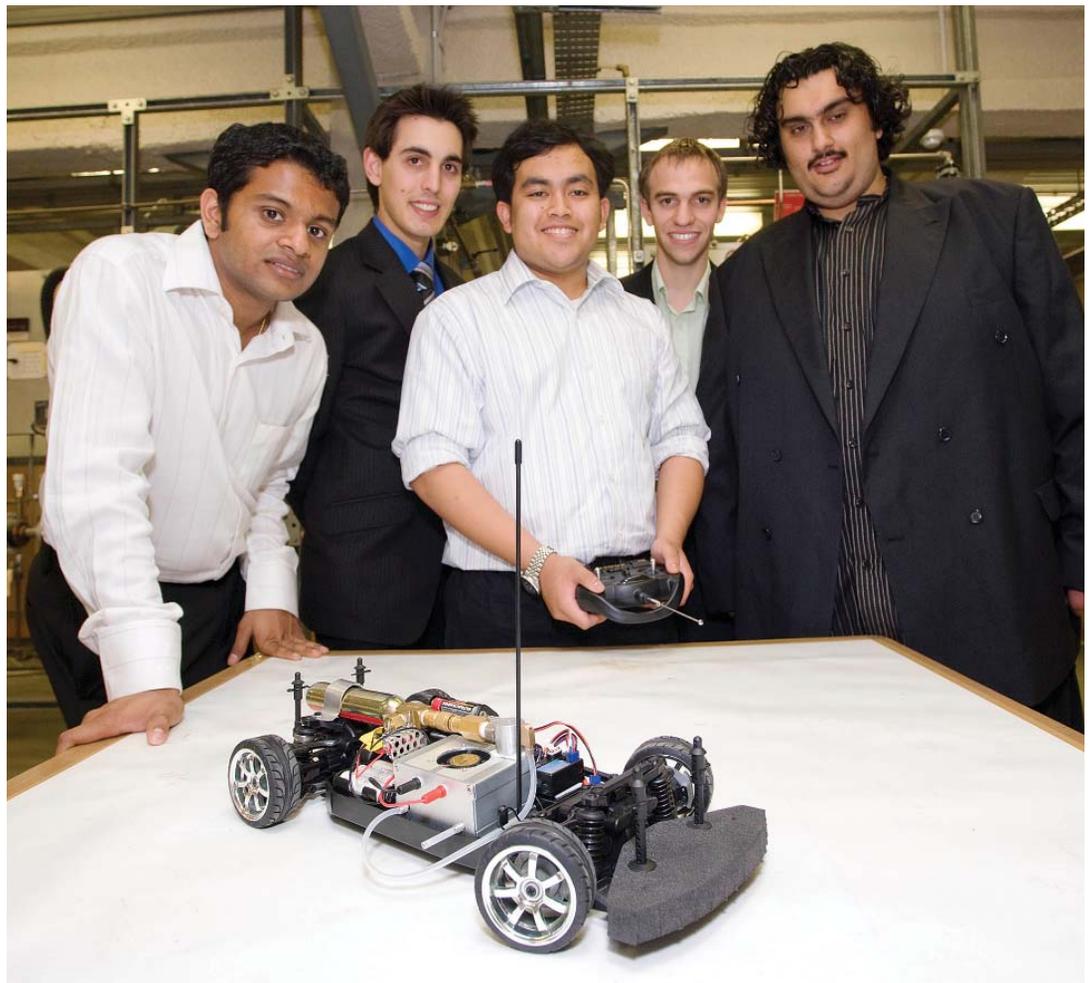
"We need to understand that the challenges go beyond the River Murray and include the South East and water supply systems for the Yorke Peninsula, the Eyre Peninsula, Kangaroo Island and the Outback."

South Australia, he said, had the opportunity to embrace this "new emerging reality" and take a lead as Australia's "most water savvy State".

But to emerge as the international leader in water management, the State and its businesses, researchers and communities would need to adopt a series of permanent policies and measures that provided incentives to reduce consumption by all, and increased the effectiveness of water use and storage.

The Research Tuesdays public seminars – held on the second Tuesday of every month – give leading researchers an opportunity to engage with business, community leaders and the general public on issues that impact on them.

■ Story by Robyn Mills



# Student research fuels the future

## ■ Engineering

Above (from left): Chemical Engineering students Girish Prem Kumar, George Zabaniias, Kong Jin Lee, Tim Kenefick and Sanjeet Marwah with the model hydrogen fuel cell hybrid car

Photo by Peter Fisher

This model car – a prototype hybrid motor vehicle using a hydrogen fuel cell – was one of the many fine examples of student research on display at the University of Adelaide last month.

Four Schools within the Faculty of Engineering, Computer & Mathematical Sciences all held their final-year student project exhibitions last month, showcasing dozens of amazing works to the general public and members of industry.

The model hydrogen hybrid car was designed and built by Chemical Engineering students Tim Kenefick, Kong Jin Lee, Sanjeet Marwah, Girish Prem Kumar and George Zabaniias, under the supervision of Dr Chris Colby.

Mr Kenefick said hydrogen storage had presented a challenge to commercial carmakers looking at hydrogen as an alternative fuel supply, but the student team had got around this by storing the gas in solid form, instead of in a compressed-gas tank.

"We've learnt a lot from the project, and we hope it's been a step in the right direction for the use of hydrogen fuel cells in cars. With the right backing and investment, hydrogen really could be the basis for the next generation of vehicles," Mr Kenefick said.

The model car was one of many student research projects in the engineering exhibitions that dealt with alternative energy and fuel sources, with new ideas and innovations that could impact on our everyday lives in years to come.

"The breadth of student talent and the potential implications of this work for the future are always fascinating to see," said the Head of the School of Chemical Engineering, Professor Keith King.

He said the final-year exhibition "brings the students in even closer contact with members of industry and government, some of whom have already become new employers of these students".

■ Story by David Ellis



From left: Sam Stranks and the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AO CSC RANR, celebrate the announcement of the Rhodes Scholarship at Government House

Photo by David Ellis

# Solar cell challenge for our 101st Rhodes Scholar

## ■ Achievement

“My studies at Oxford will give me an opportunity to continue my research in both chemistry and physics”

Helping to make solar cells cheaper and more accessible to the general public is the personal aim set by South Australia’s latest Rhodes Scholar, University of Adelaide student Sam Stranks.

An Honours student in the School of Chemistry & Physics, Mr Stranks, 22, of Torrens Park, has been named the 2008 Rhodes Scholar for South Australia.

The scholarship will enable him to study for a D.Phil (PhD) in Condensed Matter Physics at the University of Oxford next year, where he will join research efforts to find organic semi-conductors that could form the basis of next-generation solar cells.

“Solar panels are currently made out of silicon, which is expensive and therefore not very affordable for the average householder. Organic semi-conductors have the potential to be much cheaper,” Mr Stranks said.

