With so many weird and wonderful acts in Adelaide during the Fringe and Festival of Arts, it would be easy to get lost in the crowd. But one performer who’s already proven to be a standout is University of Adelaide music student Matt Gilbertson. Matt, as his alter-ego “Hans”, is presenting *The Showpony Tour* at the Mars Bar nightclub until 7 March.

He’s just one of many students, graduates and staff of the University’s Elder Conservatorium of Music doing their part to add to the cultural feast that is Fringe and Festival time. Matt’s über-creation, Hans, has certainly been making a name for himself since he debuted in his “super-hot pants” in 2003 as part of the highly successful Berlin Cabaret. Since then, Hans has gone on to regular spots at Adelaide’s Comix Comedy Cellars and more recently at Boho Bar, Parkside, where he is the weekly feature performance.

Hans has become a much-loved character in Adelaide and interstate with appearances in Sydney, Melbourne and on the Adelaide corporate circuit. His quick wit and good humour have enabled him to appear on various radio programs and he is now a celebrity gossip reporter for Nova 91.9’s breakfast program. *The Showpony Tour* involves Hans, his four-piece band, dancers and special guests as they explore cabaret classics of yesterday and today. The tunes have been selected from the great showponies of the musicals *Cabaret* and *Chicago*, and from other modern-day showponies, such as Madonna and Britney Spears.

“This show is more than a cabaret performance, it is an event of spectacular proportions that will CHANGE YOUR LIFE,” Hans said (the emphasis is his). *The Showpony Tour* – an opportunity to find your inner showpony – is presented by Matt Gilbertson at 8.15pm from 27 February until 14 March at The Mars Bar, 120 Gouger Street, Adelaide. Tickets are $20.

To read about other shows featuring University of Adelaide alumni, and for giveaways, turn to page 10.
From the Vice-Chancellor

It is five years since the University of Adelaide launched its last Strategic Plan. We have achieved – and in some cases exceeded – the objectives set out in that Plan. There is much still to be done, but the University is now in a far stronger position to start taking steps towards realising its full potential.

We are now working to our new Strategic Plan for 2008-2012, *Building a Great Research University*, which was approved by the University’s Council at its meeting in December last year. This Strategic Plan evolved over numerous workshops, forums and meetings held during 2007, building on an earlier discussion paper which put forward an aspiration to become a Great Research University.

I must say I was delighted by the degree of engagement and especially the overwhelmingly positive response to that discussion paper, and I sincerely thank everyone who provided their valuable feedback.

As I said in my address to the University community last month, a university’s worth, its “greatness”, should be judged by its value to society. A number of key characteristics that will help us to measure our “value” are outlined in the Strategic Plan, which is accessible on the University’s website. If you have not had the chance to look at it, I would encourage you to do so. It can be found at: www.adelaide.edu.au/VCO/.

The Plan sets out the University’s mission to be internationally recognised as a great research university and to use that as the platform for excellence in teaching and learning. This is, of course, an enduring objective.

Greatness is not achieved overnight, nor even within the five-year timeframe of a single plan. It is vital though to begin to put in place the essential elements of the platform on which greatness might be built.

To achieve these goals we will need the support and involvement of the University community as a whole. It will also depend on increasing our level of engagement with government, industry and the wider community.

To those who fear that by describing our aspirations in terms of “Great Research University” we may be devaluing learning and teaching, I want to say: categorically this is not the case. We are seeking to differentiate the kind of teaching that we do, and to emphasise that because it occurs in intimate relationship with a thriving and extensive research culture, it is qualitatively superior to that which may occur at other institutions.

Fully understanding the crucial scholarly contribution we can make to contemporary society and fulfilling that contribution are integral to this Plan, as is our commitment to developing mutually beneficial working partnerships with the community.

This is the primary role of a great research university, and it is something to which we should all aspire.

JAMES A. McWHA
Vice-Chancellor and President

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**Art & Heritage Collections**

The Architecture Collection features design work spanning 50 years to the very beginnings of what is today known as the School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design at the University of Adelaide.

Until recently, this collection remained an undiscovered treasure in the School’s storerooms, and includes many works by students who went on to become prominent Australian architects.

Art & Heritage Collections are working with the School to document and catalogue this fascinating and historically significant collection, which represents a snapshot of the development of architecture in South Australia dating back to 1958.

To help celebrate 50 years of Architecture at the University of Adelaide – and as part of the official Adelaide Fringe program – items from the Architecture Collection are featured in a new exhibition, *Designing Designers – the Evolution of an Architect*.

The display is on level 4 at the School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design, North Terrace Campus, University of Adelaide, weekdays from 9.00am-5.00pm, until 16 March.

Anna Rivett, Collections Officer, Art & Heritage Collections

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Shown here is detail from Peter Dungey’s Sports Pavilion at Linden Park Oval, 2nd-year student project, 1965.
Public message on climate change

The University of Adelaide’s Research Institute for Climate Change and Sustainability will host a 12-part evening seminar series on the likely impacts of global warming on South Australia.

The Climate 2030 seminars, primarily aimed at postgraduate students, will address a range of issues relating to climate change and its impact on people, the environment, health, agriculture and the law.

Professor Bob Hill, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Sciences, will convene the first seminar on Tuesday 4 March, giving an overview of climate change, its past, present and future.

Weekly seminars throughout the semester will examine clean energy technologies, issues relating to a carbon-constrained future and impacts of climate change at the community, species and genetic level in South Australia.

Other sessions will focus on water resources, population growth and migration, sustainable planning and how our communities (people, plants and animals) will adapt.

Even health gets a look-in, with a seminar devoted to heat stress, and the spread of vector-borne and food-borne infectious diseases.

The impact of climate change on our agricultural systems will be examined, along with economic programs that have been developed to forecast future global trends.

The Research Institute for Climate Change and Sustainability has organised the series with the support of the South Australian Government and Business SA.

The series forms the lecture component for the postgraduate course on Climate Change: Mitigation and Adaptation. It will be complemented by tutorials and assessments.

“Climate Change 2030 has been developed in response to interest at a very senior level within the University to have more multi-disciplinary program and course offerings,” Professor Bob Hill said.

“This series is a unique and innovative model to promote greater interaction between disciplines, and a valuable opportunity for those with an interest in this area.”

Although the series is targeted mainly at postgraduate students, members of the public are also welcome. The seminars will be held weekly, from 4 March–3 June, in Room G04, Napier Building, North Terrace Campus, from 5pm-7pm.

For more information visit: www.adelaide.edu.au/climatechange/seminars/

Story by Candy Gibson

"Climate Change 2030 has been developed in response to interest at a very senior level within the University to have more multi-disciplinary program and course offerings"
University of Adelaide virologists Dr Michael Beard and Dr Karla Helbig will lead a $2 million five-year project to develop new vaccines and explore better treatment options for hepatitis C sufferers.

