

# Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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## Adelaide gets animated!

### Digital Media

The South Australian Short Animation Festival Awards are on again at the University of Adelaide, giving the public the opportunity to see the talents of some of the State's best emerging animators.

The event will culminate in a public screening and awards presentation night on Thursday 19 June at the Flentje Theatre, Architecture building, North Terrace Campus (see ticket and booking information on page 18).

Sponsored by leading industry and education bodies – including the University of Adelaide – the awards help to unearth many new

animators, such as the winner of Best Animation for 2007, Masters in Digital Media student Christina Erdos.

“The SA Short Animation Festival Awards provide an exciting platform for animators to showcase their creative and technical talents in all visual arts and design fields,” said the Director of the Masters in Digital Media Program at the University of Adelaide, Dr Dean Bruton.

“Digital media production in South Australia has grown substantially in recent years. The University of Adelaide’s Masters in Digital Media program has become a key centre for animation and digital media production in the State and is helping to provide talented new animators to industry.

Above: Last year’s winner for Best Animation, *Daydreaming Nightmare* by Christina Erdos, was inspired by the style of the Disney/Pixar animated feature film *Monsters Inc.*

“The University is constantly expanding opportunities for short filmmaking, with many short digital animated films made each year in our Digital Media production suite.

“The awards help to celebrate the vital and exciting developments in the SA film, animation and games industry, and they recognise the integral role of creativity and innovation in the digital media production process,” he said.

continued on page 18



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From the Vice-Chancellor

I've often written about the need for greater investment in higher education in Australia – and, by that rationale, in our own University. But there are many people in the community who would be forgiven for thinking that higher education funding is at the very least adequate, if not ample.

One reason why this perception might arise is because of the myriad of funding announcements universities such as ours make or are part of every year. Australian Research Council grants, National Health and Medical Research Council grants, funding from the Federal and State governments for research centres... these are just some of the many ways in which our University earns funding so that we – as a not-for-profit organisation – can reinvest that funding into our education and research programs.

While we are extremely grateful for every cent we receive, and we are always very excited and proud to be able to make these kinds of announcements, the reality is that often the money we receive is not enough to cover the cost of the work.

Funding in higher education is becoming an increasing struggle every year, which puts our staff and facilities under pressure. More than ever we are relying on the generosity of our alumni and friends to provide much-needed support, such as for scholarships or the maintenance of our heritage buildings.

To give you a good example of the kind of scale we are dealing with, the University of Adelaide is currently committed to a capital works program costing \$400 million over four years. This money will go towards facilities and infrastructure on our North Terrace, Waite and Roseworthy campuses to significantly enhance our learning and teaching environment, strengthen our research capacity and contribute to our – and the State's – environmental sustainability. But it does not come easily and much of the money will be borrowed.

Higher education in general is expensive – research is also very expensive. For every dollar we earn in research,

the University needs to spend \$1.50 just to make that research happen. This is because most research agencies marginally fund research. It can be hard to understand what that means for a research-intensive university such as ours – it is a big issue, and yet we remain the State's premier organisation for research, making huge gains for South Australia and the nation. We want to continue to make those gains, and to grow our research at a national and international level.

These issues are the reason why the University of Adelaide has been striving to achieve sustainable financial growth in recent years. We must be sustainable in order to produce the level of education and research that the community demands of us.

I'm pleased to say that over the past six years we have consistently achieved excellent financial results, supported by strong growth in students and in research performance. In yet another strong financial performance, last year the University had an operating surplus of \$33.9 million and a 10% increase in net assets.

Our University contributes an enormous amount to the economy (education is now one of Australia's top exports), to the community through the quality of our education, through our research, and ultimately through our graduates who go on to make a unique contribution in their fields of employment and to society.

But it costs a lot to run a university such as ours, and there's no doubt that we could always do with more financial support.

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

## Art & Heritage Collections

A new exhibition in the Barr Smith Library, *South West Legends*, celebrates the traditional legends of the Nyungar people of the south-west corner of Western Australia.

The legends were recorded by anthropologist Daisy Bates in the early 1900s as told to her by Nyungar man George Winjan, and are preserved in the University of Adelaide's Special Collections.

Nyungar artist 'Tjyllyungoo' (Lance Chadd) produced a series of paintings inspired by the south-west legends.

A series of limited edition prints of the paintings will be on display, along with items that belonged to Daisy Bates, from 27 May to 27 July in the Barr Smith Library Foyer, North Terrace Campus.



*Wilgee (Ochre)* by artist 'Tjyllyungoo' (Lance Chadd), inspired by the south-west legends of the Nyungar people

■ Anna Rivett, Collections Officer, Art & Heritage Collections



# Students take lessons from UN

## Conference

“The Asia-Pacific Model United Nations Conference offers participants a forum for discussing global concerns in a context that closely parallels the ‘real world’”

Above:  
The United Nations Secretary-General's representative in Australia, Mr Abdullah Saleh Mbamba (front row, fifth from left), gathered with students to help launch the Asia-Pacific Model United Nations Conference (6-11 July)

Photo by David Ellis

Hundreds of university students from around the world are coming to Adelaide to debate global issues and produce resolutions for action in a simulated United Nations assembly.

Delegates appointed to 15 UN-style committees including a ‘Security Council’ and a ‘World Health Organisation’ will take positions on topics such as using genetically modified foods, the future for Iraq, and Israeli practices within the Occupied Territories.

To be hosted by the University of Adelaide, the Asia-Pacific Model United Nations Conference will be held in Adelaide for the first time from 6-11 July. This is its 14th year, with last year’s conference in New Zealand attracting more than 500 delegates.

The 2008 conference was recently launched by the UN Secretary-General’s representative in Australia, Mr Abdullah Saleh Mbamba, Director of the State Government’s Office for Youth Ms Tiffany Downing, and University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha.

Mr Mbamba, who is Director of the United Nations Information Centre for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, said: “The Asia-Pacific Model United Nations Conference offers participants a forum for discussing global concerns in a context that closely parallels the ‘real world’.”

He said the experience would stand the students in good stead for the future, and encouraged them more broadly to consider the kinds

of real-life issues the UN faced when dealing with global problems.

The conference is being organised by a committee of students from the University of Adelaide, University of South Australia and Flinders University, and has the support of the three universities and the State and Federal Governments.

Student conference organiser and ‘Secretary-General’ Andrew Antenucci said the conference gave participants the opportunity to learn about the workings of the United Nations and issues facing the world today. They would also build skills in research, debating and public speaking and have plenty of opportunity for social networking.

“Each of the 15 committees will produce a resolution on each of the two topics assigned. These will be debated on the last day in the General Assembly and the final resolutions will be presented to the United Nations,” said Andrew.

“It’s a wonderful opportunity for students to build new skills, learn about issues of global importance and the workings of the UN and meet people from other cultures from around the world. It’s also a great chance for Adelaide to show what it has to offer to all these young people from around the globe. These are undoubtedly the leaders of tomorrow.”

**Want to attend?**  
**More information about the Asia-Pacific Model United Nations Conference can be found at:**  
[www.amunc.net](http://www.amunc.net)

■ Story by Robyn Mills

## News in Brief

### \$50,000 business challenge returns

The University of Adelaide’s echallenge (Entrepreneurs’ Challenge) is a business plan competition run by the Entrepreneurship Commercialisation and Innovation Centre (ECIC).

The echallenge requires teams of two to six people (at least one of which must be a currently enrolled tertiary student) to develop a business plan for a new, previously unfunded concept.

Teams stand the chance to win up to \$50,000 in cash and prizes.

An information night about this year’s echallenge is being held from 5.30pm-7.00pm on Thursday 5 June at Piper Alderman, 167 Flinders Street, Adelaide. To RSVP, email [echallenge@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:echallenge@adelaide.edu.au) or call Zrinka Tokic on (08) 8303 7131.

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

### Who will be the Young Investigator of the Year?

One of South Australia’s most prestigious prizes for early career researchers is back – and applications are now being accepted.

The Young Investigator Award rewards excellence in South Australia’s young researchers in both science and their ability to communicate and ‘sell’ that science. The winner receives a \$10,000 award.

Researchers working in the field of women’s and children’s health are urged to apply. For more information and eligibility, visit the website:

[www.cywhs.sa.gov.au/yia/](http://www.cywhs.sa.gov.au/yia/)

### Mahler’s Third Symphony

The Adelaide debut of Mahler’s Third Symphony will be performed at the Festival Theatre on 28-29 June, featuring University of Adelaide choral director Carl Crossin.

The Elder Conservatorium of Music lecturer will collaborate with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra and Adelaide Symphony Chorus to perform the 90-minute symphony for the first time in Adelaide.

Tickets are available at BASS 131 246.  
[www.aso.com.au](http://www.aso.com.au)

### Free public lecture – medical physics

The South Australian branch of the Australian Institute of Physics will host the Claire Corani Memorial Public Lecture at 7.30pm on Thursday 5 June in the Napier 102 Lecture Theatre, Napier Building, North Terrace Campus.

The lecture, “Medical Physics: Exposure to radiation is not all bad news!”, will be given by Associate Professor Eva Bezak, Chief Physicist in the Department of Medical Physics at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.  
[www.physics.adelaide.edu.au/aip-sa](http://www.physics.adelaide.edu.au/aip-sa)

# Letter to the Editor

Thanks for the coverage on pages 10-11 of the symposium on the Ballets Russes ("Dance that sparked a cultural revolution", *Adelaidean*, May 2008).