“My studies at Oxford will give me an opportunity to continue my research in both chemistry and physics – working in a chemistry lab to make the semi-conductor materials, and using physics to

analyse their potential as alternative solar cells.”

A former Scotch College student, Mr Stranks is the 101st Rhodes Scholar in the University of Adelaide’s history. At Adelaide he studied for a double degree in Science and Arts before moving onto his Honours year.

His Honours project has focused on a common problem faced by the wine industry, called “wine haze” – the cloudiness caused by a build up of protein in wine. Winemakers commonly add clay particles to bind to and remove the proteins, causing issues of quality and quantity, and at great cost to the industry.

“Although the solar cell work I’m moving into is quite a bit different to the wine issues I’ve been looking at, both projects have a common link through the use of chemistry and physics,” Mr Stranks said.

He says he owes his love of chemistry and physics to his Science studies at the University, as well as to his late grandfather, former University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor (1977-1986) and Professor of Inorganic Chemistry Donald Stranks.

“Unfortunately I never got to know my grandfather because he died when I was very young, but I’ve always thought of him as a role model and hoped that I’d be able to follow his example,” Mr Stranks said.

Nine Rhodes Scholars are chosen in Australia each year – one for each State, plus three for Australia at large.

The selection of the Rhodes Scholar for South Australia is made by a committee chaired by the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AO CSC RANR, and comprising former Rhodes Scholars and community leaders.

The Scholars are chosen based on their academic achievements, as well as community work, leadership and sporting activities.

Mr Stranks is a keen Australian Rules footballer and is currently vice captain for Scotch College Old Collegians. He has also helped to establish a Gaelic football team at Scotch College.

■ Story by David Ellis

# Steroids for mum offer benefits to pre-term babies

## ■ Obstetrics & Gynaecology

A major international study led by University of Adelaide researchers has confirmed the benefits for premature babies of giving their pregnant mothers repeat doses of corticosteroids.

The study, now at the two-year follow-up stage, has shown no harm from repeat doses of corticosteroids given to mothers at ongoing risk of very premature birth (before 32 weeks). At two years of age, the children are showing no adverse effects from the corticosteroids.

Study leader Professor Caroline Crowther from the University of Adelaide's Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynaecology says the initial results of the trial showed that repeat doses of corticosteroids reduced breathing and other respiratory problems in the premature babies.

There had been concern, however, that such treatments could inhibit the babies' later growth and development.

"Our new results show that at two years old the children born to mothers who were given repeat corticosteroids were no more likely to have health or development problems than those born to women who weren't given the repeat doses," said Professor Crowther, who is based at Adelaide's Women's and Children's Hospital. "There were no differences seen between the study treatment groups for body size measurements of weight, height and head circumference.

"Our recommendation from these latest results is that given the clear early health benefits shown for babies, without harm at two years, repeat corticosteroids can be

considered beneficial where women are still at risk of very pre-term birth a week or more after the first course of corticosteroids."

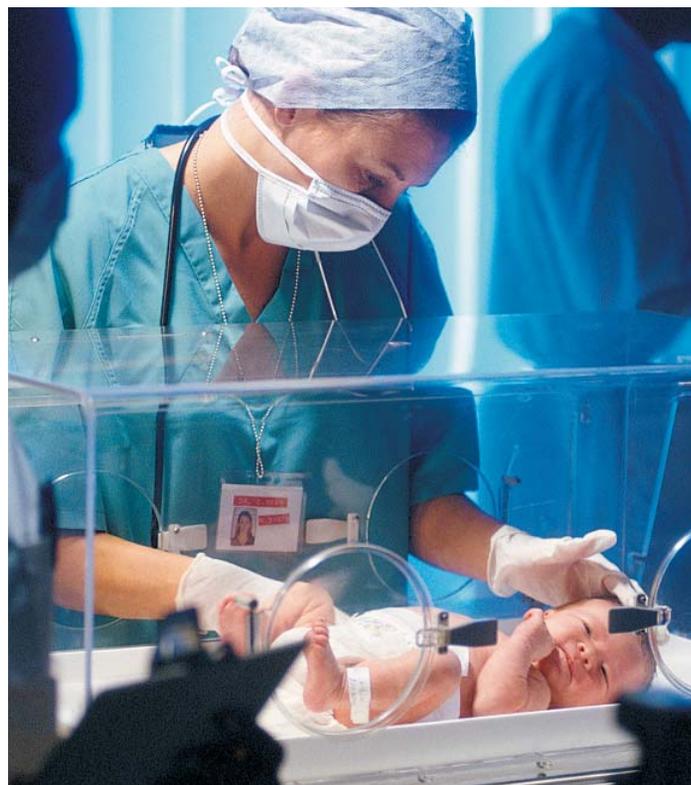
These results have been published in the international journal *The New England Journal of Medicine*.

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

The two-year follow up assessed 1047 (96%) of the children involved in the trial. The children were seen by a paediatrician and a developmental psychologist, who assessed vision and hearing, developmental milestones, body size, blood pressure, behaviour and general health.

"Until now there has been a lack of high-quality evidence, from well-designed, large randomised clinical trials, assessing the efficacy and safety of repeat doses of betamethasone given to women at ongoing risk of very pre-term birth, and no reports on the health of the children later," Professor Crowther said.

Earlier results in the study showed that babies born to women who received repeat corticosteroids were less likely to have respiratory problems after birth and breathing problems were less likely to be severe. These babies were also less likely to have other serious health problems than babies whose mothers did not receive repeat corticosteroids.



The next step in the study is the early school-age follow up for the children enrolled in the ACTORDS trial, to provide information about the later health and development of the children. This part of the study is now funded by the National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

Within Australia, almost 3% of all births are very pre-term at less than 34 weeks gestation. Babies born early often have respiratory problems and require neonatal intensive care. Not all babies born early survive and those that do are at increased risk of later developmental problems. Researchers are looking for a means of reducing these difficulties.

All women recruited to this study had already been given corticosteroids a week or more before. A single course of corticosteroids is known to reduce the risk of respiratory disease and other problems in pre-term babies.

The trial was coordinated by a group of researchers from the University of Adelaide's Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Discipline of Public Health; Perinatal Medicine at the Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide; the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Melbourne; and the Liggins Institute at the University of Auckland.

Funding was obtained from the NHMRC, the Women's and Children's Hospital Research Foundation and the Channel 7 Children's Research Foundation of South Australia.

Within Australia, almost 3% of all births are very pre-term at less than 34 weeks gestation. Babies born early often have respiratory problems and require neonatal intensive care

■ Story by Robyn Mills

# State adds \$5 million to vet school



## ■ Animal Science

The capital funding for the University of Adelaide's planned new veterinary science school is secured with the State Government's announcement of a \$5 million grant.