The researchers, from the School of Molecular and Biomedical Science, will work with University of NSW scientists to develop new strategies to treat and prevent hepatitis C, which infects more than 170 million people around the world.

Drs Beard and Helbig, who are also attached to the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science and Royal Adelaide Hospital, hope to identify antiviral proteins that can be used in the fight against hepatitis C.

Currently there is no effective vaccine and the existing treatment is expensive and often causes severe side effects. The success rate also varies between 50-80%, so many sufferers cannot be helped by current approaches.

The funds, awarded by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) last month, are part of a larger $17.7 million joint program grant, tackling both HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C and involving nine scientists from across Australia.

Dr Beard said this was the first Australian program grant awarded to study both HIV/AIDS and HCV/ hepatitis C.

“The development of vaccines and better treatments for both these viruses are urgent global health priorities,” Dr Beard said.

“This program brings together a team of researchers with skills in basic virology and immunology with experts who can translate laboratory findings into human clinical trials.”

This latest grant is an adjunct to three NHMRC project grants awarded to Dr Beard’s team in the past two years specifically for hepatitis C research.

In 2006 the virologist was awarded more than $894,000 to investigate the link between alcohol and hepatitis C, and the basic mechanisms of liver disease.

“In Australia, more than 264,000 people have been infected with the hepatitis C virus and there are approximately 10,000 new infections per year. A proportion of these are intravenous drug users, with alcohol playing a significant role in disease progression,” Dr Beard said.

He said vaccines had been trialled for HIV, but with little success.

“There is antiretroviral treatment but this does not eradicate HIV, it only keeps it under control for a period of time. It is also very expensive and therefore not accessible on a global scale”.

Dr Beard said the program would provide a pipeline to develop and test vaccines and novel treatments in a timely fashion.

The nine scientists awarded the joint $17 million NHMRC program grant are from the University of Adelaide, University of NSW, University of Western Australia and University of Melbourne.

Dr Beard is an NHMRC RD Wright Research Fellow and head of the Hepatitis C Virus Research Group at the University of Adelaide and Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science.
Philipp sets record on university “debut”

One of Australia’s most brilliant young scholars will start full-time studies at the University of Adelaide this month, already setting an academic record before he enters the lecture room.

At 15 years of age, Philipp Allgeuer is the youngest student to be accepted into a degree program at the University for at least the past 10 years, and one of only a handful his age in its 134-year history.

The first-year Mechatronic Engineering student is no stranger to the North Terrace Campus, however. He has been involved in the University’s Headstart Scholarship Program for gifted children since 2006, when he enrolled in Mathematics 1A and 1B as a part-time student at the age of 13 and finished in the top half dozen of 650 maths students.

In 2007 Philipp scored a high distinction in his third-year university mathematics course.

Philipp’s family moved to Adelaide from the Hunter Valley in 2006 specifically to fast track his education via Prince Alfred College and the University of Adelaide.

Prince Alfred College was the only school in Australia to allow Philipp to study part-time at university, despite his obvious ability. He has been studying accelerated Maths since Year 4.

Philipp’s talent was discovered at age four when he was found to have abilities similar to a 10-year-old.

Dr David Parrott, the Director of 1st-Year Studies in the School of Mathematical Sciences, said Philipp had already demonstrated a capacity to perform at the highest level in university courses.

“He has already impressed me with his ability to ask meaningful and searching questions, and he displays insight and maturity way beyond his years,” Dr Parrott said.

Google director is new professor

The Engineering Director for Google Australia and New Zealand, Alan Noble (pictured), has been appointed an Adjunct Professor to the University’s School of Computer Science.

Mr Noble, a University of Adelaide alumnus, joined Google in February 2007.

Mr Noble’s University affiliation is expected to attract many computer science and engineering students, with Google actively seeking out Australian graduates to work on global projects and products, as well as offering a range of scholarships.

“I’m thrilled with this appointment, which will build on Google’s close ties with the University of Adelaide,” Mr Noble said.

“There’s exciting work being undertaken here. A strong stream of skilled computer science graduates is vital to Australia’s future and we’re committed to helping universities realise this.”

The Acting Head of Computer Science at the University of Adelaide, Associate Professor David Munro, described Mr Noble’s appointment as “a perfect fit”.

“He has already impressed me with his ability to ask meaningful and searching questions, and he displays insight and maturity way beyond his years.”

— Above: Philipp Allgeuer

Story by Candy Gibson

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“He has already impressed me with his ability to ask meaningful and searching questions, and he displays insight and maturity way beyond his years.”

— Above: Philipp Allgeuer

Story by Candy Gibson
Bursaries announced for Indian students

India’s most outstanding tertiary students will have the opportunity to study at the University of Adelaide this year under a new bursary scheme announced recently in New Delhi.

The University has set aside 54 lakhs Indian rupees (AUD$164,000) to provide bursaries for up to 33 postgraduate students and 10 undergraduate students from India.

Indian students who enrol at the University of Adelaide in 2008 will be considered for one of these bursaries, worth more than 1 lakh Rs each, to assist with their living and studying expenses in Adelaide.

Postgraduate students will be eligible to study in a wide range of fields, including agriculture, business and commerce, engineering, computer science, environmental management and international studies.

Up to 10 bursaries of the same value will be offered to Indian students enrolling in undergraduate degrees in business, architecture, commerce, economics, education and law.

University of Adelaide Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) Professor John Taplin said the bursaries would help ease the costs of an education at a world-ranking university overseas.

“The University is aware that the Indian Government wants to increase the access of Indian students to higher quality tertiary education,” Professor Taplin said.

“Due to India’s remarkable economic and social growth, it has been estimated that there will be a shortfall of about 500,000 professionals by the end of the decade and that the number of world-class PhDs needs to be five times the number currently being produced.

“Our engagement with India has grown markedly in recent years, with more collaborative research being undertaken between our two countries. We would like to play our part in addressing the emerging skills shortage as well,” he said.

New facility to analyse a nano-world

A new South Australian research facility launched at the University of Adelaide will help researchers around Australia view, analyse and modify structures as small as one-millionth of the diameter of a human hair.

Science and Information Economy Minister the Hon. Paul Caica recently launched the South Australian Regional Facility for Microscopy and Microanalysis (SARF) as part of a national network of microscopy and microanalysis research infrastructure and expertise.

SARF’s first new flagship instrument, an Ultra High Resolution Dual Beam Instrument, has been installed in the University’s Adelaide Microscopy. The $3.5 million super high-powered electron microscope is the only one of its kind installed in the Southern Hemisphere and gives researchers the ability to look at the tiniest parts making up the structure of materials – at smaller than nanometre level. It can, for example, allow researchers to “see” a human brain cell in three dimensions.

“The Dual Beam Instrument is relevant to research in a range of disciplines, including engineering, photonics, geology, health and physics,” Adelaide Microscopy Director John Terlet said.