By chance, I encountered at West Terrace Cemetery the grave of Madeline Parker, who toured Australia with the 1936 De Basil Ballet and who danced under the stage name of Mira Dimina. She danced here in Adelaide but struggled with an apparent throat infection. This was in fact leukaemia and she died here in November 1936, aged 24.

The Friends of West Terrace Cemetery conduct tours of the cemetery. These may be tailored to suit interests and time availability. Enquiries should be made in the first instance to the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority, phone (08) 8139 7400.

Bob Sutherland  
Member, The Friends of West Terrace Cemetery  
Hope Valley



## Got some feedback for us?

Letters to the Editor should be no more than 200 words and can be sent to:

The Editor, *Adelaidean*,  
Marketing & Strategic Communications,  
The University of Adelaide, SA 5005,  
or via email: [adelaidean@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:adelaidean@adelaide.edu.au)

Authors should include their name and contact details.

# Wound treatment aims to reduce scar tissue

## ■ Surgery

An Adelaide researcher has been awarded \$187,000 by the Federal Government to develop a novel treatment for wounds that reduce scar tissue.

Associate Professor Allison Cowin from the Women's and Children's Health Research Institute and the University of Adelaide is working on a treatment that will improve the healing of wounds and cut down on severe scarring.

Her work has attracted the attention of the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), which recently awarded her one of 22 development grants totalling \$4.4 million. This project has grown out of a previous NHMRC funded project, which was recently selected for the NHMRC's *10 of the Best* publication for 2008.

Associate Professor Cowin is leading a research team which has identified the important role played by a protein in altering cell proliferation and migration as a wound heals.

A novel antibody being developed by Associate Professor Cowin's research team suppresses this protein, fast tracking the healing process and leading to improved healing.



"The faster a wound heals, the better the body is protected against blood loss and infection," Associate Professor Cowin said. "But in its haste to heal, the body creates scar tissue that can cause chronic pain, deformity and disability. Children recovering from burns can be most affected, as scar tissue over joints limits their mobility, requiring repeated surgical interventions as their bodies grow.

"When the antibody is applied to wounds, the healing process is improved. Sufferers of burns and other injuries can look forward to the site of the injury looking as it did before the injury occurred," Associate Professor Cowin said.

Associate Professor Cowin is an affiliate of the University of Adelaide's Faculty of Health Sciences in the Discipline of Surgery.

Associate Professor Cowin's research could have benefits for patients for everything from minor wounds, such as this one (above), to severe burns and sores

Photo by Ozan Uzel



Dr Anton van den Hengel  
in the Australian Centre for  
Visual Technologies

Photo by Jennie Groom

# New company creates a world in 3D

## ■ Computer Science

“We are using the video footage to generate an accurate 3D model of Amsterdam”

Innovative new technology that creates 3D models from video has resulted in a new spinout company from the University of Adelaide’s Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences.

PunchCard Visual Technologies (PVT) is the brainchild of Associate Professor Anton van den Hengel from the School of Computer Science, who has led a team of researchers in developing the world-first software.

The software – called VideoTrace – allows users to quickly extract accurate three dimensional models from video. It is exclusively licensed to PVT, which was officially registered in March.

The cutting-edge software has widespread applications for the defence, film, architecture and resources industries, and is presently being trialled by some key market players including Google, Sony Pictures and Autodesk Media & Entertainment.

“This technology will allow people to generate a model of their house and place it in Google Earth, or a model of their car to drive through a video game,” Dr van den Hengel said.

“The same software will also allow property developers and architects to model a building in order to visualise the impact of its construction, where the shadows

will fall and how it sits with adjacent buildings.”

Tools currently exist that allow experts to develop 3D models for a range of applications, but they are costly, time-consuming and quite complex. VideoTrace is more sophisticated software, but very easy to use, according to Dr van den Hengel.

The United States recently flagged its interest in using the technology to help map and survey its entire coastline as part of a worldwide surveillance operation. While that project has been put on the backburner, the defence industry in general has expressed a desire to use VideoTrace to generate 3D models of cities from aerial footage.

Likewise, the resources sector has made inquiries about using the software to model an open cut mining operation in order to train new employees in a safe, virtual environment, which simulates real-life conditions.

Dr van den Hengel and his team are currently creating a model of Amsterdam for a client who is launching a bid to have the city listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage site.

“He has flown over Amsterdam to get a full aerial coverage of the city and has also filmed it from a boat to get the façade of the city. We are using the video footage to

generate an accurate 3D model of Amsterdam,” Dr van den Hengel said.

Punchcard Visual Technologies is also liaising with the film industry to help perfect the special effects process.

“When you put computer generated film into live video footage you need 3D models so you can figure out where the existing geometry should overlap and vice versa,” Dr van den Hengel said.

In another exciting development, a major video game company has also approached Dr van den Hengel’s team to help model European cities for a driving game.

“We haven’t got involved in (online computer game) *Second Life* yet, but that is definitely the kind of geometry we are interested in,” he said.

PunchCard Visual Technologies has received funding from the University and Adelaide Research & Innovation (ARI) as part of the Commercial Accelerator Scheme.

The company’s directors include Dr van den Hengel, Director of the Australian Centre for Visual Technologies, ARI Managing Director Rob Chalmers, and Didier Elzinga, a University of Adelaide graduate who is CEO of one of Australia’s leading digital effects companies, Rising Sun Pictures.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

## Diabetes alternative “safe” for pregnant women: study

An alternative treatment to insulin injections for pregnant women with gestational diabetes has been shown as safe and effective in a new trial led by researchers in Adelaide and Auckland.

A clinical trial of 751 women with gestational diabetes in Australia and New Zealand compared two treatments: insulin injections, and the oral anti-diabetic drug metformin.

The results of the trial, published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, show that the babies of mothers treated with metformin were no different from the babies of mothers treated with insulin alone, either at birth or at 6-8 weeks of age.

“No serious adverse effects were associated with the use of metformin,” said University of Adelaide Clinical Senior Lecturer Dr Bill Hague (Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynaecology).

“More than half the women taking metformin could be managed with tablets alone. If extra insulin was necessary, the dose was less than that required for women taking insulin alone,” he said.

Gestational diabetes is a complication in about 5% of pregnancies and is on the increase. Where the diabetes can't be controlled through diet and exercise, insulin therapy is often used to significantly improve the health outcomes for both baby and mother.

“But the use of insulin requires injections and women need to be educated in its use,” Dr Hague said. “Insulin therapy can also cause low blood glucose and weight gain in the mother, whereas use of metformin usually returns blood glucose to normal, rather than dropping it too low, and is also associated with maternal weight loss.

“Oral medication therefore can offer considerable advantages. Women in this trial certainly preferred to use metformin rather than insulin.

“To date, however, metformin use in pregnancy remains controversial – before this study there were only two reported small randomised trials comparing metformin with insulin,” he said.

Dr Hague said the children born within this trial were currently being assessed at two years of age, and further follow-up data were needed to establish long-term safety.



# Could we double pregnancy rates?

## ■ Obstetrics & Gynaecology

If trials are successful, researchers could also achieve the “holy grail” of IVF – a single embryo transfer

Pregnancy rates could be doubled for couples undertaking fertility treatment, thanks to a revolutionary project being trialled by the University of Adelaide.

Researchers from the University's Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynaecology have devised a new formula to significantly improve embryo implantation rates and reduce pregnancy complications in assisted reproductive technology (ART).

Early trial results involving mice are encouraging and provide proof-of-concept that the treatment doubles pregnancy rates.

Lead researcher Associate Professor Claire Roberts has been awarded \$294,750 by the Federal Government to demonstrate that the treatment is safe and improves pregnancy outcome and postnatal health in offspring.

“Assuming our success, the concept will be taken to the next stage in human trials with the help of the University's commercial partner for this technology, MediCult,” Associate Professor Roberts said.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) development grant is a major breakthrough for the 15% of couples in first world countries who are either infertile or suffer from recurrent miscarriages.

“Assisted reproductive technologies provide some hope for these couples, but they have a relatively poor success rate with only 15-40% of embryo transfers resulting in ongoing pregnancies, depending on maternal age,” Associate Professor Roberts said.

“Fertility in women declines significantly with age, and so too does the success of ART. Since women are delaying childbearing, ART is increasingly required to make couples' desire to have children a reality. Currently, 2-3% of the 250,000 annual births in Australia are a result of ART and this number is expected to rise.”