South Australian Premier Mike Rann and Further Education Minister Paul Caica made the announcement during a visit to the University's Roseworthy Campus to see where the vet school will be based.

The State funding follows on from an earlier \$15 million funded by the Federal Government. A further \$10 million will be invested in capital works by the University.

"This State Government funding means the last piece of capital funding is now in place," said

University Chancellor the Hon. John von Doussa.

"The University Council is very grateful for the support of the State Government in this significant development for the University and for the State."

There is already strong demand for entry to the vet school. Applications currently stand at 149 first preference applicants for 40 places in the University's three-year pre-veterinary Animal Science undergraduate degree starting next year. There will be 50 places a year for the postgraduate veterinary science degree starting in 2011.

"The University is keen to help meet unmet national demand for veterinary science and, in particular, to address the serious shortage of rural-based vets in South Australia," said the University's Vice-Chancellor

and President, Professor James McWha.

"As well as a broad training in veterinary science, veterinary students at the University of Adelaide will have a unique focus on the needs of Australian livestock production, equine health, aquaculture and biosecurity industries.

"The University's Roseworthy Campus already has a strong international brand in agriculture and animal science research and teaching. Adding veterinary science to its programs will help cement its place as a leader in science, research and innovation for the State's animal health and agricultural industries."

■ Story by Robyn Mills

"The University Council is very grateful for the support of the State Government in this significant development for the University and for the State"

"Thank You"  
Day

Health and medical research saves thousands of lives . . . the next one could be yours

Research Australia  
An alliance for discoveries in health

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Operations), Professor Richard Russell AM, invites you to Research Australia's "Thank You" Day event hosted by the University of Adelaide.

"Thank You" Day acknowledges the outstanding achievement of the health and medical researchers in Australia by collecting Thank You

messages that will be presented to medical researchers to encourage and inspire them.

The event, hosted by Mr Xavier Minniecon, will include inspirational talks by researchers, special guests and the general community on how medical research has affected their lives.

**Date:** Thursday, 15th November 2007

**Time:** 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Venue:** Bonython Hall, North Terrace Campus, the University of Adelaide

**RSVP:** by 9 November 2007

**T** (08) 8303 5137

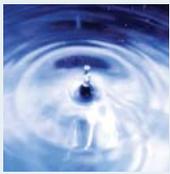
**E** leanne.mudge@adelaide.edu.au



Life Impact The University of Adelaide

# \$42 million reasons to celebrate

## Research win is 'brain gain' for State



### How can we protect Australia's water supplies?

Recent announcements of federal funding for research have seen the University of Adelaide win a grand total of \$42 million for the State to help solve some of the world's most pressing problems.

In a fiercely competitive bidding process for national funding from the Australian Research Council (ARC) and the National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC), the University and its research partners have secured 70% of total research money awarded to the State.

Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha said this confirmed the University of Adelaide's reputation as South Australia's leading research institution.

"This is a major 'brain gain' for the State, and will ensure that some of our brightest young minds will stay in South Australia, as well as retaining some of our most experienced researchers and innovators," Professor McWha said.

"The funds we have won for research will have a clear impact on the South Australian community. It will enable the University's world-class researchers and our affiliates to make significant headway in the areas of climate change, water preservation, renewable energy, critical health and medical issues, agriculture and engineering challenges, all identified as priorities in the State Strategic Plan.

"This outstanding result reveals the depth of expertise of the University of Adelaide's researchers, who are working hard to make an impact right across the world as well as locally," he said.



### How can we control the impact of climate change on our environment?



### How do we find the solution to infertility?



### How can we win the fight against obesity?



### How can we find alternative energy sources that are affordable and safe?

The recent funding announcements have included:

### NHMRC grants

More than \$24 million for medical research aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of Australians. This includes:

- 37 Project Grants for a total of more than \$18.7 million;
- Eight Research Fellowships totalling \$4.5 million;
- One Practitioner Fellowship of \$415,500; and
- One Equipment Grant of \$455,803.

"This is an outstanding result for the University of Adelaide and our affiliates, with research grants across a wide range of health disciplines – from the conception of life, to the management of health and wellbeing in childhood and adulthood," said Professor McWha.

"Our research has a strong focus on the prevention and cure of diseases that affect millions of people worldwide, as well as the basic science required to learn more about how these diseases and conditions work."



cluded:

The new research projects at the University of Adelaide include:

## ARC grants

More than \$17.7 million across the fields of science, engineering, IT, mathematics, health, law, economics, the humanities and social sciences. This includes:

- 41 Discovery Project Grants for a total of more than \$14.1 million;
- Nine Linkage Project Grants totalling more than \$2.7 million;
- One Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities Grant of \$700,000; and
- Three International Collaborative Research Grants totalling \$169,000.

The \$14m includes a number of research Fellowships to be hosted at the University of Adelaide, including two ARC Australian Professorial Fellowships – awarded to Dr Joel Brugger (School of Earth & Environmental Sciences/South Australian Museum) and Professor Robert Elliott (School of Mathematical Sciences).

Five promising early career researchers were also awarded Australian Postdoctoral Fellowships to support their emerging research areas.

The Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities grant was awarded to Dr Joel Brugger – in partnership with the Australian Synchrotron – for a “toolbox” of high-precision, spectroscopic tools to enable cutting-edge research into areas such as ore and environmental geology, metallurgy, nanotechnology and biotechnology.

- \$1.46 million to Dr Jodie Dodd (Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynaecology) for a study aimed at limiting weight gain in overweight and obese women during pregnancy;
- \$839,250 to Associate Professor Jane Mathias (School of Psychology) for a study looking at the structural and functional effects of traumatic brain injury, using state-of-the-art MRI techniques and cognitive tests;
- \$454,875 to Associate Professor Robert Richards (School of Molecular & Biomedical Science) for a study into the function and contribution of certain genes in cancer cell biology.
- \$435,000 to Associate Professor Michael Griffith (School of Civil & Environmental Engineering) to investigate the earthquake protection of masonry buildings using fibre-reinforced polymer strengthening;
- \$310,000 to Professor Mike McLaughlin (School of Earth & Environmental Sciences) to study the fate and potential toxicity of new nanoparticle metal products on the Australian environment;
- \$257,500 to Affiliate Associate Professor Michael James (School of Medicine) to investigate ways of improving the benefits of omega-3 fats in vegetable oils;
- \$361,000 to Professor Adrian Bradbrook (School of Law) to investigate the contribution of law to sustainable development and climate change;
- \$265,000 to Dr Wen Soong (School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering) to investigate new designs for low-cost wind turbine generators that can produce power over a wide range of wind speeds;
- \$624,000 to Professor Barry Brook (School of Earth & Environmental Sciences) to better understand human and climatic impacts in prehistory, aimed at providing a context to current environmental threats;
- \$276,000 to Associate Professor David Callen (School of Medicine) for research into the regulation of vitamin D metabolism which may open up new avenues for the development of preventative approaches and treatment of cancer;
- \$296,112 to Associate Professor Sean Connell (School of Earth & Environmental Sciences) for a project aimed at forecasting marine habitats under realistic scenarios of climate change;
- \$550,000 to Professor Gus Nathan (School of Mechanical Engineering) for developing technology to reduce the emissions of fine particle pollutants;
- \$224,000 to Dr Peter Strelan (School of Psychology) for a new conceptualisation of forgiveness, recognising that it possesses both altruistic and self-interested dimensions.