“It will be invaluable for advanced industrial applications such as solar cell manufacture and prototyping micro-electro-mechanical systems devices.”

SARF Director Professor Hans Griessner said: “This new research facility, and the national network, will help Australian researchers compete internationally. The national network is truly world-class in the instrumentation and expertise it offers researchers.

“Microscopy and microanalysis are enabling technologies, and this facility will help Australian researchers do cutting-edge research in a broad range of disciplines with application across industries like defence, health, biotechnology, mining, manufacturing and pharmaceuticals.”

SARF will be the South Australian node of the Australian Microscopy and Microanalysis Research Facility, created under the Federal Government’s National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy.

SARF is a collaboration between South Australia’s three universities, the Ian Wark Research Institute at the University of South Australia, Flinders University’s School of Chemistry, Physics and Earth Sciences, and the University of Adelaide’s Adelaide Microscopy.

SARF is funded by the Federal and State Governments and the universities.

Story by Robyn Mills

Above: Tin metal which has been evaporated onto a carbon substrate, as seen by the super high-powered electron microscope

Photo courtesy of Adelaide Microscopy

Research

“ This new research facility, and the national network, will help Australian researchers compete internationally.”
Why we needed leadership on “sorry”

Although the public debate has been polarised over the years... Australians have generally been ambivalent about an apology, which is why the leadership on the issue has been so important.

Australia was ready for strong leadership on an apology to the Stolen Generations, according to two University of Adelaide psychology researchers. Professor Martha Augoustinos and Associate Professor Amanda LeCouteur from the School of Psychology said the Australian public was now more likely to acknowledge and accept the national apology because of leadership shown on the issue by the current Federal Government.

Professor Augoustinos and Dr LeCouteur began studying the public debate into a possible apology to Indigenous people following the 1997 release of a report into the Stolen Generations by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

“The report generated previously unheard of public debate in Australia and raised awareness of the maltreatment of indigenous people,” Professor Augoustinos said.

“Over the past decade, most Australians would in some way have been exposed to or been engaged in the debate about whether a national apology should be offered to the Stolen Generations.

“Although the public debate has been polarised over the years, it’s fair to say that Australians have generally been ambivalent about an apology, which is why the leadership on the issue has been so important.”

Professor Augoustinos and Dr LeCouteur have published a number of papers on the issue, including a chapter in the book *Collective guilt: International perspectives* (2004) by Cambridge University Press.

That chapter, called “On whether to apologize to Indigenous Australians: The denial of white guilt”, discusses a number of recurring arguments in the debate, including:

- **No to an apology – present generations of non-indigenous Australians shouldn’t be blamed or held accountable;**
- **No – guilt is an inappropriate emotion, and saying “sorry” is an admission of guilt;**
- **No – the act of saying “sorry” is too divisive for the community;**
- **No – it’s all in the past, and we can’t change what has happened;**
- **Yes to an apology – an apology is an acknowledgement of past ills, without accepting responsibility;**
- **Yes – it’s socially appropriate; an act of “civility” to apologise;**
- **Yes – an apology is a symbolic pre-requisite for reconciliation.**

“The comments made publicly at the time by the Howard Government gave a sense of official legitimacy to those who felt unsure about an apology, or who were against it for a variety of reasons,” Professor Augoustinos said.

“The public mood has shifted since the initial debate, and the leadership currently being shown by the Rudd Government will have a further influence on that,” she said.

University of Adelaide staff and students were among those who celebrated the 13 February apology by Federal Parliament to the Stolen Generations.

Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha encouraged the University’s more than 2800 staff to take time off to witness and acknowledge the national apology, at an event at Elder Park, Adelaide.

The University’s Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM) played a key role at the event by helping to organise music and stage managing the music acts. CASM musicians also performed throughout the event.

Professor McWha said that as one of South Australia’s biggest employers, the University had a duty to encourage reconciliation among its staff and the wider community.

“The University of Adelaide has a strong commitment to national reconciliation,” Professor McWha said.

“Encouraging staff to celebrate this important step forward in reconciliation is just one of the many ways that we can help to make reconciliation real,” he said.

Story and photo by David Ellis
Adelaide researchers have made a world-first discovery that links viral infection with high blood pressure during pregnancy and pre-term birth. The research findings, published in the British Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, are a major step forward in unravelling the mystery of the cause of high blood pressure in pregnancy.

The research has been conducted by the South Australian Cerebral Palsy Research Group, based in the University of Adelaide’s School of Paediatrics & Reproductive Health and the Women’s and Children’s Hospital Microbiology & Infectious Diseases Department. Their work demonstrates, for the first time, that exposure to viral infection – especially viruses of the herpes group – may be associated with pregnancy-induced hypertensive disease (pre-eclampsia) and also with pre-term birth.

The research discovered the presence of viral nucleic acid in heel-prick blood samples from 1326 newborn babies, taken over a 10-year period. More than 400 of these babies were diagnosed with cerebral palsy.

“This is an exciting finding and further studies are now required to look at the link between viral exposure in pregnancy and genetic susceptibility to adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as high blood pressure, premature delivery and cerebral palsy,” said Professor Alastair MacLennan, leader of the research group.

Pregnancy hypertension (high blood pressure) occurs in up to 10% of first pregnancies throughout the developed world, such as in Australia. When untreated, it can lead to uncontrolled epileptic fits of eclampsia with loss of baby and mother. It is a common cause of maternal death in Third World countries.

The cause of high blood pressure in pregnancy has been an enigma for decades and a holy grail for many researchers. An unnamed plinth stands in the grounds of the University of Chicago to honour the researcher who discovers the cause of pre-eclampsia.

The Adelaide research group has already demonstrated a link between viral infection in pregnancy, genetic mutations in genes controlling inflammatory and blood clotting processes, and the development of cerebral palsy.

“The cause of high blood pressure in pregnancy has been an enigma for decades and a holy grail for many researchers. An unnamed plinth stands in the grounds of the University of Chicago to honour the researcher who discovers the cause of pre-eclampsia. The Adelaide research group has already demonstrated a link between viral infection in pregnancy, genetic mutations in genes controlling inflammatory and blood clotting processes, and the development of cerebral palsy.”

Story by David Ellis
The University of Adelaide has strengthened its partnership with
the Australian String Quartet (ASQ), committing $350,000 over the
next five years to sponsor one of
the country’s leading chamber
ensembles.

Under a new 2008-2012
agreement with the University, the
ASQ will continue to give high-
profile concerts on campus, perform
at special graduation ceremonies
both in Adelaide and offshore, and
perform at major fundraising events
for the University.

The quartet will also present
chamber music workshops,
participate in composer forums and
help the Elder Conservatorium of
music recruit potential new students
by visiting and performing in high
schools.

Elder Conservatorium Director
Professor David Lockett said the
partnership would provide mutual
benefits to both the University and
the ASQ.