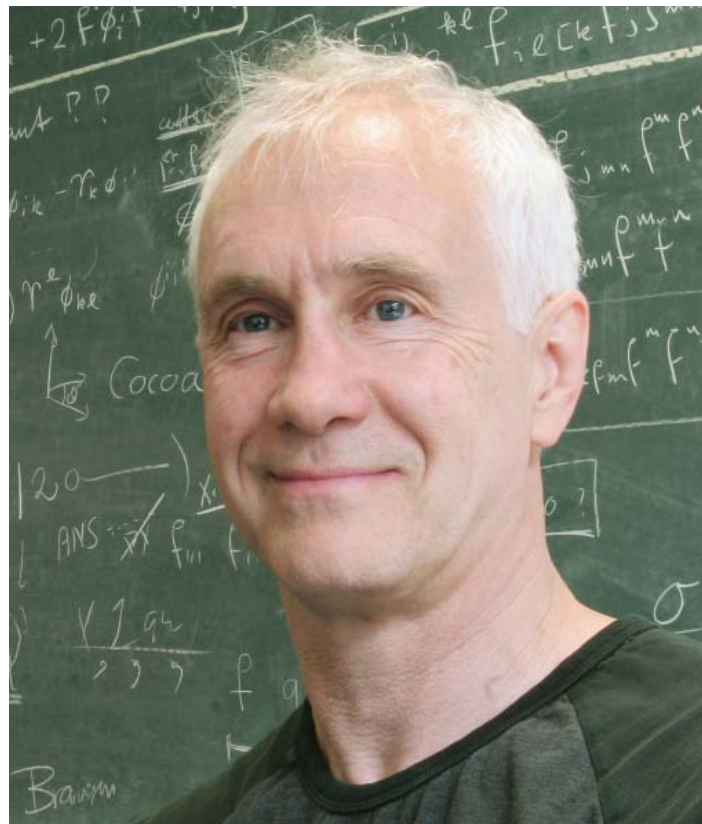
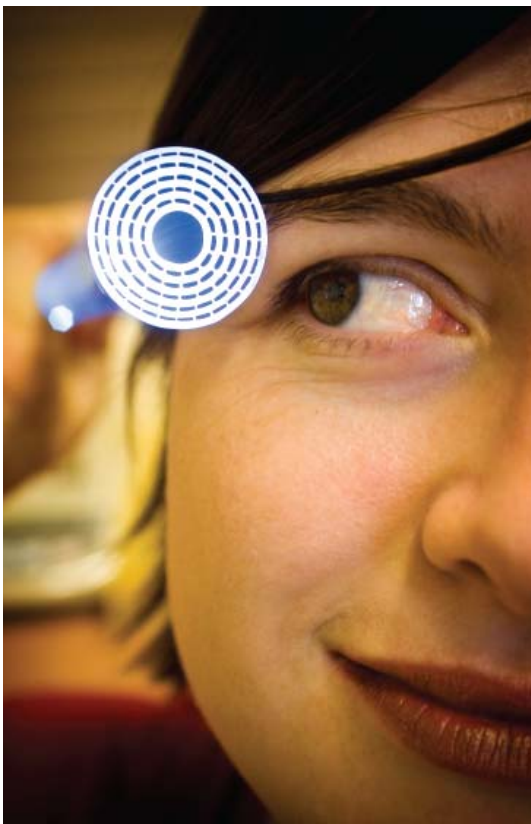
Existing ART procedures triple the risk of pregnancy complications such as miscarriage, preeclampsia, intrauterine growth restriction and pre-term births, some of which are life-threatening to the mother and/or her baby. Associate Professor Roberts and her colleagues hope to correct these problems with the new treatment.

If trials are successful, researchers could also achieve the “holy grail” of IVF – a single embryo transfer, which reduces the incidence of multiple pregnancies in ART and maximises the chance of a successful pregnancy.

“ART techniques act primarily to facilitate conception, rather than to promote embryo implantation and placentation. Therefore, they do not assist in some forms of infertility and pregnancy complications. We hope this new product will address that,” Associate Professor Roberts said.

The project team also includes Associate Professor Jeremy Thompson and Associate Professor Mark Nottle, all members of the School of Paediatrics and Reproductive Health at the University of Adelaide.

■ Story by Candy Gibson



Far left:  
Professor Tanya Monro  
Photo by Jennie Groom

Left:  
Professor  
Michael Eastwood  
Photo by Ben Osborne

# It's an honour to be a Fellow

## ■ Research

“This will provide a vehicle for embarking on a whole new area of research, and not just blue-sky research but research leading to real applications with major technological and commercial benefits”

University of Adelaide professors have been awarded two out of the 14 highly sought after Australian Research Council (ARC) Federation Fellowships in the 2008 round of awards.

ARC Federation Fellowships will go to Professor Tanya Monro, Chair of Photonics in the School of Chemistry and Physics, and Professor Michael Eastwood, Australian Professorial Fellow in the School of Mathematical Sciences.

Professor Monro is one of the world's leaders in optical fibre technology. She is developing a new platform for exploring and controlling interactions between light and matter using new classes of optical fibres. This will lead to innovative applications in medical research, defence and environmental science, and will help the University of Adelaide develop one of the best laboratory facilities in optical fibre research in the world.

“I am overwhelmed by the honour and opportunity that this Fellowship presents,” Professor Monro said.

“As well as recognition of the work my team and I are already doing, this will provide a vehicle for embarking on a whole new area of research, and not just blue-sky research but research leading to real applications with major technological and commercial benefits for Australia.”

Professor Monro is Director of the University's Centre of Expertise in Photonics within the School of

Chemistry and Physics. Her work has already received support from both State and Federal governments, as well as the Defence Science & Technology Organisation.

She is a member of the South Australian Premier's Science & Research Council, a founding steering member of the Royal Institution of Australia, and Chair of the University of Adelaide Defence Committee. In 2007, she was awarded the Women in Physics Lecture by the Australian Institute of Physics and, in 2006, a Bright Spark Award for Australia's Top 10 Scientific Minds under 45 by *Cosmos* Magazine.

In 2000, she received a Royal Society University Research Fellowship at the Optoelectronics Research Centre at the University of Southampton in the UK. She came to the University of Adelaide in early 2005 as the inaugural Chair of Photonics.

Professor Eastwood is one of Australia's most eminent mathematicians and among the world's foremost experts in his field – conformal differential geometry.

His new research aims to establish novel links between neighbouring fields of mathematics, focusing on the interaction between geometry, differential equations and symmetry in conformal differential geometry. Advances in this field will provide essential tools in fundamental science.

Differential geometry is a branch of mathematics studying shape by using calculus (involving rates of change) and differential equations. Conformal geometry allows distortion in distance while preserving angles.

“Naturally, I'm thrilled by this award,” Professor Eastwood said. “I was also pleased to see Senator Kim Carr's comment about the need to develop greater capacity in the physical sciences and mathematics for Australia to be globally competitive.” Physical sciences and mathematics were strongly represented in this year's group of Federation Fellows.

Professor Eastwood has been awarded several ARC Fellowships, including three Senior Research Fellowships and one Australian Professorial Fellowship.

In 1992 he was awarded the Australian Mathematical Society Medal for distinguished research in the mathematical sciences and in 2005 he was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science.

Professor Eastwood obtained his PhD in mathematics at Princeton University in the US and then worked as a Research Fellow at the Mathematical Institute of University of Oxford before joining the University of Adelaide in 1985. His Federation Fellowship will be administered by the Australian National University.

■ Story by Robyn Mills



# Platypus study reveals 160 million years of separation

## ■ Genetics

“The platypus genome provides an enormous resource for every scientist interested in the biology of monotremes and in the evolution of mammals, including humans”

Photo courtesy of Ian Elton

A four-year international research project to sequence the entire genetic record of the platypus over the past 160 million years has revealed new insights into the biology of Australia’s famous icon.

University of Adelaide geneticists Dr Frank Grützner and Dr Enkhjargal Tsend-Ayush, together with more than 100 researchers worldwide, have collaborated on the platypus genome project, published as the cover story last month in the world’s most prestigious scientific journal, *Nature*.

The leading authors of the paper, including Dr Grützner, revealed the key discoveries that researchers have made in the course of the project.

“The platypus is an Australian treasure for science because it is unique for a number of reasons,” Dr Grützner said. “They are our most distant mammalian relative, yet they are so different to us.

“They lay eggs and they suckle their young after they hatch, although they don’t have nipples, so the milk is secreted from the abdominal surface.

“They have specialised neurons that help them catch their prey in the mud, they are venomous, they regulate their body temperature at 32 degrees (not 37 as most other mammals), their reproductive system is a mixture of reptilian and

mammalian and they have 10 sex chromosomes.

“Now with the entire genome sequenced we can investigate their extraordinary features at the molecular level.”

Dr Grützner made international headlines in 2004 when he discovered that the sex chromosomes of the platypus – our most distant mammalian relatives – were much closer to birds than humans.

“We now know that platypus sex chromosomes have no relation at all to mammals,” Dr Grützner said.

One has to go back more than 160 million years to find the last common ancestor between humans and the platypus, the earliest living branch of the mammalian lineage.

Dr Grützner said evolution filters out important genes and the platypus genome sequencing project will help scientists look for vital clues in the development of all mammals.

Dr Grützner and his group within the School of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Adelaide have been one of the key collaborators of the project, which has provided the first completed genome sequence of any mammal in Australia.

“Our work on this project is a long-term investment that helps our own research on the platypus. We can now identify platypus genes within

minutes of searching a database whereas previously it could take up to a year, or longer.

“The platypus genome provides an enormous resource for every scientist interested in the biology of monotremes and in the evolution of mammals, including humans.”

The project, which started in 2004, was led by the Washington University Sequencing Centre, with funding from the National Institutes of Health in the United States as well as the Australian Research Council.

Dr Grützner joined the School of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Adelaide in 2005 as a lecturer and took up an ARC Australian Research Fellowship in 2006.

Originally from Germany, he completed his PhD at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics in Berlin. In 2001 he secured an ARC Postdoctoral Fellowship with Professor Jenny Graves at the Australian National University, studying reptiles, marsupials and monotremes. Professor Graves is also one of the leading authors of this *Nature* paper.

Dr Grützner was among eight South Australians to be named a Young Tall Poppy of Science for 2007/08 in recognition of his outstanding work.