# Boost to men's health with \$2 million centre



## ■ Medicine

“By sharing interests, strengths and resources, this partnership is sure to deliver on life-changing research to benefit all men”

Above:  
Among its many aims, the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health will develop effective strategies for promoting positive health and wellbeing among men and boys

Photo by iStock

In a major step forward for men's health in Australia, the University of Adelaide and the Freemasons Foundation have jointly established the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health, which aims to enable men to live longer, healthier and happier lives.

To be established within the University of Adelaide's School of Medicine, the \$2.2 million centre is the first of its kind in Australia and one of only a handful of centres in the world with a focus on all aspects of men's health.

It aims to:

- raise the public profile of men's health issues;
- develop effective strategies for promoting positive health and wellbeing among men and boys;
- develop effective treatments for health conditions and diseases affecting men; and
- to build a critical mass of researchers and practitioners with interests in various aspects of men's health.

Sir Eric Neal, former Governor of South Australia, is the principal patron of the new centre. The Director of the centre is Professor Willis Marshall, an internationally recognised consultant in urology, educator and researcher.

“Australian men have unacceptably high rates of physical

and psychological disease, and are not inclined to adopt healthy lifestyles,” said the Head of the University's School of Medicine, Professor Gary Wittert.

“Preliminary results of the Florey Adelaide Male Ageing Study being conducted at the University of Adelaide present an alarming picture of men's health, with obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, depression, insomnia, and erectile dysfunction all being severe problems in Australia's male population.

“Combined with the challenges posed by an ageing population, poor health and wellbeing poses a major threat to our productivity and economic growth as a State and a nation,” Professor Wittert said.

Grand Master of the South Australian and Northern Territory Freemasons Graham Bollenhagen said the Freemasons Foundation was keen to partner with the University of Adelaide to address the shortfall in research and public information about men's health.

“By sharing interests, strengths and resources, this partnership is sure to deliver on life-changing research to benefit all men,” Mr Bollenhagen said.

“The Freemasons Foundation sees improving the health and wellbeing of Australians as essential to improving social and economic prosperity.

“The University of Adelaide, through studies such as the Florey Adelaide Male Ageing Study and others, already has a strong track record of research into men's health, and we want to ensure that the University is able to build upon its efforts so that its work can make a real impact on the health and wellbeing of men in Australia.”

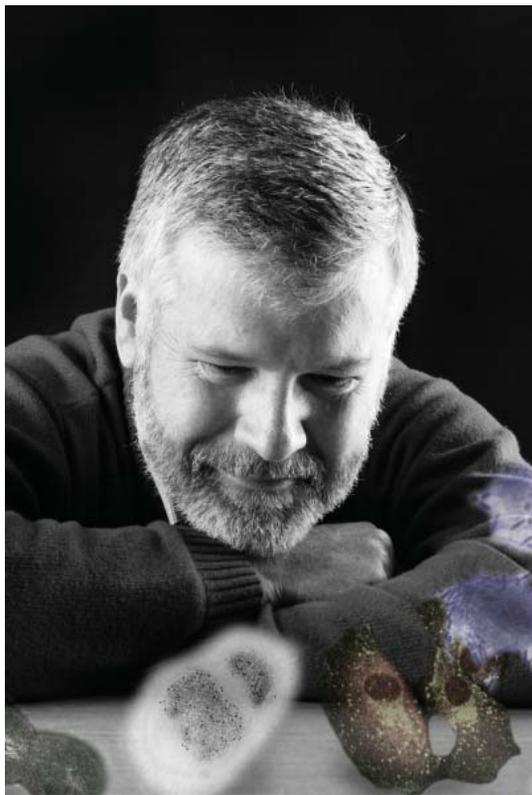
The Freemasons Foundation and the University of Adelaide are co-funding the establishment of the centre. Funding is also being provided for two Freemasons Foundation Research Fellows and six Freemasons Foundation PhD Scholarships.

“This support will be critical in ensuring that research efforts are quickly established within the centre and are sustained through early career researchers,” said the centre's Chief Executive Officer, Anne Hayes.

“We already know a lot about men's health, but there are also many areas in which we need to know more to develop effective strategies to improve health and wellbeing.

“Initially, the centre will seek to build on existing research strengths in aspects of men's health, but as additional funds are secured, new priority research areas can be identified and pursued.”

■ Story by David Ellis



## Climate change researcher is bright spark

The University of Adelaide's Professor Barry Brook has been named by national science magazine *Cosmos* as one of the top 10 young scientists in Australia.

The annual *Cosmos* 'Bright Sparks' awards – published in its October/November issue – recognise the exceptional talent of some of Australia's top scientists under the age of 40.

Professor Barry Brook, 33, is the Sir Hubert Wilkins Chair of Climate Change within the University of Adelaide's School of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

He has an international reputation for excellence in global change biology, extinction risk, tropical ecology, conservation genetics and wildlife management.

In 2006, at just 31, he was awarded a Personal Chair (Professor) less than seven years after completing his PhD and in 2007 he took up his current position at the University of Adelaide.

His overarching goal, he said, was to find realistic strategies for preserving biodiversity and forestalling the worst human impacts on the environment, such as climate change and habitat loss.

Professor Brook has produced two authored books and more than 100 scientific publications with the world's leading international scientific journals and publishers. Since 2001, he has been awarded nine ARC Discovery and Linkage grants totalling more than \$3.2 million.

As Director of the University's Research Institute for Climate Change and Sustainability he is bringing together researchers from across each of the University's five faculties to undertake research and develop adaptive strategies to respond to the anticipated impacts of climate change.

Professor Brook was chosen for the honour by the distinguished editorial advisory board for *Cosmos*, which includes Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin.

■ Story by Robyn Mills

# Adelaide researchers among top 10 best minds

## ■ Research

Two of the University of Adelaide's leading researchers are among 10 of the best Australian research minds, according to the National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

Pioneering fertility research scientist Professor Rob Norman and international leader on infectious diseases Professor James Paton have been named among *10 of the best – Great minds in Australian research*, published by the NHMRC, for their contributions to the health of Australians.

Professor Norman is Director of the Research Centre for Reproductive Health at the University of Adelaide. Internationally recognised for his work in fertility and reproductive health, Professor Norman has been involved in many of the pioneering developments in IVF in Australia.