“The Australian String Quartet is
enjoying great success nationally
and internationally and we are
extremely pleased that this new
agreement enables them to make
a significant contribution to the
artistic and educational profile of
the Elder Conservatorium,”
Professor Lockett said.

“To have an ensemble such as the
ASQ in our midst provides students
with unique insights into the nature
and standards of the professional
world. The diversity of the repertoire
that they perform, their admirable
work ethic and the sheer class of
their playing will inspire students to
higher technical and artistic goals.

“The enhanced relationship will
also add an important dimension to
the intellectual and cultural life of
the University as well as bringing
additional lustre to its image in the
community,” Professor Lockett said.

The ASQ has been Quartet-in-
Residence at the University of
Adelaide since 1991. The current
quartet of Sophie Rowell and Anne
Horton, violins, Sally Boud, viola,
and Rachel Johnston, cello, took up
the position in 2006.

This combination of players
originally came together as the
Tankstream Quartet and was
coached by Alice Waten at the
Australian Institute of Music in
Sydney. Leader Sophie Rowell is
currently studying for a Doctoral
Degree in Music Performance at the
Elder Conservatorium of Music.

This ASQ holds the distinction
of having won more international
chamber music competitions than
any other ensemble in Australian
history.

Already it is Dusk is the ASQ’s
performance for the Adelaide
Bank Festival of Arts, to be held on
Saturday 1 March at 6.00pm in the
Adelaide Town Hall. Enchantment
– the first concert in the ASQ’s
national season – is on Wednesday
12 March at 7.00pm. Tickets for
both concerts are available from
BASS on 131 246.

The quartet will give an Elder Hall
Lunchtime concert on Friday 4 April
at 1.10pm and will participate in the
International Cello Festival with a
performance on Thursday 17 April in
Elder Hall at 6.00pm.
The Adelaide Fringe (22 February-16 March) and the Adelaide Bank Festival of Arts (29 February-16 March) are both in town, which means one thing: it’s a chance for the University of Adelaide to shine.

The University itself will shine – literally – with our historic buildings on North Terrace playing an important role in a free visual display to the public throughout the Festival.

Our alumni will also shine, with many of the shows featuring current students, graduates and staff from the University’s Elder Conservatorium of Music. Events such as Writers Week also feature the talented alumni of the University of Adelaide, and the School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Urban Design is holding an exhibition as part of the Fringe (see story on page 2).

Here are just some of the highlights from the festival season.

**The Adelaidean** has one double pass to **Follow Me** for Saturday 8 March at 9.00pm (normal cost $50). Be the first to call (08) 8303 5414 to win. Giveaways courtesy of Neil Ward Publicity.

**Get a taste of the Fringe and Festival – on us**

**The Adelaidean** has some giveaways to help readers share in the Festival and Fringe experience.

**Follow Me**
Winner of a Herald Angel award at Edinburgh last year, **Follow Me**, set in England in 1955, is a powerful drama about the imminent execution of Ruth Ellis through her eyes and her executioner’s.

**Follow Me** is playing at the Fringe Factory Theatre – The Pastry Bakery (the old Balfours pie factory), Elizabeth Street (off Waymouth Street), Adelaide, from 4-16 March.

www.adelaidefringe.com.au

The **Adelaidean** has one double pass to **Follow Me** for Saturday 8 March at 9.00pm (normal cost $50). Be the first to call (08) 8303 5414 to win. Giveaways courtesy of Neil Ward Publicity.

**Lovers & Haters: The turbulent times of Don Dunstan**

Receiving its world premiere at the Adelaide Bank Festival of Arts, **Lovers & Haters** is a controversial new play that celebrates the life of Don Dunstan – a man who brought a brilliant flash of colour to the grey world of politics.

**Lovers & Haters** is playing at the Norwood Concert Hall, 175 The Parade, Norwood, from 5-15 March.

www.adelaidefringe.com.au

The **Adelaidean** has one double pass to **Lovers & Haters** for Friday 7 March at 8.00pm (normal cost $110). Be the first to call (08) 8303 5414 to win. Note: this play contains strong language and adult themes.

**American Poodle**

This absurd take on the “special relationship” between the US and the UK comes in two interspersed tales: **Snowball**, “a crazy physical analysis” of Britain’s winning and losing of the United Colonies in the New World, and **Stayfoot**, about a modern American businessman on his first trip to the “olde country”.

**American Poodle** is playing at the Fringe Factory Theatre – The Tea Room (the old Balfours pie factory), Elizabeth Street (off Waymouth Street), Adelaide, from 22 February-16 March.

www.adelaidefringe.com.au

The **Adelaidean** has one double pass to **American Poodle** for 11 March at 7.30pm (normal cost $50). Be the first to call (08) 8303 5414 to win.

Getaways courtesy of Neil Ward Publicity.

**Staff get in on the act**

It’s not only students and graduates of the University of Adelaide who are showing their talents at Fringe and Festival time – the staff are doing it too.

Marmalade Circus is an 11-piece jazz band headed by Mark Ferguson, Lecturer in jazz piano at the University’s Elder Conservatorium of Music.

Marmalade Circus has received some rave reviews from the Adelaide press. The band’s musical style is jazz, but the tunes are catchy and quirky, with grooves from Africa, the Caribbean and the Middle East.

Performances are being held at The Promethean, 116 Grote Street, Adelaide, from 1-2 March.

Meanwhile, the Mike Stewart Big Band is headlining The Late Show for the Fringe from 22 February-15 March.

The Late Show, also being held at The Promethean on Grote Street, is pitched as “the place to come to wind down and relax after a busy night of Fringing”.

Arguably Adelaide’s finest jazz ensemble, the Mike Stewart Big Band was formed by Mike on his return to Adelaide and the Elder Con from New York.

The band performs a wide array of music, from Count Basie to Thad Jones to Tito Puente, to contemporary music composed by local musicians.

But be warned: the last time the band played at The Promethean, their gigs were sold out.

www.adelaidefringe.com.au

The Adelaidean (22 February-16 March) and the Adelaide Bank Festival of Arts (29 February-16 March) are both in town, which means one thing: it’s a chance for the University of Adelaide to shine.
Northern Lights

Three of the University’s heritage buildings have a starring role in Northern Lights, a free public celebration of the beautiful North Terrace cultural boulevard as part of the Adelaide Bank Festival of Arts. Every night throughout the Festival, the University’s historic Mitchell Building, Elder Hall and Bonython Hall are “painted with light and coloured with life”, along with some of the city’s other historic architectural icons, the State Library of South Australia, the South Australian Museum, and the Art Gallery of South Australia.

It’s all thanks to artists from the internationally acclaimed The Electric Canvas, who have transformed the facades of these familiar buildings.

VIOLIN!!!