■ Story by Candy Gibson





# New lamb has export flavour

## Animal Science

Main photo (from left): Research partners Richard Gunner, the owner of Feast! Fine Foods, and University of Adelaide chief investigator Dr Zibby Kruk with Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Minister the Hon. Rory McEwen, taste meatballs made from some of the new lamb at Graduates Restaurant, TAFE SA Regency Campus

Top right: TAFE SA students preparing some lamb meatballs for tasting

Bottom right: Main course consisted of different kinds of lamb meat produced through olive oil and garlic diets used as part of the research project

Photos by Randy Larcombe

Feeding lambs a diet rich in olive oil and garlic can provide additional flavours and other benefits that could assist in increasing lamb meat exports, new research at the University of Adelaide has found.

The findings are the result of a three-year project called "Value-adding South Australian Lamb", funded through the Premier's Science and Research Fund.

Led by University of Adelaide researcher Dr Zbigniew ("Zibby") Kruk from the School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, the project aimed to develop Australian lamb products that could become recognised as being unique and of superior quality.

The research – based at the Roseworthy Campus – has built on the University's expertise in using diet to obtain optimum results from livestock, and in flavour and sensory testing.

"Despite growing consumer demand for and awareness of lamb, the market overseas – such as Korea and Japan – has not yet reached its full potential. This is partly because the characteristic flavour of lamb is not fully appreciated by many consumers, especially those in overseas markets, and also because

lamb has a distinctive 'sheep odour'," Dr Kruk said.

"We're hoping that the results of our project will open the possibility of targeting new markets, giving consumers a new appreciation for lamb."

The research looked at a range of natural diets that could be fed to lambs to produce differences in flavour, meat colour and odour. Of all the diets tested in the first two years, the clear winners were olive oil and garlic, which produced many positive results, such as reduced sheep odour, higher proportion of unsaturated fat, and reduced melting point of fat in the meat.

One of the unexpected benefits of the project was the discovery that lambs fed on garlic grew almost twice as fast as those on regular diets, with obvious potential efficiencies for meat production.

"While garlic and olive oil affected many different traits of the lamb meat separately, more research is now needed to investigate the use of these ingredients in combination," Dr Kruk said.

The results of the three-year project were recently put to the test at a special dinner held by the

project's research partners: the University of Adelaide, the South Australian Government, TAFE SA and industry partner Feast! Fine Foods.

Held at Graduates Restaurant, TAFE SA Regency Campus, the dinner brought together members of government, business and academia to taste and score the new lamb varieties on offer. Among those trying the new lamb was South Australia's Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Minister, the Hon. Rory McEwen.

"Value-adding South Australian Lamb is an exciting project for the State's food industry, with great potential to generate increased demand for lamb domestically and in growing export markets," Mr McEwen said.

"With the globalisation of food markets and more discerning consumers, it's important for South Australian producers to find a competitive edge. We can do that through improved quality of meat, which can only come through the kind of innovation and collaborative effort this project has demonstrated," he said.

■ Story by David Ellis

# Global impact of local land laws

## ■ Law

The University of Adelaide Law School is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year with a commemoration of an even older event, the birth of the Torrens Title system of land ownership.

The Torrens Title system, where a register of land title is maintained by the State, was introduced 150 years ago in South Australia and is now commonly used in many Commonwealth and other countries throughout the world. By having one certificate of title detailing all previous transactions, land ownership is made more secure and transfer of ownership less complex.

On 20 June at the National Wine Centre, the Law School is hosting the symposium "150th Anniversary of Torrens Title: Creation, Establishment, Challenges".

**The speakers are five of Australia's leading experts in the field:**

- John Corcoran (President-elect, Law Council of Australia);
- Professor Rosalind Croucher (Australian Law Reform Commission);
- Emeritus Professor Horst Lucke (University of Adelaide);

- Professor Murray Raff (Dean, University of Canberra School of Law); and
- Associate Professor Greg Taylor (Monash University Law School).

"By and large, the Torrens Title system has proven itself to be a simple and useful system of land title by registration and this success has resulted in its adoption in many places around the world," said Dr Paul Babie, Associate Dean (Research) in the University of Adelaide's Law School and Chair of the Law 125 Committee.

"With its 150th anniversary coinciding with the Law School's 125th anniversary, we thought it a good opportunity to commemorate both at once and discuss what Torrens Title has meant for land law over the years and the current challenges it faces."

As well as the symposium, the Law School is also holding the Law 125 Distinguished Speaker Series, with lectures presented by outstanding legal scholars and representatives from Australia and overseas.

"The reputation of the speakers and the breadth of their research interests clearly demonstrates that the University of Adelaide Law School is an international leader in legal research," Dr Babie said.

The University of Adelaide Law School was founded in 1883 as one of the small group of institutions that pioneered the teaching of law in the English tradition as a university discipline in the 19th century. It is the second oldest law school in the country to teach the LLB degree, after the University of Melbourne.

Until 1950 it operated largely as a small co-operative enterprise between one full-time university teacher and practising members of the legal profession.

Today the University of Adelaide Law School is one of Australia's premier law schools and a centre of cutting-edge legal research. It has more than 1400 students and a long history of producing graduates who have gone on to become leaders in legal and political arenas. There are 40 members of full-time and adjunct staff and many more professional instructors.

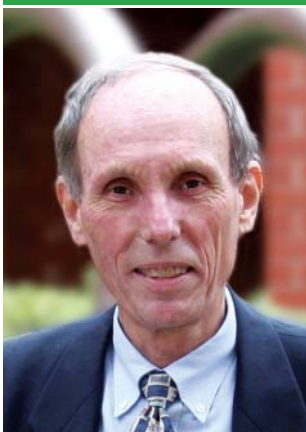
**For more information on the Torrens Title symposium or the Law 125 Distinguished Speaker Series, please email: [paul.babie@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:paul.babie@adelaide.edu.au) or visit: [www.law.adelaide.edu.au/torrens-title-symposium](http://www.law.adelaide.edu.au/torrens-title-symposium) [www.law.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.law.adelaide.edu.au)**

■ Story by Robyn Mills



FREE PUBLIC LECTURE

## 21st Century: Present and Future Challenges



### Research Tuesdays – sharing great research with the community Tuesday 10 June at 5.30pm, Professor Stephen Lincoln

The beginning of the 21st century presents the interwoven challenges of climate change, rapid population growth and increasing freshwater, food and energy pressures. How has humanity met these challenges so far, and how is it likely to do so in the future? What innovative alternative energy ideas are we producing, and what impact will they have on water and food supply, and climate change? Finally, are there grounds for optimism?

#### Venue:

Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Building.  
Duration approximately one hour. Admission free.

#### Bookings essential:

Email: [research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au)  
Phone: 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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# University embarks on Singapore growth strategy

## ■ Partnership

Singapore is now the University of Adelaide's third largest source of overseas students

Photo by Igor Tymoshenko

The University of Adelaide has announced plans to make Singapore its second largest campus within two years, projecting a doubling of student numbers by 2010 with the help of its education partner, Ngee Ann Kongsi.

The introduction of new postgraduate programs and research collaborations with Singapore is expected to make the newly-named University of Adelaide Ngee Ann – Singapore Campus a regional centre of excellence.

The Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Adelaide, Professor James McWha, told a gathering of about 200 alumni in Singapore in April that the quality brands of both the University and Ngee Ann would help facilitate this development.

"The University values its close bonds with Singapore and we are proud to have produced so many distinguished alumni from this region who are leaders in their fields," he said.

Student numbers are projected to jump from 456 to 900 by the end of 2009, with further growth planned over the next decade. This increase will include the recruitment of students from other countries in the

region, as well as from Singapore.

Postgraduate programs offered by the University in Singapore will also be expanded over the next three years, with a Master of Accounting degree and Graduate Diploma of Wealth Management among the new courses. Entrepreneurship and International Trade are also likely to be offered.

Australia is the leading destination for Singaporean higher education students, with 55% of the market, followed by the United States and United Kingdom with 19% and 18% respectively.

Singapore is now the University of Adelaide's third largest source of overseas students. The majority of them study in Singapore and these numbers are expected to increase substantially in the next decade.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) of the University of Adelaide, Professor John Taplin, said academic staff and postgraduate students would spend extended periods of time at the Ngee Ann – Singapore Campus in future.

"Opportunities for research collaboration in strategically important areas for both Australia and Singapore will also be explored, and public lectures will be

presented by University of Adelaide professors on a regular basis," Professor Taplin said.

The announcement coincided with the University of Adelaide and Ngee Ann Kongsi's 10th anniversary celebratory dinner on Friday 18 April as joint education partners in Singapore.

At the dinner Dr Tony Tan, Chairman of Singapore's National Research Foundation, launched the Singapore Adelaide Alumni Fund, which will provide financial assistance to undergraduate students who are Singapore citizens or permanent residents, and are studying full time at the University of Adelaide. The Ngee Ann Kongsi has generously agreed to match every dollar contributed up to SGD\$250,000.

Dr Tan, a former Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore, is one of many high achieving graduates of the University of Adelaide. Other Singapore alumni include the late President of Singapore, Mr Ong Teng Cheong, High Court Judge Justice Lee Sieu Kin, Minister for Transport Mr Raymond Lim and Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Iswaran.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

# OFFSHORE GRADUATIONS 2008

Stories and photos by Candy Gibson

## Mace-bearer's prize run

As a Chinese teenager growing up in Adelaide, Monica Chung learned the value of hard work through her family.

Like many Asian immigrants, her father made his mark in Australia by working as a chef and running a Chinese restaurant.

Monica saw the fruits of his diligence and applied the same attitude to her studies at Hamilton Secondary College in Marion, where she excelled in her studies. An outstanding academic result in 1996 won her a place in the highly sought after Computer Systems Engineering degree program offered by the University of Adelaide.