Members of his team have been responsible for refining and promoting single embryo implantation technique, introducing pioneering quality management techniques and showing the impact of lifestyle on fertility. Professor Norman is Chief Investigator on the new NHMRC research program "Periconceptual foundations for a healthy start to life", funded for \$10.4 million over five years.

Professor James Paton, in the University's School of Molecular and Biomedical Science, is leading the fight against some of the world's most serious bacterial infectious diseases, such as meningitis and pneumonia. He and fellow researchers at the University of Adelaide are responsible for some ground-breaking medical discoveries, including how bacterial toxins cause severe gastrointestinal diseases.

Professor Paton was recently awarded a \$4 million Australia Fellowship from the NHMRC to continue his research into new vaccines and treatments. A major part of his research program is directed at the development of cheap and effective vaccines, accessible to the most at-risk communities.

In his foreword to the publication, Professor Warwick Anderson, NHMRC Chief Executive Officer, wrote: "It is a privilege to be able to introduce you to these researchers who have such an important and largely unacknowledged role in the health of every man, woman and child in our country."

■ Story by Robyn Mills

Above (from left):  
Professor Rob Norman and  
Professor James Paton

Photos courtesy of NHMRC

## Indigenous languages at extinction crossroads

Indigenous languages experts from across the country and overseas gathered at the University of Adelaide recently to discuss Australia's endangered languages and to call for urgent action to save them.

Three linguistic conferences were held at the University in September, under the joint name of LINGAD 2007, all hosted by the University's Discipline of Linguistics.

Conference Convenor Dr Rob Amery said language was central to establishing Indigenous people's social identity, but all Indigenous Australian languages were endangered.

"Australia's Indigenous languages are at a crossroads," Dr Amery said. "Current Federal Government interventionist policies are being introduced without any thought of the harmful effects of those policies on Indigenous languages. There is naturally a focus on basic survival issues – child safety, health and so on – but it is all too easy to forget the fundamental role that language plays – and has played for millennia – in establishing Indigenous Australians' sense of social identity. That in turn leads to a sense of well-being and self-esteem."

Dr Amery said Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages represented this country's unique and irreplaceable linguistic heritage. He said that they were worth fighting for and investing in, and that they should be officially recognised by all levels of government.

The conference considered a number of formal recommendations for government and community action, aimed at valuing, protecting and promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island languages.

# Hundreds show interest in international careers event

## Careers

"Good career development is a natural complement to the quality learning and teaching at the University"

The University of Adelaide's – and the State's – first international careers event for university students has been an overwhelming success, with more than 300 students attending to find out vital information that could impact on their futures.

Leaders from industry and government from Australia, China, Singapore and Malaysia joined forces at the University to present the inaugural International Careers Evening.

The Careers Evening provided important information to international and domestic students about work opportunities, issues such as migration, work visas and permanent residency, and preparing for a successful career.

The event was aimed at international students intending to go home after graduation, international students who would like to work in Australia, and Australian students interested in working overseas.

Among the guest speakers was Madame Zhu Xiaoyu, Minister Counsellor for Education with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, Canberra – the most senior member of the Embassy staff concerned with education. She gave a presentation on Working in China, one of the world's fastest growing economies.



"A good career outcome is an important result from successful studies," said the University's International Careers Consultant, Adrienne Lovelock.

"This evening brought our students together with a number of individuals and organisations who can provide information that will help students with their all-important career plans.

"Good career development is a natural complement to the quality learning and teaching at the University, and we want our students to know what they can do to prepare for life after study," she said.

The International Careers Evening is in addition to the main Careers Expo held every year at the University.

■ Story by David Ellis

For more information about the Careers Service, visit: [www.adelaide.edu.au/student/careers/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/careers/)

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# Civil war impact greater than tsunami: scholar

■ Psychiatry

The long-running civil war in Sri Lanka is causing more mental health problems and social breakdown than the catastrophic 2004 tsunami, according to a University of Adelaide researcher.

Clinical Associate Professor in Psychiatry Daya Somasundaram himself fled Sri Lanka fearing for his and his family's safety, and is Australia's first 'refugee scholar' at the University under the Scholar Rescue Fund.

Associate Professor Somasundaram has completed a study on collective trauma in northern Sri Lanka, comparing effects on the community of the chronic war with those of the 2004 tsunami which killed 31,000 Sri Lankans. The research was published recently in the online open-access, peer-reviewed publication [www.ijmhs.com](http://www.ijmhs.com)

"The natural disaster was a one-off catastrophic event that left a trail of destruction and loss," said Associate Professor Somasundaram. "But it did not continue to exert a prolonged effect. As a result, the severity of the collective trauma was much less. In fact, having lived through a prolonged war situation has

meant that Tamil communities have learned skills and strategies that make them better able to cope with disasters."

Associate Professor Somasundaram found the effects of chronic disasters, such as war, went beyond the individual to family, community and the wider society. To be effective, relief, rehabilitation and development programs needed to address the problems of collective trauma, he said.

His study suggests that grass roots work within communities may work best. "In the aftermath of war, communities suffer from mistrust, suspicion, silence, brutalisation, deterioration in morals and values, poor leadership, dependency, passivity and despair," he said.

"Apart from attending to the immediate basic needs and other acute problems in the rescue and relief phases after a major disaster, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development strategies need to include collective-level interventions. In fact, our experiences show that many individually oriented mental health interventions appear to fare much better when undertaken within an overall framework of a community strategy."



Above: Destruction at Galle, Sri Lanka from the tsunami in December 2004

The study, "Collective trauma in northern Sri Lanka: a qualitative psychosocial-ecological study", is based on published data and qualitative research methods including participatory observation, key informant and focus group interviews.

Associate Professor Somasundaram came to the University of Adelaide's Discipline of Psychiatry under the US-based Scholar Rescue Fund at the end of 2005 with his wife and children. He was at risk because of his writing and documentation about the ongoing conflict in Sri Lanka.

■ Story by Robyn Mills

## Looking after your brain: new approaches to an age-old problem.



### A Research Tuesday with Professor Robert Vink Tuesday 13 November at 5.30pm, North Terrace Campus

Professor Robert Vink is the NRF Chair of Neurosurgical Research and Head of the School of Medical Sciences. He is one of Australia's leading researchers in brain injury and has a particular interest in developing and commercialising novel pharmacological approaches to brain protection.

This lecture will examine some of the revolutionary new approaches being developed for brain protection in both the young and the old, and how we as individuals can incorporate some of these measures into our everyday lives.

**Venue:**

Lecture Theatre GO4 ground floor  
Napier Building, North Terrace campus.  
Admission is free.