Internationally acclaimed violinist Jonathon Glonek is performing the entire works for unaccompanied violin by JS Bach as well as Paganini’s 24 caprices across three concerts during the Adelaide Fringe. A graduate of the Elder Conservatorium of Music, Glonek is well known as a first-rate concert violinist both in Australia and abroad. Born and educated in Adelaide, he has also studied at UCLA and elsewhere in the US and in Europe. Recently he was featured as guest soloist with the Ukrainian National Festival Symphony and the National Symphony of Thailand.

His concerts for the Fringe, called VIOLIN!!!, will be held in Adelaide’s historic Pilgrim Uniting Church, 42 Flinders Street, Adelaide. The first concert (Bach) is at 5.30pm on Saturday 8 March, followed by the second concert (also Bach) at 8pm on the same day. The third concert (Paganini) will be on Friday 14 March.

www.adelaidefringe.com.au

The Adelaide Fringe
22 FEBRUARY – 16 MARCH

Adelaide Bank Festival of Arts
29 FEBRUARY – 16 MARCH

20 Something

The hit, home-grown cabaret show 20 Something returns to Adelaide following a sold-out season in 2007. Now a headline act for the Adelaide Fringe, 20 Something stars three University of Adelaide graduates: Rachel McCall, Tamara Shinners and Jamie Cock. All three are graduates of the University’s Elder Conservatorium of Music.

As the name suggests, 20 Something focuses on two 20-something women and a piano man who stumble their way through life, love, careers and Centrelink payments.

They weave together original songs with a mix of those from the newest off-Broadway shows, cabaret classics, and a touch of opera.

Rachel McCall completed a Bachelor of Music (Voice Performance) at the Elder Conservatorium and also has an Arts degree from the University of Copenhagen, as well as a Masters in International Studies from the University of Adelaide. She has performed in ‘The Dining Room’ with the Danish Theatre company Projekt Magerene under American director Michael Simpson and has recorded with UK producer James Hope.

Jamie Cock graduated from the Elder Conservatorium with Honours in Piano Performance. Postgraduate studies followed at the Martinu Academy in Prague and later a Masters in chamber music at the Musikhochschule in Freiburg, Germany, graduating with distinction. He has been the recipient of many awards, including the 1992 Geoffrey Parsons Award, and was a prize-winner at the 1998 Berlin Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Competition (violin/piano duo). He has presented concerts throughout Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

20 Something is playing at The Promethean, 116 Grote St, Adelaide, from 5-12 March.

www.adelaidefringe.com.au

Below (from left): 20-somethings Rachel McCall, Tamara Shinners and Jamie Cock
Farmers in Australia and throughout the world stand to benefit from a new research centre – the first of its kind in Australia – that aims to develop more advanced fertilisers for agricultural use.

The $5 million Mosaic Fertilizer Technology Research Centre, to be based at the University of Adelaide’s Waite Campus, brings together world-leading scientists and facilities.

The new centre has been established by the University of Adelaide in a joint commercial venture with one of the world’s largest fertiliser companies, the United States-based Mosaic Fertilizer LLC.

The Mosaic Fertilizer Technology Research Centre will develop and evaluate more efficient fertiliser products that will be marketed around the world. These new products will be more effective in delivering nutrition to plants. They will enable farmers to more efficiently produce higher yields in crops to meet ever-increasing demand.

The new centre builds on an existing relationship between the University and Mosaic. Mosaic has previously obtained an option to commercialise two fertiliser technologies developed jointly by the University and CSIRO Land and Water, emerging from the research of Professor Mike McLaughlin, Dr Sam Stacey and the University/CSIRO research team.

Professor McLaughlin (Professorial Research Fellow) and Dr Stacey (Senior Research Fellow) – both with the University’s School of Earth & Environmental Sciences – will lead the work of the Mosaic Fertilizer Technology Research Centre.

Under an agreement with the University’s commercial development company, Adelaide Research & Innovation (ARI) Pty Ltd, Mosaic will fund research at the new centre in return for commercialisation rights and a share of the intellectual property.

“Through this research centre at the University of Adelaide, Mosaic’s global operations will have access to world-leading expertise and facilities in the Asia-Pacific region. This will expand and enhance Mosaic’s capabilities in new product development and evaluation.

“The research group’s innovation will play an important role in helping to provide leading-edge products to agricultural customers across the world.”

Professor McLaughlin said the new research centre would enable the University of Adelaide to expand its current research in this area, and to develop new techniques for fertiliser formulation and evaluation.

“As well as providing research to underpin the development of new fertiliser technologies, a major part of the centre’s role will be to contribute to the evaluation of Mosaic’s products under laboratory and field conditions, both here in Australia and overseas,” Professor McLaughlin said.

“The close relationship with Mosaic will provide us with a clearly defined pathway for our research outcomes to benefit agriculture.”

Story by David Ellis
From country village to Confucius Institute

When the University of Adelaide’s new Professor of Chinese Studies, Mobo Gao, talks about rural China, it is with close personal knowledge.

Professor Gao was born and bred in a Chinese village of about 350 people, a small farming community called Gao village in Jiangxi Province in southern China. His book Gao Village: Rural Life in Modern China (Hurst and Hawaii University Press), is widely used as an undergraduate textbook and he is currently working on a sequel.

Professor Gao has just started at the University of Adelaide as its first Director of the Confucius Institute, launched last year in partnership with Shandong University.

“I will be working with our partner Shandong University to teach Chinese language in Adelaide and to promote cultural understanding and exchange,” Professor Gao said.

“Another significant part of our mission is to promote Australian culture to the Chinese and help the South Australian business community build opportunities within the Chinese market.”

Professor Gao is a leading authority on the Chinese Cultural Revolution in the Maoist era. His latest book, The Battle of China’s Past: Mao and the Cultural Revolution, is a reassessment of the Cultural Revolution and will be published this month.

The book is to be launched in London and is expected to create some controversy. It tackles the extremely negative depiction of China under Mao in recent publications and argues that most people in China, including the rural poor and the urban working class, actually benefited from Mao’s policies.

“Under Mao there was a comprehensive welfare system for urban residents and basic health and education provision in rural areas,” Professor Gao said. “These policies were reversed under the leadership of Deng Xiaoping.”

Professor Gao completed his undergraduate degree at Xiamen University in China and then won scholarships to continue postgraduate studies in the UK.

“I was sent by the Chinese Government to the UK,” he said.

“The scholarships were awarded on academic merit and I was considered the correct class background to receive one because I was from a poor peasant family.”

He left China in 1977, did his Masters with Distinction at the University of Essex and then returned to China to teach English at Xiamen University for five years. He then went back to Essex and completed his PhD, funded by scholarships he won in the UK, and worked at various UK universities before taking a lectureship at Griffith University in Queensland.

In 1985 he moved to the University of Tasmania where he was Associate Professor of Chinese Studies in the School of Asian Studies and Asian Languages.

Professor Gao has two roles at the University of Adelaide – half-time as the new head of the Confucius Institute and half-time as Professor of Chinese Studies.