Eight years after graduating with First Class Honours, Monica has once again stolen the academic limelight, taking out three MBA prizes offered by the University of Adelaide's offshore program in Hong Kong.

Monica was one of 50 MBA students presented with her degree at the Hong Kong Grand Hyatt on Sunday 14 April. Apart from taking out the top prizes for economics, e-business and managing a contemporary organisation, Monica was also chosen as the mace-bearer for the ceremony.

"My first thought when I was asked to be a mace-bearer was: 'surely this role doesn't involve pepper spray?' A few seconds later the penny dropped and I realised what an honour it was to take on this role at the ceremony," she said.

Monica's career path has taken several twists and turns since her first job with Motorola in Sydney, working as a software engineer to test 3G mobile phones.

After 26 years in Australia, Monica decided to give engineering a break and explore her cultural heritage, accepting a job in Hong Kong teaching English to Chinese students.

"During this time I made up my mind to do an MBA with the view of progressing my career into some kind of management role, using the communication skills I had acquired through teaching," Monica said.

The MBA has secured her a plum job working for the international recruitment firm Robert Walters, where she uses both her engineering experience and my communication skills.

But with her sights firmly set on a managerial role, Monica is confident the MBA will stand her in good stead.

"The MBA has given me a good understanding of how the monetary aspects of the business world work, including managing budgets, allocating resources and grasping the big picture.

"I feel I have really found my niche with recruiting in IT and plan to work up to managerial level within the next few years."



Monica Chung

## MBA study good for business



David Cheng and Keith Law

On the first day of their MBA course in Hong Kong, University of Adelaide senior lecturer Dr Jill Thomas asked her students why they had enrolled in a Masters in Business Administration.

The majority answered: "learn more, earn more". But for telecommunications director Keith Law, the motivation was entirely different.

"What I have learned is that no-one will pay you more just because you have a degree. You will be paid only if you are capable and have something to offer," Mr Law said.

The MBA has given Mr Law the ability to deal with changing business environments – a challenge facing all employees in the marketplace today.

"It has really helped me to manage, analyse and solve routine issues that crop up every day in my company," he said.

As Sales and Marketing Director of the Hong Kong-based CCT Telecommunication Limited, one of the world's biggest telephone manufacturing companies, Mr Law is responsible for its worldwide sales activities.

Mr Law was one of 50 students to graduate with an MBA from the University of Adelaide at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Hong Kong on 14 April.

Another of his classmates, David Cheng, will use his MBA to help advance his career at Philips Electronics, a global brand operating in more than 60 countries worldwide and employing more than 125,000 people.

Mr Cheng is responsible for product development of PC peripherals in Hong Kong, including speakers and keyboards.

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Mr Cheng moved to Australia for his tertiary education, completing a Bachelor degree at the University of Melbourne in 2002.

"I chose the University of Adelaide to do my MBA because I was familiar with the Australian education system and also aware that Adelaide had the best reputation in Hong Kong for its MBA program," Mr Cheng said.

"I found the Strategic Management course the most invaluable in the MBA program because it has given me a better understanding of how to run a business and make it a success."

# Chef has recipe for success

A passion for food and culture has taken Ecuadorian chef José Montalvo to many corners of the globe in his gastronomic travels.

One of his favourite gourmet destinations – Singapore – just happened to coincide with his graduation from the University of Adelaide in April with his Le Cordon Bleu Masters of Arts in Gastronomy.

A quick glance at his CV unveils a culinary background that would sate the appetite of most gourmet travellers, let alone the average tourist.

José's apprenticeship with the Hilton Hotel in his home country back in 1999 led to the realisation that his heart lay in hospitality.

Cooking has taken him around the world, from boutique hotels in Ireland, to Italian restaurants in the US and even a stint at a jungle lodge in Ecuador.

"My interest in cooking goes way beyond just eating and making food,

however. I'm interested in all the minor details that come into play in the whole process of preparing a meal," he said.

"Coming from a country where food plays an important role in the lives of people, I wanted to attain a better appreciation of food from an historical and cultural perspective. That's why I chose the MA in Gastronomy at the University of Adelaide."

Now living in Shanghai, José is busy learning Mandarin to improve his chances of landing a job in one of the city's many world-class restaurants.

"I want to learn more about the Chinese culture, which is based around the rituals of food and drinks. Lives – and much more – are often decided over a sumptuous dinner and glass of Chinese wine, for example.

"I have found the Gastronomy degree has allowed me to really appreciate these rituals and better understand a culture in which I have fully immersed myself."



Gastronomy graduate José Montalvo with his girlfriend, Angel

# Distinctions earn student a teaching role

Company director Louis Wong clearly impressed his lecturers at the Ngee Ann-Adelaide Education Centre after gaining five distinctions in his recently completed Master of Project Management (MPM).

The 52-year-old, who graduated in April, will swap the student books for the lectern next semester when he heads up the Quality Management program within the MPM degree offered by the University of Adelaide in Singapore.

Mr Wong's outstanding academic results, coupled with an 18-year impressive track record in the quality field, make him well equipped to handle his new role.

By day, he will ensure that footwear produced by world-renowned Crocs Shoes maintains its high quality standards. As its Global Quality Director he is responsible for the quality of thousands of Crocs shoes manufactured each day in factories all over the world.

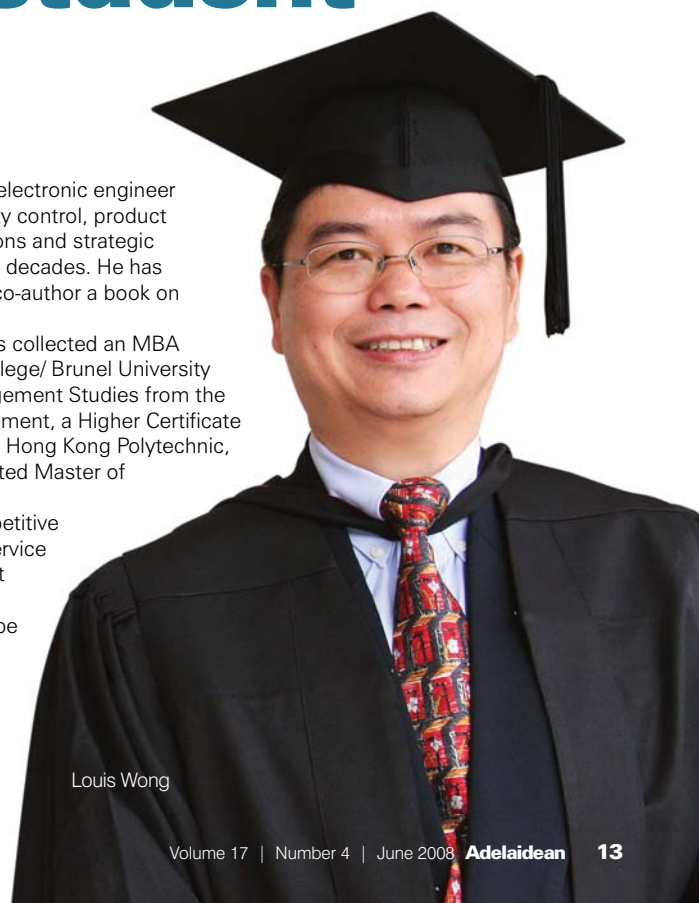
By night, he will pass on his extensive knowledge to students undertaking the elective course in the Master of Project Management degree offered by the University of Adelaide in Singapore.

For the Hong Kong-born Singaporean, this latest move up the career ladder reflects a desire to share the experiences of his 27-plus years in the engineering, management and publishing world.

He started his career as an electronic engineer and has progressed into quality control, product development, customer relations and strategic management in the past three decades. He has also managed to find time to co-author a book on project management.

Along the way Mr Wong has collected an MBA from Henley Management College/ Brunel University in the UK, a Diploma in Management Studies from the Singapore Institute of Management, a Higher Certificate in Electronic Engineering from Hong Kong Polytechnic, as well as his recently completed Master of Project Management.

"In today's global and competitive market, quality of a product/service is no longer a selling point, but a prerequisite for business survival," Mr Wong said. "I hope to develop students' critical thinking in this MPM course, equipping them with the necessary skills to establish a quality management system in their own organisation."



Louis Wong



## OFFSHORE GRADUATIONS 2008

# MBA offers the right skills

Business development manager Han Shen Ch'ng is that rare breed of professional: an engineer who can master both the detail and the big picture, equally impressively.

His strengths on both fronts have enabled the Malaysian-born university graduate to fast track his career from the engineering floor to the managerial boardroom in just a few short years.

Now working in Singapore for industrial gases company Air Products, Mr Ch'ng is responsible for assessing and developing business opportunities for his firm. To this end, his recently-acquired MBA from the University of Adelaide has already paid dividends.

"The fact that I was undertaking an MBA, which equips me with the skills to undertake strategic, economic and financial analyses, gave me the upper hand in the interview and secured me this job," Mr Ch'ng said.

Originally from Penang, he moved to Singapore for his tertiary education. His first job, with Hewlett-Packard as a process engineer exposed him to a range of areas, including sales and business development.

"I discovered I had strengths in these areas and from there I pursued similar opportunities."

He was headhunted by Singapore technology company, Advanpack Solutions, and then moved on to a multinational environment, securing a position with Philips Electronics as an account manager.

The switch from electronics to industrial gases with relative ease was one of the benefits of doing an MBA.