**Bookings essential:**

Email: [research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au)  
Phone: (08) 8303 3692

**Further information:**

Visit the University of Adelaide's Research website: [www.adelaide.edu.au/research](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/research)



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Life Impact The University of Adelaide



# Award-winning researchers make an !mpact

## ■ Research

Above (from left): Guest speaker at the awards Professor Tim Flannery, two of the award winners, Dr Sam Stacey and Professor John Wallace, and acting Minister for Science Dr Jane Lomax Smith

Original photos by Ben Searcy, digitally edited by Chris Tonkin

A molecular biochemist renowned for his work on the role of human growth factors and potential cancer treatments, and an agronomist who has developed more effective and cheaper fertilisers have each been awarded \$10,000 for their innovative research.

Professor John Wallace and Dr Sam Stacey from the University of Adelaide have been named the winners of the two biggest individual prizes on offer at the inaugural Adelaide Research & Innovation Impact Awards in October.

The researchers each won an Excellence in Innovation & Entrepreneurship \$10,000 Prize. Two separate awards were given for established researchers and early career researchers. Dr Stacey won the latter.

Professor Wallace from the School of Molecular and Biomedical Science has enjoyed a long and distinguished career as a researcher and teacher at the University of Adelaide. Recognised as one of the world's foremost molecular biochemists, he has for the past two decades worked on Insulin-like Growth Factors (IGF) – small proteins – and their roles in cancer. He is the co-inventor on a number of patents and with his colleagues developed the technologies underpinning one of the University

of Adelaide's first spin-out biopharmaceutical companies, GroPep.

Dr Sam Stacey from the University of Adelaide's School of Earth and Environmental Sciences has helped develop new fertilising agents which are more effective and less expensive than existing chemicals used by farmers. His work has sparked intense commercial interest from one of the world's largest fertiliser companies, with two patents now pending.

In the future Dr Stacey hopes his research will have applications for organic farmers where effective plant nutrition solutions are limited.

Two of the University's researchers have also been awarded \$5000 for their breakthrough in developing a new wound dressing for people recovering from sinus operations.

Rhinologist Professor Peter John Wormald and his PhD student Dr Theodore Athanasiadis won the \$5000 Most Exciting New Disclosure Award for their invention, which improves healing, controls bleeding and prevents excess scar tissue after sinus surgery. The pair collaborated with colleagues in New Zealand to develop a special anti-adhesion dressing.

Professor Janet Hiller and Associate Professor John Moss from the Discipline of Public Health

won \$10,000 for securing the largest new research contract on behalf of the Australian Health Technology Assessment.

The inaugural research awards, held on 11 October, were sponsored by the State Government, the University of Adelaide and a host of South Australian companies.

In presenting the awards, the acting SA Minister for Science & Information Economy, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith, said universities continued to be "the powerhouse of research" in South Australia.

"People do not always realise how significant the efforts of universities are. They harness the State's brain power and the innovation of ideas. The University of Adelaide has a very strong tradition in this sense.

"The South Australian R&D community, including the University of Adelaide, continues to be at the forefront of exploration and discovery, and with the strong partnership between the State Government and the R&D community in South Australia we will continue to succeed."

Adelaide Research & Innovation (ARI) Managing Director Robert Chalmers said all the finalists were worthy winners and "outstanding ambassadors for commercial research".

■ Story by Candy Gibson



# First-time fathers sought for depression study

## ■ General Practice

University of Adelaide psychology researcher Karina Bria is recruiting first-time fathers for a study into postnatal depression in men.

Ms Bria, a PhD student within the Discipline of General Practice, said up to 10% of first-time fathers experienced postnatal depression but in most cases their symptoms were not treated.

"Men's experiences of their transition to fatherhood have not been a major focus for investigation in Australia or overseas, despite between 5-10% of men experiencing depression, anxiety, stress and psychological distress," she said.

"Men are reportedly at greater risk of their depression going unrecognised and untreated because more support and attention is focused on first-time mothers, many of whom are battling the same problems."

In fact, postnatal depression among mothers is also the strongest predictor of depression in the father, according to existing research.

Ms Bria is looking to recruit new fathers who are experiencing postnatal depression.

Her study will explore whether male postnatal depression improves or worsens in the first six months of their child's birth, how depression impacts on a first-time father's ability to bond with their child and the long-term effects of postnatal depression on the father and his family.

"I want to develop a gender-specific screening questionnaire that primary health care professionals can use to detect symptoms of postnatal depression in fathers," Ms Bria said.

This study will include interviews, the development of a gender-specific screening questionnaire and pilot testing of the questionnaire.

Men interested in taking part in the study are asked to email Ms Bria: [karina.bria@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:karina.bria@adelaide.edu.au)

Participants will be asked to attend a series of three one-on-one interviews over a six-month period. All information is confidential.

**"Up to 10% of first-time fathers experienced postnatal depression but in most cases their symptoms were not treated"**

Photo by iStock

■ Story by Candy Gibson

## Companies to predict change in mobile use

Two Adelaide companies have joined forces to develop patented systems that will help the telecommunications industry predict the changing habits of mobile phone users in Australia.

Mobile services company m.Net Corporation and the University of Adelaide's commercial development arm, Adelaide Research & Innovation Pty Ltd (ARI) have signed an agreement to commercialise the jointly developed intellectual property.

The team received an Australian Research Council (ARC) linkage grant in 2004 for a project valued at \$458,000 to develop new approaches to psychological user profiling in the telecommunications industry. The results are now the subject of a provisional patent.

m.Net Corporation Director of Research Dr Marisa Mackay said the new approach to user profiling would eliminate labour-intensive manual coding and identify a more personalised, multi-category approach to identify user behaviours.