In the latter role he will be working on a sequel to his Gao Village book. The first edition was published in 1999 and is a series of thematic case studies of the village’s development since 1949. The second book will have new case studies, bringing the book up to date.

Professor Gao is also author of Mandarin Chinese: An Introduction. www.confucius.adelaide.edu.au

Asian Studies

Above: Professor Mobo Gao

Photo by Robyn Mills

Story by Robyn Mills

Amber is our Sports Star of Year

World Champion rower and Olympian Amber Halliday (pictured) has been named the Advertiser-Channel 7 Sports Star of the Year for 2007.

Amber and rowing partner Marguerite Houston had an outstanding 2007, winning gold at the World Rowing Championships in Munich by 0.23 seconds, and being named Rowing Australia’s women’s team of the year.

Amber has earned a place in the 2008 Rowing Australia team, putting her in good stead for selection for the Beijing Olympics.

She was chosen for the Sports Star of the Year award out of a strong field of 10 South Australian nominees, including cyclist Stuart O’Grady, cricketer Karen Rolton and tennis player Lleyton Hewitt.

The winner was announced in a prestigious ceremony at the National Wine Centre hosted by Channel 7 sports reader Chris Dittmar.

Amber, a University of Adelaide graduate with a Bachelor of Social Sciences (Psychology) and a Bachelor of Media, began rowing as a student at Pembroke School and later joined the Adelaide University Boat Club.

She made her international debut in 1999 and now has four world championship titles to her name. At the Athens Olympics in 2004, despite being injured in a car accident 100 days before the event, Amber and partner Sally Newmarch set a world-best time in their heat before finishing fourth in the final.

Amber is featured on the University of Adelaide’s Life Impact website: www.adelaide.edu.au/lifeimpact
University of Adelaide geneticist Dr Jozef Gecz and a team of scientists from Belgium and the UK have achieved a major breakthrough in discovering the causes of intellectual disability.

Dr Gecz, a senior researcher who is based at the Women’s and Children’s Hospital in Adelaide, has collaborated with an international research team to reveal that various mutations of a small part of the X chromosome lead to mental retardation.

The breakthrough was reported in last month’s issue of the *American Journal of Human Genetics* and comes after an intensive collaboration with scientists from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium, the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute in Cambridge, England and the Genetics of Learning Disability Service in New South Wales.

Dr Gecz said the duplicated genes – dubbed HSD17B10 and HUWE1 – produced excess protein, which appeared to be the trigger leading to intellectual disability.

Intellectual disability affects 1-3% of the world’s population, with 30% more men affected than women. The researchers used specialised molecular technology to study the X chromosomes of more than 500 families diagnosed with various forms of X chromosome-linked mental retardation.

In six of the families they discovered that a certain part of the X chromosome had been duplicated. Four of these families were from Australia. Moreover, in one of these genes, HUWE1, they identified a further three mutations in another three families, one of them from Australia.

“HUWE1 is a protein, which regulates TP53, an important tumour suppressor gene. One of TP53’s functions is to regulate the renewal of neuronal cells in the brain. That is where we see the connection with HUWE1 and intellectual disability,” Dr Gecz said.

“Through this research we hope to uncover the important role that these genes and their proteins play in the normal brain development and thus learning and memory.”

The collaboration between the University of Adelaide and the Belgian and UK researchers started back in 2001 at a scientific meeting in Italy and gathered pace at the World Congress of Human Genetics in Brisbane in 2006.

Dr Gecz’s research has been funded by a National Health and Medical Research Council program grant, which is administered through the University of Adelaide.

“Our next step is to see how frequent these mutations are among the isolated cases. Also, we will try to understand the molecular pathology of the associated disease and investigate the routes for possible future interventions and treatments,” he said.

Dr Gecz is a Senior Research Fellow in the School of Paediatrics and Reproductive Health.

“The collaboration between the University of Adelaide and the Belgian and UK researchers started back in 2001 at a scientific meeting in Italy and gathered pace at the World Congress of Human Genetics in Brisbane in 2006.”

*Above: Dr Jozef Gecz* 
*Photo by Candy Gibson*
Obesity, Physical, Psychological and Sexual well-being: Implications for Ageing Men

A Research Tuesday with Professor Gary Wittert

Compared with women, Australian men have higher rates of physical and psychological disease and death, and are also less likely to adopt a healthier lifestyle. Major studies have found that men suffer from a high burden of reproductive health disorders, chronic physical and psychological disease, and a high prevalence of risk factors for cardiovascular disease, diabetes and sexual and lower urinary tract dysfunction. These studies highlight the need for gender-focused health care at a practitioner level, and a specific men’s health strategy at a public health level so that men are better educated about their health.

Venue and Time:
Tuesday 11 March at 5.30pm
Bonython Hall, North Terrace Campus.
Duration is approximately one hour.
Admission is free.

Bookings essential:
Email: research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au
Phone: (08) 8303 3692

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

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Lane Print & Post

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.
Gratitude offered to those with helpful attitude

Alumni

Donors and other supporters have been recognised for the significant contribution they made to the University of Adelaide last year. ‘Gratitude with Attitude’, the University’s annual thank you event, was held in Bonython Hall late last year, bringing together University staff and more than 300 alumni, friends, industry partners and other supporters of the University.

The evening function saw University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha speak on the impact that supporters made in 2007 and how their contribution will strengthen the University’s future goals.

“It is a fitting time to come together to thank those who have made considerable contributions that have impacted many lives along the way,” Professor McWha said.

“We now look to the future. The University of Adelaide doesn’t just want to be one of Australia’s leading universities, or even one of the country’s most research intensive universities – the University of Adelaide wants to be recognised internationally as a great research university.

“The University’s future success in being recognised as a great research university will depend on the partnerships it develops with industry, government and the community, and it will be strengthened by the generosity of our friends and benefactors.”

As well as formal recognition, guests were entertained by the ‘Fat Ballerinas’ – two oversized performers on stilts – and the Bruce Hancock Trio, whose members are all connected to the University of Adelaide’s Elder Conservatorium of Music.

Photos from the event can be viewed online at: www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/gallery/

Music greats named Distinguished Alumni

A husband and wife team are the latest University of Adelaide Distinguished Alumni. Beryl Kimber OBE and Clemens Leske AM were presented with the Distinguished Alumni Awards in recognition of their outstanding careers and contribution to music and the Elder Conservatorium.

Ms Kimber is acknowledged as one of Australia’s leading violinists and teachers and, during her distinguished international performing career, was soloist with every major British orchestra.

She is regarded as a towering figure in the Elder Conservatorium of Music’s long history, where she was Associate Professor of Violin from 1964 until 1998. As a teacher she attracted some of the most gifted young violinists from around the country.

Mr Leske achieved a distinguished national and international profile as a pianist while also making an outstanding educational, artistic and administrative contribution to the Elder Conservatorium of Music, teaching there until 1998.