"The MBA has given me a broad range of knowledge which I can apply across all businesses. My current job requires an understanding of strategy and financial acumen as well as technical knowledge, so it suits me perfectly."

He chose to study for his MBA at the University of Adelaide because of its Group of Eight affiliation, and the link with Ngee Ann.

"It has more of the feel of an education centre rather than a business venture, which impressed me, and the facilities and standard of lecturers at Ngee Ann are excellent," he said.

Mr Ch'ng was the macebearer at the Singapore offshore graduation ceremony on Saturday 19 April, held at the Ngee Ann-Adelaide Education Centre.

Han Shen Ch'ng

# It's sink or swim in commercial world of sport

Sports entrepreneur Simon Joyce has literally jumped into the deep end with his latest career move after topping his University of Adelaide MBA Strategy course in Hong Kong.

The 36-year-old has been appointed General Manager of Hong Kong's premier swim school, Harry Wright International, with a mandate to turn the business into a multi-million dollar operation.

Mr Joyce completed his MBA in December and graduated at an offshore ceremony at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Hong on 13 April with 70 other students.

He was awarded the Hong Kong Institute of Housing Strategic Management Prize after achieving a distinction for his studies.

Senior lecturer Dr Georges Baume described the former physical education teacher as "an enthusiastic, diligent and interested student".

"Simon's interest in Strategy, together with his ability to draw on his managerial experience, made him the stand-out candidate in that course. He was instrumental in raising the standard of class discussion and he had a pivotal role in helping his group reach and achieve a very strong performance in the Group Project," Dr Baume said.

Mr Joyce has spent the past decade at the helm of Hong Kong's largest sports services company within the English Schools Foundation, which educates more than 12,000 students of more than 50 different nationalities. In that time he has driven sales from HK\$0.8 million to HK\$23.6 million per annum.

He initially moved to Hong Kong in 1993 for a one year contract, but 15 years later he is firmly entrenched in the territory, with no plans to leave in the near future.

The Armidale-born entrepreneur embarked on a career as a Physical Education teacher on leaving university before combining his business acumen with his interest in sports to make his mark in the commercial world. His forte has been to turn struggling sporting companies into highly profitable enterprises. Mr Joyce's MBA will be put to good use in his new job.

"Harry Wright International specialises in learn-to-swim and competitive swim training," he said. "The business was established in 1976 and has a very good reputation throughout Asia. However, in 2001 the founder passed away, leaving the company without his leadership. My job is to focus direction and build a solid foundation for future growth."



Simon Joyce with wife Josephine Chung and daughter Chloe



Georgina Day singing a pop song in Mandarin as part of the Chinese Proficiency Competition at the National Wine Centre

Photo by Candy Gibson

# Georgina spreads word about Chinese language, culture

## Asian Studies

“I want to encourage a better cross-cultural understanding between the two nationalities”

Bachelor of Arts student Georgina Day has taken out third place in a national Chinese language event hosted by the University of Adelaide’s Confucius Institute.

Georgina, 19, was one of 24 contestants from four Australian states to pit their Chinese language, culture and history skills against each other in the preliminary finals of a Chinese Proficiency Competition.

The top two finalists – winner Matt Coleman from the University of Queensland and second placegetter Patrick Mayoh from the Australian National University – will receive an all-expenses paid trip to China in July for the finals.

Georgina was the highest placed of the 16 University of Adelaide contestants who performed before an enthusiastic crowd at the National Wine Centre last month.

Contestants had to complete a written general knowledge test, deliver a prepared speech and give a cultural Chinese performance – all in Mandarin – before a panel of judges and the public.

Although narrowly missing out on the finals, Georgina said the competition was a “wonderful experience”.

The first year student is completing a Bachelor of Arts/Teaching and is also studying second year Mandarin.

A scholarship from the Australia-China Council allowed Georgina to spend 12 months in 2007 studying Mandarin at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China.

“I had a ball. My heart is still in China and I miss it so much,” she said.

Although born and raised in Adelaide, Georgina’s mother is Chinese and was adopted by an Australian couple as a baby.

“I like to pretend I’m Chinese, but I’m not – I’m an Aussie and proud of it! However, I want to encourage a better cross-cultural understanding between the two nationalities.

“I’m studying Mandarin because I would love to be a teacher and work in both countries. China fascinates me in all respects – the population, language and culture. Hopefully I’ll be able to live, study and work there at some time in the future.”

The Chinese Proficiency Competition was filmed by a crew from China’s Hunan Satellite Television as part of an Australian special, similar to *Australian Idol*, and will be aired to millions of viewers in China in coming months.

It was the first time that Adelaide had hosted the competition – now in its seventh year – which is open to university students aged between 18 and 30, who are not born or raised in China.

Meanwhile, the 2008 South Australian round of the National Chinese Speaking Competition for secondary school students has been conducted jointly by the Chinese Language Teachers’ Association of South Australia and the Confucius Institute at the University of Adelaide.

There were 17 candidates from 12 schools. The winner of the section for students with a Chinese background was Alan Xu of St Peters College, and winner of the section for students without a Chinese background was Madeleine Leung of Walford College.

The President of the Chinese Teachers’ Association of South Australia, Ms Jenny Jin, said all of the participating students, and all students who learn Chinese, will be well placed to participate in the career opportunities created by the growing links between China and Australia.

■ Story by Candy Gibson



# Study exposes killers in hospitals

## ■ Nursing

“The response on a number of occasions has been to encourage the nurse to move on, which just enables them to continue murdering patients in other facilities”

Photo by iStock

A University of Adelaide PhD graduate has completed one of the world’s first academic studies on nurses who deliberately kill their patients.

John Field, a senior academic, lawyer and registered nurse with more than 30 years’ experience, has examined media reports and professional literature involving 48 cases from around the world where nurses have murdered patients.

The nurses – mostly serial killers – are believed to have murdered more than 750 patients using a variety of methods, although the number of murders of which they have been convicted is much lower due to a difficulty in obtaining hard evidence.

The nurses’ PhD in Nursing looked at the conditions which make it possible for nurses to murder patients, often over a period of many years, without being detected.

“In one case in France, the nurse had murdered 30 patients before she was apprehended,” Dr Field said.

Among the cases he examined was US serial killer Charles Cullen, a registered nurse in New Jersey who murdered between 40 and 80 patients over a 16-year period. He worked in 10 different health facilities during that time. In 2006 he was sentenced to 18 consecutive

life sentences, with a non parole period of 397 years.

“The 1993 conviction of UK enrolled nurse Beverley Allitt for the murder of four babies and the attempted murder of nine others, followed by the conviction in 2000 of Dr Harold Shipman, a UK general practitioner, for the murder of 15 patients resulted in increased surveillance of health professionals in hospitals and health services in developed countries,” Dr Field said.

“It has not eliminated murder by health professionals though – and that includes murder by nurses. This is shown by the convictions of English nurse Benjamin Geen, who was found guilty in 2006 of two murders and 15 attempted murders, and Colin Norris, a Scottish nurse who this year was convicted of four murders and one attempted murder.”

Dr Field said that even though the proportion of nurses who murder patients is “miniscule”, he wanted to increase awareness of such incidents to help eliminate, or at least minimise, the risk of similar cases occurring in hospitals around the world.

“The murder of patients in health care facilities seems to be independent of the quality of care provided. My key conclusion is that

the murder of a patient by a nurse could occur in any facility.

“Of the 48 cases included in my study, 38 were serial killers. While other nurses may have harboured suspicions about the murderer for a while, it took a long time for their suspicions to be reported. This points to a need for more open communication in our hospitals,” he said.

Dr Field said hospital administrators had also been generally slow to react to reported suspicions. “The response on a number of occasions has been to encourage the nurse to move on, which just enables them to continue murdering patients in other facilities.”

The PhD graduate said his study reveals a need for the nursing profession to acknowledge the possibility of murder in their own workplaces.

“While the overwhelming majority of nurses are outstanding professionals, there is a very small number who are capable of committing such heinous crimes. We need to encourage their peers to report their suspicions in the knowledge they will be dealt with fairly, correctly and sensitively, but with the patients’ safety as the paramount consideration.”

■ Story by Candy Gibson





# Smoking puts teeth in front line of disease

## ■ Dentistry

This is the kind of image you might expect to see in an anti-smoking campaign, but this is not a commercial – it is a real photo of a smoker with severe gum disease.

Almost a third of the more than two million cases of gum disease among Australians are caused by smoking, according to new research by University of Adelaide researchers in the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPOH).

The study, led by Research Fellow Dr Loc Do, is the first of its kind in Australia showing the significant impact of smoking on oral health in the population.

“Gum disease is one of the most prevalent forms of oral disease,” Dr Do said. “Along with dental caries, it’s the main cause of tooth loss in the Australian population.

“There are over two million cases of gum disease in Australian adults, but our study found that up to 700,000 of these, or 32%, could be prevented by not smoking.”

Dr Do’s study used data collected in the National Survey of Adult Oral Health, conducted by ARCPOH in collaboration with State/Territory dental organisations during 2004-2006.

The research found that young and middle-aged adults and adults with lower socioeconomic status were more likely to be current smokers.

“The hazardous effect of smoking on gums is higher among the younger population, indicating the desirability of preventing the uptake of smoking in this population,” Dr Do said.

“Dental professionals should urge potential smokers to avoid the habit and encourage current smokers to stop.”

The effect of smoking on gums was due to reduced anti-inflammatory agents in the blood vessels of the gums, restriction in the blood supply to the gum tissue, and more virulent bacteria, Dr Do said.