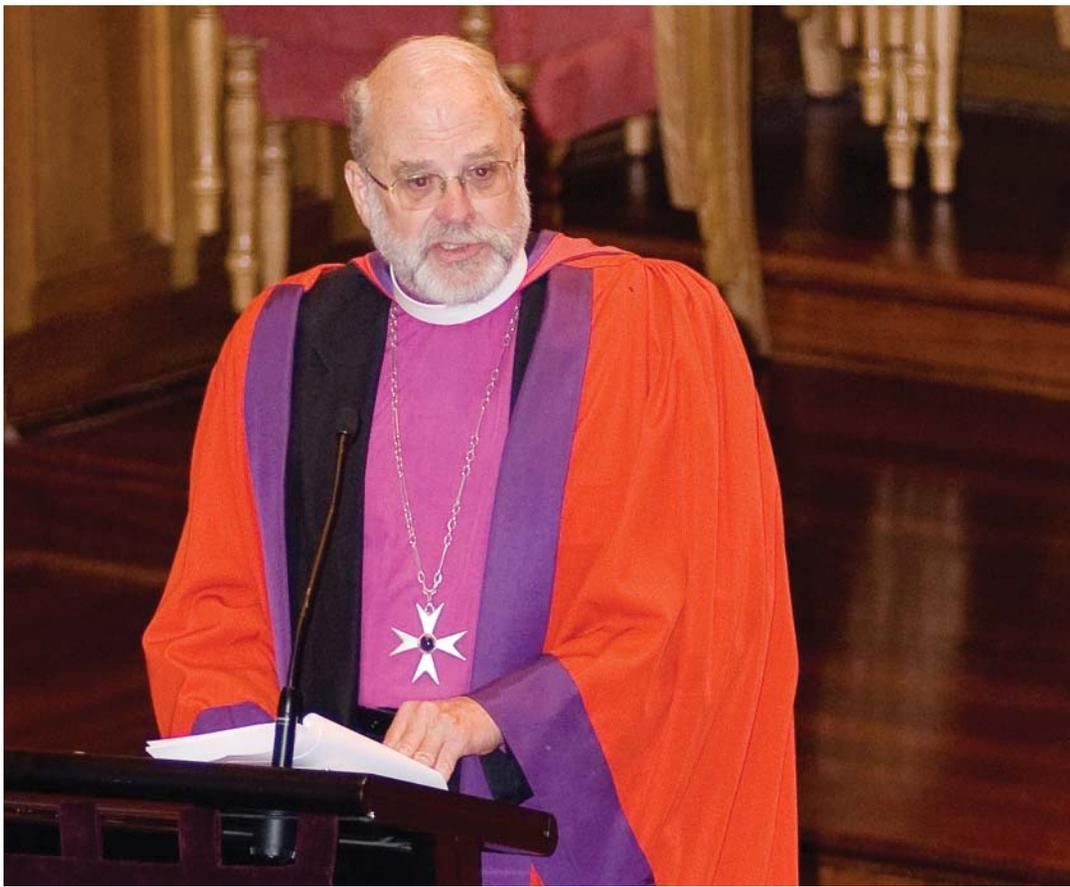
Research Fellow Dr Dan Navarro, from the University of Adelaide's School of Psychology, said the new technology incorporated innovative psychological modelling.

"When completed, the components of the research should make it possible to provide accurate product recommendations based on how specific users behave over time," Mr Navarro said.

ARI Deputy Director Dr Elaine Stead said that the commercialisation agreement illustrated the benefits of collaboration between the private and academic sectors.

"The m.Net work has real-world commercial applications," Dr Stead said. "The project provides our students with an opportunity to work at the leading edge of a global industry that is moving at a fast pace."

■ Story by Candy Gibson



# Great alumni return 50 years after graduation

## Alumni

“By and large, tertiary education offers the greatest hope and opportunity for social mobility in our society”

Above:  
Anglican Bishop Dr Ian George AO gives the address at the Golden Jubilee ceremony in Bonython Hall

Photo by John Hemmings

Bishop Dr Ian George AO, former Anglican Archbishop of Adelaide, has used his address at the University of Adelaide’s recent Golden Jubilee Commemoration Ceremony to highlight the need for greater financial support for education.

Bishop George was one of 97 graduates from 1957 who attended the Golden Jubilee event in Bonython Hall last month. Others included Brisbane paediatrician and burns specialist Professor John F Leditschke, and retired manufacturing leader Robert Hill-Ling AO. Mr Hill-Ling, an engineering graduate of the University of Adelaide, spent 27 years at the helm of Hills Industries, the company that invented the Hills Rotary Hoist and went on to become a multi-national business, turning over more than \$800 million per year.

Alumni from 1957 returned to their *alma mater* from as far afield as the US, Canada, Malaysia, the United Kingdom and New Zealand, as well as from across Australia, to attend the event.

Academic dress was worn for the ceremony to relive their graduation.

The Golden Jubilee Commemoration Ceremony is an annual event which enables University of Adelaide graduates from 50 years past to revisit old memories, renew friendships, take faculty tours and contribute to the University’s tradition and culture.

In his address at the ceremony, Bishop George highlighted the lack of public funding for tertiary education and spoke of the difficulty many South Australians have to overcome to obtain a tertiary education. He called on those attending the event to help to do something about the problem.

“By and large, tertiary education offers the greatest hope and opportunity for social mobility in our society,” he said.

“In a city like Adelaide, there is a genuine lack of opportunity in pockets where students are lucky to finish high school. Inevitably that is why there are generations of unemployed people in these areas, particularly in the northern suburbs, which leads to the wide range of social problems we are experiencing there. In these areas there are some of the lowest rates of tertiary education participation in Australia.”

## Development & Alumni Events

### ECIC

**Event:** Relaunch of ECIC – new name: Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Commercialisation Centre

**Date:** Thursday 8 November

**Time:** 5:30pm-7:00pm

**Venue:** Bonython Hall, North Terrace Campus, University of Adelaide

**Cost:** free to all ECIC alumni

**RSVP:** by Friday 2 November to [jocelyn.madden@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:jocelyn.madden@adelaide.edu.au)

### Florey Medical Chapter

**Event:** The Florey Chapter Medical Vignerons Dinner 2007

**Date:** Friday 9 November 2007

**Time:** TBA

**Venue:** National Wine Centre, Cnr Botanic Rd and Hackney Rd, Adelaide

**Cost:** \$80 – student discount available

**RSVP:** Gaynor Tyerman (08) 8303 6356 or [gaynor.tyerman@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:gaynor.tyerman@adelaide.edu.au)

### Cornell Chapter for Arts and Performing Arts

**Event:** AGM and Annual Dinner with speaker Anthony Steel AM: “The 2008 Adelaide Festival of Arts: a preview”

**Date:** Saturday 10 November

**Time:** AGM 6:15pm, Dinner 7:00pm

**Venue:** St Mark’s College, Pennington Terrace, North Adelaide

**Cost:** \$60 (Dinner Drinks BYO)

**RSVP:** Development and Alumni office at +61 8 8303 6356 or fax: +61 8 8303 5808

### United Kingdom Chapter

**Event:** Annual General Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday 14 November

**Time:** 7:00pm

**Venue:** Vodafone UK, 80 The Strand, London

**RSVP:** [events@adelaidealumniuk.eu](mailto:events@adelaidealumniuk.eu)

**Event:** Christmas Event

**Date:** Thursday 29 November

**Time:** 7:00pm

**Venue:** Exhibition Hall, Australia House

**RSVP:** [events@adelaidealumniuk.eu](mailto:events@adelaidealumniuk.eu)

### Friends of the University of Adelaide Library and the Adelaide University Choral Society

**Event:** Christmas in the Barr Smith Library

**Date:** Sunday 2 December

**Time:** 3:30pm for 4:00pm concert start

**Venue:** Barr Smith Library Reading Room (entry via Eastern doors)

**Cost:** \$15 (adults), \$10 (students/concession). Ticket price includes glass of wine and cake on arrival.

**RSVP:** Tickets from Venue Tix (08) 8225 8888 or Gaynor at the Development and Alumni office (08) 8303 6356.

# Grainger book hits the right note

## Music

A book co-authored by Elder Conservatorium of Music lecturer Dr Mark Carroll on Australia's most prolific composer, Percy Grainger, has won a prestigious prize from the American Society of Authors, Composers and Performers (ASCAP).