He made his concert debut with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in 1947 and has been soloist with symphony orchestras throughout Australia and in the United States.

He was for many years Director of the Elder Conservatorium, served as Dean of the Faculty of Music and counts among his past students many of Australia’s most distinguished pianists.

Distinguished Alumni Award NOMINATIONS

The University’s Development and Alumni office is now accepting nominations for the 2008 Distinguished Alumni Awards. The awards recognise outstanding service to the University of Adelaide, the community and/or significant contributions in their chosen fields. Nominations are open to any person who meets the definition of an alumnus, being a graduate, present or former student, or past or present staff member.

The rules for the awards and information on the nomination process are available at www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni or by phone: +61 8 8303 5800.

Nominations should be forwarded in writing to: Alumni Relations Assistant Development and Alumni University of Adelaide SA 5005

AUSTRALIA
Graduates, staff and friends receive Australia Day Honours

Honours

Members of the University of Adelaide’s alumni community have again been strongly represented in the latest round of official honours.

On Australia Day, more than 20 graduates and staff received honours.

University of Adelaide staff member Professor Michael Sawyer, Professor of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for “service to medicine in the field of child and adolescent mental health as a researcher and educator”.

Professor Sawyer is Head of the Research & Evaluation Unit, which is connected with the Women’s Children’s Hospital and the University’s disciplines of Paediatrics and Psychiatry. He was recognised because of his longstanding work with the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund, which is now the largest non-government provider of mental health research funding in Australia.

Professor Sawyer is chair of the fund’s research committee, which provides funding for PhD and postdoctoral researchers throughout Australia.

This year, two Friends of the University, both members of the Heritage Foundation Committee, also received Australia Day honours. They were: the Hon. Dean Brown, who was made an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO) for “service to the Parliament of South Australia, to the promotion of economic development and reform, and through enhancing business and investment opportunities”; and Mr Theo Maras, who was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for “service to the building and construction industry in South Australia, and to the Greek community through a range of administrative roles and the promotion of Hellenic culture and tradition in Australia”.

Among the graduates and staff to receive honours were:

Companion in the Order of Australia (AC)
Emeritus Professor Denise Irene Bradley
(Dip Ed 1966)
for service to higher education through leadership and sector-wide governance, to the promotion of information-based distance learning, and to the advancement of Australian educational facilities internationally.

Officer in the Order of Australia (AO)
The Honourable John Neil Andrew
(Prof Cert Arbitration 2005)
for service to the Parliament of Australia through the advancement of parliamentary administration and reform, and to the community in the areas of agricultural research, development and education.

Professor John Findlay
(B Ag Sc 1986, B Ag Sc (Hons) 1967, Ph D 1971)
for service to medicine in the field of reproductive endocrinology as a researcher through contributions to the regulation and promotion of assisted reproductive technique and treatment, and to the development of national and international health programs.

Dr Adam Jamrozik
(Dip Soc Sc 1986, B A (Hons) 1989)
for service to sociology as an educator, researcher and author, particularly through contributions to social policy in Australia.

Professor John James McNeil
(M B B S 1971)
for service to preventive medicine and to epidemiology as a researcher and educator and as a contributor to the development of public health policy.

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)
Dr Arthur Ray Beckwith
(R D A 1932, D Univ 2004)
for service to the Australian wine industry through contributions towards enhancing the quality and efficiency of the winemaking process.

Mrs Ailsa Hill-Ling
(B Sc 1955, Dip Ed 1979)
for service to the community, particularly through St Ann’s College.

Professor David Kemp
(B Sc (Hons) 1969, Ph D 1973)
for service to medical research as a molecular biologist, particularly in the areas of tropical health and infectious diseases, through contributions to Indigenous health and to professional organisations.

Mr David Lindh
(LL B 1969)
for service to business, particularly within the resources and energy sectors as a company director, and to equestrian sport.

Mr Mark Lloyd
(B Sc 1973)
for service to the tourism and hospitality industry as a contributor to the development of the McLaren Vale region as a premium wine and food tourism destination, as a wine maker, and to the arts.

Master Peter John Norman
(LL B 1971)
for service to the law, particularly through contributions in the areas of crime prevention, forensic science and offender welfare.

Ms Elizabeth Raupach
(B A 1975, Dip Ed 1978)
for service to the visual and performing arts, particularly in the areas of education, administration and training.

Mr Colin Read
(LL B 1979)
for service to the community of Noarlunga through a range of aged welfare, service and local government organisations, and to Technical and Further Education in South Australia.

Professor Michael Sawyer
(Prof Cert Arbitration 2005)
for service to medicine in the field of child and adolescent mental health as a researcher and educator, particularly through contributions to the design of new programs of intervention and through the promotion of community awareness.

Dr Arthur Woods
(LL B 1953)
for service to medicine in the field of anaesthetics as a clinician, teacher and examiner, and to the community.

Public Service Medal (PSM)
Mr Andrew Close
(B E (Civil) (Hons) 1973, M E 1977)
for outstanding public service in the development and use of computer-based systems to model water quality and water supply management within the Murray Darling Basin.

Dr Martin Parkinson
(LL B 1980, B Ec (Hons) 1981)
for outstanding public service as a key contributor to the 2007 Report of the Task Group on Emissions Trading and, more broadly, to Australia’s economic and financial relations.

Ms Joslene Mazel
(LL B 1999)
for outstanding public service to Indigenous communities in South Australia.

Emergency Services Medal (ESM)
Mr Graeme Wynwood
(Grad Cert Ret Nurs 1999)
South Australia Emergency Services.

Office of the Hon. Dean Brown

The Honourable Dean Brown
(Grad Cert Ret Nurs 1999)
for service to offender welfare.

Mr David Lindh
(LL B 1969)
for service to business, particularly within the resources and energy sectors as a company director, and to equestrian sport.

Mr Mark Lloyd
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Graduations

On the cusp of its historic 50th anniversary, the University’s School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design had good cause to celebrate when 125 of its students graduated last December.

Among them was mace-bearer Gary Shrubsole, the first indigenous person in the University’s history to graduate with a Bachelor of Architecture.

The 23-year-old joins the growing ranks of students responding to the demand for architects, both in Australia and Asia. In 2007 the profession was listed second only to accountancy in the Hays Recruitment “hottest jobs” list.

But in Gary’s case, the decision to study architecture was not spurred on by economic interests or market needs.

“According to my mother, even before I could say the word ‘architect,’ I knew it was the career path I wanted to take. In primary school I would produce a detailed house plan every time we were asked to draw our home environment,” Gary said.

Gary is hoping to secure work with a local firm specialising in residential designs or light commercial buildings.

While studying he undertook work experience for the State Government, contributing to an Aboriginal housing project. Thanks to sponsorship from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and the State Government, Gary attended an Aboriginal housing conference in Alice Springs, where he met some practising indigenous architects.