This study used a national representative sample of adults (15+ years) and was recently published in a paper “Smoking-attributable periodontal disease in the Australian adult population” in the *Journal of Clinical Periodontology*.

“Dental professionals should urge potential smokers to avoid the habit and encourage current smokers to stop”

Above:  
A smoker with severe periodontitis (gum disease)

Photo courtesy of:  
Dr Robert Hirsch



## International recognition for dental scientist

A senior dental researcher at the University of Adelaide has been awarded one of the highest honours of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR).

Professor Gary Slade, (pictured) Professor of Oral Epidemiology with the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health in the University’s School of Dentistry, has been awarded the H. Trendley Dean Memorial Award.

The award is given for distinguished accomplishments in research and development in the fields of behavioural science, epidemiology, and public health. It is one of the IADR’s Distinguished Scientist Awards, is supported by the Colgate-Palmolive Company in memory of H. Trendley Dean, a former president of the IADR and first dental officer of the National Institutes of Health.

Professor Slade is Director of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare’s Dental Statistics and Research Unit and is responsible for coordinating the National Survey of Adult Oral Health.

He has played a leading role in various research achievements, including population studies of tooth loss, periodontal (gum) diseases, and dental caries.

Professor Slade has contributed to approximately 115 publications, original papers, books, and book chapters on the relationships between oral conditions and systemic health, the effectiveness of fluoridation and other health measures for caries prevention, and the impact of oral conditions and dental care on quality of life.

Professor Slade will receive his award in Toronto next month.

■ Story by Robyn Mills

# Online community starts with a roar

The online networking phenomenon is coming to the University of Adelaide, with the launch of a new online community, Adelaide onLION.

The website, to be launched by the Development and Alumni office on July 1, will give the University's alumni community the opportunity to network, both socially and professionally, in a safe and secure online environment.

"Adelaide onLION adds an exciting new feature to our interaction with alumni across the world," said Development and Alumni Director Robyn Brown.

"This technology offers people different ways to connect and interact that were just not possible in the past, strengthening the ties between our alumni and the University."

Graduates, current and former staff, and current and former students will be able to join Adelaide onLION. Faculties, University staff and alumni networks will also be involved, with limited access for friends of the University. All member information will be securely stored in an exclusive community.

Members will be able to look up fellow classmates, meet new contacts in their field, country or industry, and have access to a careers service. They will also be able to customise their experience by adding personal profiles, photos, videos and blogs.

The launch of Adelaide onLION coincides with a new Membership Program and Privileges Package to be offered to alumni in July, which will give the 55,000 strong alumni community access to a range of exclusive benefits and services.

"The University of Adelaide is committed to providing alumni with relevant benefits and opportunities to engage with both the University and with each other," Ms Brown said.

"Adelaide onLION, together with the new alumni membership program, heralds a new and exciting era of alumni relations for the University."

For more information visit: [www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/community](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/community)

■ Story by Lana Guineay

## Development & Alumni Events

### Florey Medical Network

Event: Quiz Night

Date: Friday 6 June

Time: 6:30pm for 7:00pm

Venue: Don Pyatt Hall, Norwood Town Hall, The Parade, Norwood.

Cost: Entry Fee \$15 per person, Student concession \$10

BYO nibbles and drinks (cash bar available, limited stock only)

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

### The Friends of the University of Adelaide Library and the History Trust of SA

Talk: 'Duncan's Dead But We're Alive': Lesbian and Gay Activism in South Australia in the Seventies, by Dr Graham Willett (The Australian Centre, the University of Melbourne)

Date: Thursday 12 June

Time: 6:00pm for 6:30pm

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

Cost: Admission is free: gold coin donation is invited

RSVP: by Tuesday 10 June to [robina.weir@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:robina.weir@adelaide.edu.au) or phone (08) 8303 4064

## Adelaide gets animated!

continued from page 1

As part of the awards, nominees must construct a 30-second commercial for their short animated movie, as well as the movie itself (maximum of 3.5 minutes).

A range of cash prizes is on offer, including a jury prize, an audience prize, and prizes for virtual built environments, best emerging animator, architectural animation, and best FX.

The awards are organised by the Adelaide Chapter of ACM SIGGRAPH (Association of Computer Machinery: Special Interest Group – Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques).

Tickets to the awards night can be purchased at the Flentje Theatre door: \$10 and \$9 concession. To book a seat early, contact Dr Bruton on (08) 8303 4038 or email: [dean.bruton@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:dean.bruton@adelaide.edu.au)

The Master of Design in Digital Media is run within the University of Adelaide's School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design. For more information visit: [www.architecture.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.architecture.adelaide.edu.au)

■ Story by David Ellis

# LANE

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## Fay Gale AO

Born: 13 June 1932, Balaklava

Died: 3 May 2008, Adelaide

### Obituary

Above:  
Professor Fay Gale at  
the University of Western  
Australia

Photo courtesy of UWA

Fay Gale was a pioneer in many respects. Her passion for social justice and equality of opportunity was inspirational. Her research into indigenous issues opened up new areas of thought and research, the influence of which is still being felt 50 years on and more.

Born Gwendoline Fay Gilding in Balaklava, South Australia, Fay studied at Methodist Ladies College and the University of Adelaide, where she was the first Honours graduate in the 50-odd years of teaching Geography at the University.

At the time of her marriage in 1957, her bridesmaids were Gladys Long and Linda Vale, two Aboriginal women who had been taken from their mothers as babies and raised in a mission in the Northern Territory. When the girls left the mission, and came to Adelaide to find work, the Gales welcomed them as members of the family. This continued a pattern that went back to Fay's childhood, when Aborigines from the missions would stay with her parents when they travelled to the city. Three became foster sisters, friendships that Fay would cherish for the rest of her life.

After graduating, she taught for a few years at Walford School, returning in 1957 to commence a PhD under the supervision of internationally acclaimed Australian geographer Sir Archibald Grenfell-Price. Her thesis, *A study of assimilation: Part Aborigines in South Australia*, was the first to explore the lives of part-Aboriginal women – the term then used for those who were of mixed descent – who had been taken from their mothers in infancy. Her field work steeled her resolve, and she would

tell with despair how she once saw a baby torn off the breast of a woman at a fruit-picker's camp on the banks of the Murray. Published in 1960, the study was influential in the move towards citizenship and land rights for indigenous people, and the introduction in South Australia of the nation's first anti-discrimination act.

Throughout the 1960s and '70s, while juggling life as a teacher and mother of two, Fay continued her research into Aboriginal people, especially the marginalisation of what came later to be called the Stolen Generation. She returned to work in the mid '60s as a lecturer in the Department of Geography at the University of Adelaide, and was quickly recognised as a gifted teacher. In 1972, her book *Urban Aborigines* was published. Its argument for Aboriginal self-determination radically altered public perceptions at a time Aboriginal land rights was increasingly high on the political agenda. In 1978 she became the first woman to be appointed to a professorship at the University of Adelaide, and one of only a handful of women Australia-wide.

Professor Gale's research was relied upon by the Hindmarsh Island Royal Commission in making its determination. In these and in other controversial issues, she was subjected to severe criticism from both the State and Federal bureaucracies, and on more than one occasion she found herself vilified by the press and others; she not only continued her work, but expanded her focus.

Professor Gale was the first woman to join the senior management of the University of

Adelaide when in 1988 she was appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor. In 1989 she was recognised with the honour of Officer in the Order of Australia for her service to social science, particularly in the fields of geography and Aboriginal studies. Then in 1990 she was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Western Australia, only the second woman to head an Australian university, and the first among the prestigious "sandstones". She counted her appointment to UWA and her achievements there as highpoints of her career.

At a national level, she was a member of the Prime Minister's Science and Engineering Council, served on the Board of the Australian Research Council and represented Australia on the Council of the Association of Commonwealth Universities. In 1996 she became the first woman President of the Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee.

Following her retirement in 1997, Professor Gale took on the presidency of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and was subsequently elected President of the Association of Asian Social Science Research Councils. She served on advisory boards for a wide range of causes.

Fay Gale passed away at her Adelaide home, surrounded by her family, on 3 May. She has bequeathed to the community a legacy of tireless advocacy for justice and equity, respect for the land and its people, a love of learning, a bright smile, and a zest for life. While she will be missed, her impact will endure.

Contributed by Professor Nick Harvey

# Piano players hit right note

## Music

South Australia's top jazz students and graduates of the Elder Conservatorium of Music have been recognised at the 2008 Jazz Awards.

\$6000 in awards was presented to eight outstanding musicians from the Elder Conservatorium of Music jazz program at the University of Adelaide.

The inaugural \$2000 Hyatt Regency Award for the Most Outstanding Honours Graduate was awarded to talented pianist Brendan Lim.

Another pianist, Matthew Sheens, received the \$1000 Adelaide City Council Award for the Most Outstanding Undergraduate.

Individual undergraduate awards were presented to:

- **Sam Cagney** (guitar) – Keith Langley Jazz Guitar Award \$500;
- **Alana Dawes** (bass) – Keith Langley Jazz Bass Award \$500;
- **Brenton Foster** (piano) – Tommy Norman Jazz Award \$500;
- **Benjamin Harrison** (saxophone) – *dB Magazine* Award \$500;

- **Nick Pietsch** (trombone) – Mitzi's Prize \$500
- **Joel Prime** (drums) – Billy Hyde Award \$500 voucher.

For the first time since the Jazz Awards were first presented in 1997, the event was held at the Hyatt Regency Adelaide in a cabaret setting.