*Self-Portrait of Percy Grainger* has been awarded the Deems Taylor Award for Excellence in Books on Music.

Dr Carroll penned the award-winning book with Professor Malcolm Gillies, a former Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, and Dr David Pear, formerly a senior lecturer at Monash University. It was published in 2006 by Oxford University Press.

The ASCAP Deems Taylor Awards recognise excellence in books, articles, broadcasts and websites on the subject of music.

Dr Carroll described the Deems Taylor Award as "the icing on the cake" after Oxford University Press agreed to publish the manuscript.

"The book is quite unique in the sense that we have fashioned Grainger's own words into the autobiography that he, himself, wanted to write but was unable to do so," Dr Carroll said.

"Nevertheless, he left clues and we like to think we have balanced his wishes with those of a contemporary readership eager to learn more about the enigmatic Australian/American musician, his life and times."

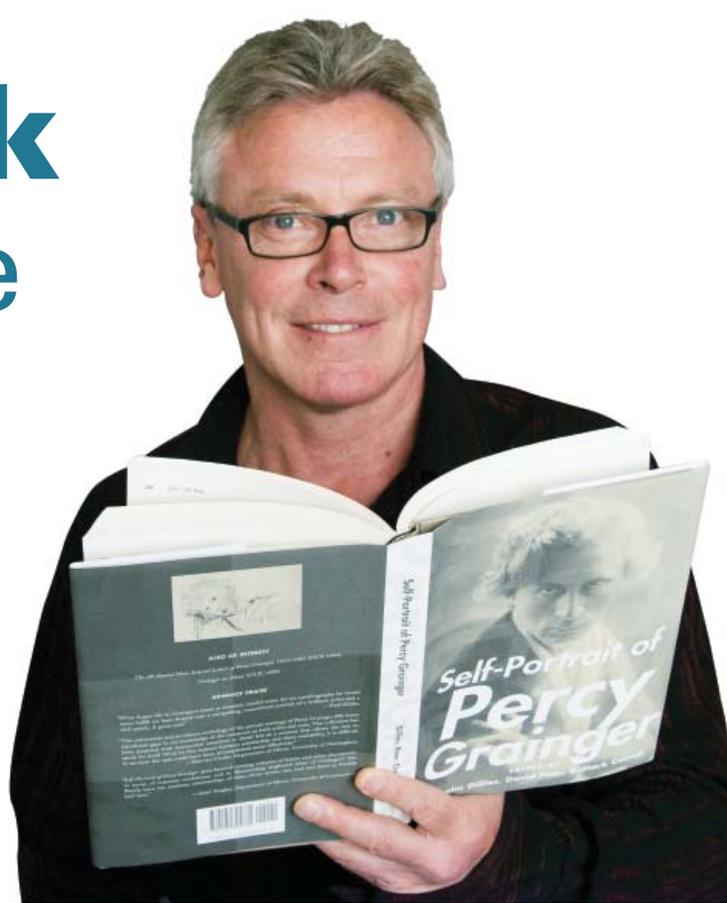
Percy Grainger is considered Australia's most prolific composer, writing more than 200 works, including his signature piece *Country Gardens*, as well as promoting medieval European music and English folk music.

"We trawled and transcribed Grainger's voluminous hand-written essays and fashioned them into a warts-and-all account of the man – his thoughts on his art, mother, sex, political views and so on," Dr Carroll said.

"The challenge was to do justice to Grainger's legacy by striking a balance between his eccentricities and his genuine contributions to 20th century music. We like to think we got that balance just right."

*Self-Portrait of Percy Grainger* has been described by conductor and musicologist Paul Kildea as "a compelling, unsanitised portrait of a brilliant artist and a vital epoch. A great read".

Dr Mark Carroll is an Associate Professor at the Elder Conservatorium, from which he holds his doctoral degree. For



several decades he has worked as a professional classical and popular musician.

His recent publications include *Music and Ideology in Cold War Europe* (2003), and a co-edited volume of Grainger essays.

Carroll is also Chief Investigator for a large ARC-funded Ballets Russes research project, bringing together the University of Adelaide, the Australian Ballet and the National Library of Australia.

The ASCAP award will be presented at the Lincoln Center in New York on 13 December.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

Above: Dr Mark Carroll with a copy of his book *Self-Portrait of Percy Grainger*

Photo by Candy Gibson

## South Australian Policy Online [www.sapo.org.au](http://www.sapo.org.au)



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# Want to hear something different on election night?

## ■ Music

Anyone looking for a respite from politics on 24 November can escape to the University of Adelaide's Elder Hall to hear some outstanding guitar music by an up-and-coming young talent.

Honours Performance student and guitarist Jody Fisher is the soloist in the final concert in the Elder Conservatorium Evening Concert Series for 2007.

Jody will perform the Rodrigo guitar concerto, *Concierto de Aranjuez*, which is arguably the best known of the guitar works.

The performance will take place in Elder Hall on Saturday 24 November at 6.30pm – after the polling booths have closed.

Jody has been studying guitar since age seven and is currently enrolled in a double Honours

program studying Musicology as well as Guitar Performance with Oliver Fartach-Naini. She has taken part in masterclasses with such notable virtuosi as Eduardo Fernandez, Nicholas Goluses and Carlo Barone and over the last year has performed in Sydney, Perth and Darwin as well as locally.

She has been the recipient of many awards and scholarships, most recently a Recitals Australia performance award, the 2007 Michael Robert Poag Scholarship for Guitar from the Elder Conservatorium of Music and also the 2007-8 Helpmann Academy Optus Mentorship.

Jody hopes to continue her studies at the Academy of Music in Vienna next year.

"I've been very lucky to have

studied at the University of Adelaide – the excellence and commitment of the staff at the Elder Conservatorium has provided me with significant opportunities throughout my degree," Jody said.

"I am very grateful for the level of personal support I have received from my teachers, as my development as a musician is wholly due to their dedication."

The concert features the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra together with the Elder Conservatorium Choral under the baton of conductor-in-residence Keith Crellin.

Other works in the program are Gerald Finzi's Christmas cantata, *In Terra pax*, and the majestic Symphony No. 9 in C (*The Great*), by Franz Schubert.

Jody Fisher

Photo by David Ellis

Tickets are \$25 adult/\$20 concession/\$14 student, available from BASS dial n'charge 131 246 or at the door.

For more information, please contact the Manager, Evening Concert Series, on (08) 8303 5286 or email: [helen.simpson@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:helen.simpson@adelaide.edu.au)

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





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**Wednesdays 6pm**