“It was a great privilege to meet Aboriginal architects such as Kevin O’Brien and Dillon Kombumerri, who inspired me greatly,” he said.

Gary is keen to work with indigenous communities at some stage of his career and also hopes to get some experience under his belt in foreign shores.

“London and Berlin both really appeal as job destinations. Not only are they great cities, but architecture as a profession is given more kudos in those countries than in Australia,” he said.

This year the School will take on a new direction, with an enhanced international focus and the addition of planning and urban design to its portfolio of degrees.

It will also build on its national reputation for being the first School of its kind in Australia to offer specialised indigenous studies in urban, rural and remote settings, including field trips to indigenous communities.

All indigenous students at the University of Adelaide are supported by Wilto Yerlo, the Centre for Australian Indigenous Research and Studies.

Story by Candy Gibson

Disability no impairment to Ross’s learning

Ross Simpson had a tougher path towards graduation than most of his fellow music students. Pictured on the steps of Elder Hall with his father Angus Simpson, a Professor specialising in water engineering in the School of Civil, Environmental and Mining Engineering, Ross is visually impaired and unable to sight read music.

He’s had to learn his pieces by memory with visual aid CCTV-based technologies and recordings, relying on his ears to get the most from his music.

Ross, 22, graduated with a Bachelor of Music in jazz performance.

He’s played the bass guitar since Year 9 and is a member of a new indie music trio, Eat Paint. Ross was full of praise for the help he has had from the University’s Disability Services, his teachers and his family. This year Ross is starting a degree in Mathematical Sciences.

Story by Robyn Mills
One of the Asia-Pacific’s most prominent architects and former University of Adelaide student, Hijjas Kasturi, joined more than 3600 students in December’s graduation celebrations.

Mr Kasturi was awarded an honorary doctorate (Doctor of the University (honoris causa)) for his service to society and the profession of architecture.

The Malaysia-based architect is responsible for some of the most distinctive buildings within the Asia-Pacific region, including some of Kuala Lumpur’s iconic skyscrapers. His honours include the Tokyo Creation Award in 1998 and the Malaysian Architects Institute Gold Medal in 2001, and his work has attracted commissions from around the world including the Middle East and Brazil.

Mr Kasturi has been involved in architectural education throughout his career and is still involved as a lecturer and external examiner.

“Mr Kasturi brings a strong commitment to education and has been a tireless advocate for the architectural and design professions throughout his career,” said the University of Adelaide’s Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor James McWha.

Mr Kasturi came to Adelaide in 1958 under the Colombo Plan, studying architecture and town planning and working as a draughtsman on the Master Plan for Elizabeth. He said he remembered Adelaide and the University fondly. He is a strong supporter of the University’s Heritage Foundation and has established scholarships in Architecture and Landscape Architecture.

The December graduations also saw a posthumous award of Doctor of Laws conferred on Justice Bradley Selway in recognition of the quality and breadth of his contribution to Australian legal scholarship.

Justice Selway, a former University of Adelaide adjunct Professor of Law who died in 2005, served as Crown Solicitor and then Solicitor-General for the State of South Australia before being appointed to the Federal Court of Australia.

Story by Robyn Mills

Above: Hijjas Kasturi (centre) at the December graduation ceremony, flanked by Member of the University’s Council and graduation presider Ian Kowalick, and the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor James McWha

Photo by Candy Gibson

Renowned architect receives University’s top honour

Graduations

Sam takes Oxford 101

Sam Stranks, the University of Adelaide’s 101st Rhodes Scholar, will leave for the University of Oxford this year to start a PhD in Condensed Matter Physics.

Sam (pictured) will join research efforts to find organic semi-conductors that could form the basis of next-generation solar cells.

When Sam arrives at Oxford next September he’ll be sporting a new RM Williams ‘Droughtbreaker’ ollskin engraved with his Rhodes Scholar number. This was recently presented to him by Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha in acknowledgement of Sam’s achievements.

Sam recently graduated with an Honours degree in the School of Chemistry and Physics, following a double degree in Science and Arts. He attended Scotch College and has been vice captain of the Scotch College Old Collegians’ Australian Rules football team.

Story by Robyn Mills
Looking forward to lunchtimes

Adelaide’s much-loved series of lunchtime concerts returns to Elder Hall at the University of Adelaide this month – and one of Adelaide’s ‘favourite daughters’ is returning to help launch the season.

Margaret Blades, widely regarded as one of Australia’s most outstanding violinists, will join the Director of the Elder Conservatorium of Music and pianist, David Lockett, on Friday 28 March to perform works by Ravel and Strauss.

Recently appointed Co-Concertmaster of the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, Margaret is a graduate of the universities of Adelaide and Tasmania and has an excellent reputation as a soloist, recitalist and music educator throughout the nation.

She is well known to Adelaide audiences, having grown up in Adelaide, held senior positions with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, been a teacher with the Elder Conservatorium, and performed at numerous lunch hour concerts.

“Elder Hall is a venue that I know very well, and love,” Margaret said. “I have worked with David (Lockett) over many years and we’ve done a lot of recitals together, but we’ve not played these particular sonatas together before.”

The program includes Ravel’s ‘jazzy’ violin sonata and the exuberant sounds of Richard Strauss’s optimistic and youthful violin sonata.

It will be an excellent opportunity for Adelaide audiences to hear Margaret’s ‘new’ violin, a 1710 Italian instrument made by Giovaffredo Cappa. The violin is on loan to Margaret thanks to the kind support of Australian businesswoman Janet Holmes à Court.

“It’s a beautiful instrument,” Margaret said. “A lot of older instruments, whilst they’re beautiful, often don’t project because they’re meant to be played in a small room. But this violin really carries in a big hall, and I’m very excited to be playing it in Elder Hall.”

The lunchtime concert series continues in April, with April’s first concert by the internationally acclaimed Australian String Quartet (see story on page 9). The remainder of April is dedicated to the Cellos at Lunch mini-series. Featuring six concerts each weekday on 11 and 14-18 April, Cellos at Lunch is part of the Adelaide International Cello Festival (11-20 April). For more details about the cello festival, visit: www.adelaidecellofestival.com.au

ELDERHALL lunches are held every Friday at 1.10pm from 28 March until 27 June. Admission is $6 through the purchase of a program. These are available at the door from 12.30pm on the day of each concert. Special subscription gold passes are available for $75.

For more information call Claire on (08) 8303 5925.

Gold Pass giveaway

University of Adelaide alumni have the opportunity to win one of two free Gold Passes, valued at $75 each, giving the winner free entry to all Friday lunch hour concerts throughout the first semester, including Cellos at Lunch.

To be eligible for the free Gold Pass, you must be a registered alumnus. You can register online at www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/register or call the Development and Alumni office on (08) 8303 5800.

For your chance to win, email your name and postal address to alumni@adelaide.edu.au before 17 March.

Margaret Blades

Photo courtesy of the West Australian Symphony Orchestra

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