The award winners presented an entertaining evening of jazz, featuring a set with leading American alto saxophonist Jon Gordon.

The 2008 Jazz Awards were sponsored by the Hyatt Regency Adelaide, Adelaide City Council, *dB Magazine*, Billy Hyde Music, Tommy Norman Scholarship, Keith Langley and Mitzi Craig.

The Elder Conservatorium of Music at the University of Adelaide is a Helpmann Academy partner school.

Right:  
Jazz Award winner Brendan Lim

Photo by Alex Makeyev



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# Tristram Ogilvie Cary, OAM

Born: 14 May 1925, Oxford

Died: 24 April 2008, Adelaide

## Obituary

Above:  
A portrait of Dr Tristram Cary has pride of place in the Elder Conservatorium of Music's Hartley meeting room

Painting by Gwen Leitch Harris (1996)

The death of Dr Tristram Cary was a sad event that resonated within hours throughout the musical world, not only in Australia but around the globe, particularly across North America, continental Europe and the United Kingdom (as the scores of obituary appreciations have testified).

Tristram Cary first visited Australia in 1973 and was appointed to a Senior Lecturership in the Elder Conservatorium of Music at the University of Adelaide in 1974. He was then in his late 40s and had already achieved prominence in the United Kingdom and internationally for his achievements in several fields: as the composer of numerous film scores (some of them classics); as the composer of prizewinning works for radio drama; as a composer for the emerging field of television (including his contributions to the iconic *Doctor Who* series); as one of the pioneering European composers of electronic and electro-acoustic music; and as the designer of a contemporary 'classic' piece of electronic equipment, the VCS3 'Putney' synthesiser. Success in one or two of these fields would have been enough to secure his reputation. Success in all of them was then – and remains today – truly remarkable.

Not content to rest on his laurels, Cary decided to make the momentous move to Australia so that he could focus on the composition of concert works. He reasoned that the relative security of an academic salary (as opposed to the precarious, high-wire balancing act of his freelance career) would provide him with the thinking space and creative independence to build a body of concert works. He did just this. During the second half of his life he produced major works including: *Contours and Densities*

*at First Hill*, for orchestra (the John Bishop Memorial Commission for 1976); *Scenes From a Life*, for orchestra (a Symphony Australia commission for 2000, to mark his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday); String Quartet no.2 (1985); *I Am Here* (1980), for the pre-eminent singer of contemporary works, Jane Manning; and many others.

Although there were many positive consequences of his move to Australia (both for him and for the Elder Conservatorium of Music) there were also some professional disappointments that stemmed from the inevitable sense of dislocation. Not without justification he felt overlooked by the musical establishment in the United Kingdom (such as commissioning agencies, orchestras, and the BBC); he was no longer visible on their radar screen. On the other hand, the recognition afforded to him in Australia did not fully reflect the depth and breadth of his professional achievements prior to 1974.

He was born in Oxford on 14 May 1925 the third child of the novelist Joyce Cary and Gertrude Margaret Cary (née Ogilvie). Thanks to his father the family home was frequented by many of the leading literary figures of the day. After attending the Dragon School in Oxford, he went to Westminster School as a King's Scholar, and was then commissioned into the Royal Navy in 1943. During his active war service he specialised in radar communications and received training in electronic engineering. It was this experience that enabled him to become one of the great post-war pioneers in the brand new field of so-called electronic music. On his discharge from the navy in 1946 he went up to Oxford (taking up a deferred place as an Exhibitioner

at Christ Church) where he read Literae Humaniores ('Greats'). After graduating from Oxford with his accelerated 'returned serviceman's degree' he studied composition and performance at Trinity College of Music in London and quickly found himself drawn in to the then highly active British film industry. Over the next few years he composed the music for dozens of films, including Ealing Studios classics such as *The Ladykillers* (1955). In 1998 his new orchestral suite based on the earlier film score was honoured with The Gramophone Award (for best film music on CD).

In parallel with his work for films, he became a prolific composer of incidental music for radio and television. Whereas his film music was of necessity stylistically conventional, his music for the other media was ground-breaking, both conceptually and technically. At a time when there was no institutionally financed electronic studio in the UK (unlike Germany, Italy and the USA) he built his own.

In recent years he had been putting up a brave fight against cancer. Although this long struggle left him looking frail his personality shone through with an admirably feisty defiance and earthy humour that seemed to help him transcend the suffering.

My many personal recollections of Tristram Cary range from 1973 (when we first met, at a concert of his music in London), to the occasion in Bonython Hall in December 2001 when, as the newly installed Elder Professor of Music, I had the privilege and pleasure of presenting him (somewhat belatedly) for the degree of Doctor of Music.

Contributed by Professor Charles Bodman Rae

**Call for budding entrepreneurs**

Do you have an idea for a business venture you wish to commence, or a business idea at an early stage of development you would like to investigate further?

An opportunity for university graduates of all disciplines to turn their knowledge and skills into their own commercial venture is available via the University of Adelaide's Graduate Entrepreneurial Program (GEP).

Scholarships to study the Graduate Certificate of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, including placement within the Thebarton Business Incubator, are open for application this month.

To find out more call Megan Llewellyn on (08) 8303 4159 or email [megan.llewellyn@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:megan.llewellyn@adelaide.edu.au)

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

**ECIC seminar series**

The University of Adelaide's Entrepreneurship Commercialisation and Innovation Centre (ECIC) is presenting a series of seminars in Leadership, Creativity, Innovation and Business Planning.

The monthly seminars from June to December will be delivered by professionals currently lecturing in Masters programs in Entrepreneurship, Science Technology & Commercialisation and Project Management.

The series offers an opportunity for practicing managers from the private and public sector, entrepreneurs, or anyone interested in creativity, innovation and its commercialisation to attend.

The 26 June seminar is "The contribution of Transformational Leadership & Emotional Intelligence" by Professor Vernon Ireland.

Bookings are essential. Contact Karen Snook to register on (08) 8303 7422 or [karen.snook@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:karen.snook@adelaide.edu.au)

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

**Social Sciences public lecture series**

The Distinguished Social Sciences Public Lecture Series is a new series of free public talks at the University of Adelaide organised by the School of Social Sciences.

The first of these is on Wednesday 16 July, with Associate Professor Tan Sor Hoon (Head of Philosophy, National University of Singapore) giving a lecture on "Limiting Confucian Meritocracy". This lecture will be presented in conjunction with the Confucius Institute, Centre for Asian Studies.

Each public lecture will be held from 6.00pm-8.00pm in the Napier Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Building, North Terrace Campus.



# Are you taking the right drugs?

■ General Practice

"One of the best ways to improve medical care is to encourage health professionals to take evidence-based clinical practice guidelines into account"

A new research project aims to help general practitioners prescribe the best medications to their patients.

University of Adelaide Associate Lecturer Dr Peter Mansfield, who is also a practising GP in Adelaide, has received a National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) Fellowship from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), co-sponsored by Therapeutic Guidelines Limited (TGL).

Dr Mansfield will use the Fellowship to undertake a two-year project to develop an interactive and educational website to help GPs critically evaluate information from drug companies and the independent information from Therapeutic Guidelines.

"One of the best ways to improve medical care is to encourage health professionals to take evidence-based clinical practice guidelines into account," Dr Mansfield said.

"While guidelines are underused in many areas of medicine, including prescribing practice, most GPs are exposed to drug promotions. Through my Fellowship, I'll be able to provide GPs with an easy and accessible means of comparing information from these sources. This will help ensure their prescribing decisions are based on best evidence."

NHMRC Chief Executive Officer Professor Warwick Anderson said: "We congratulate Dr Mansfield and look forward to working with TGL. Our partnership with organisations involved in specific areas of health care allows us to harness our combined skills and knowledge to provide the highest level of support to our Fellows."

Dr Mansfield will join nine other health professionals from Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia as 2008 NICS Fellows.

The NHMRC is Australia's peak body for supporting health and medical research. As part of the NHMRC, the National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS) works to improve health care by getting health and medical research into practice.

Therapeutic Guidelines Limited is an independent not-for-profit organisation dedicated to developing guidelines for therapy from the latest world literature, interpreted and distilled by Australia's most eminent and respected experts.

**For more information about the other NICS Fellows, visit: [www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/nics)**

■ Story by Robyn Mills



Far left:  
Jill Jones  
Photo by Annette Willis

Left:  
Brian Castro  
Photo by Susan  
Gordon-Brown

# Big names in literature join Creative Writing at Adelaide

## ■ Creative Writing

“The dual appointments of Professor Castro and Jill Jones are a great boost for our Creative Writing programs, and will ensure that our students continue to be led and inspired by some of Australia’s best creative talents”

Renowned Australian novelist Brian Castro has been appointed Professor in Creative Writing at the University of Adelaide.

Professor Castro, who has more than 25 years’ experience in writing, publishing, teaching and journalism, is the author of nine novels, including the award-winning *Birds of Passage* (1983), *Double-Wolf* (1991), *After China* (1992), *Stepper* (1997), *Shanghai Dancing* (2003), and *The Garden Book* (2005). His latest novel, *The Bath Fugues*, is due out in October.

Currently a Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne, Professor Castro has published more than 25 papers in refereed journals, and has strong academic and publishing links in Asia and Europe. His novels have been translated into French, German, Romanian, Chinese and Malay.

Professor Castro will replace Professor Nicholas Jose as Chair of Creative Writing in July. Professor Jose is leaving the University of Adelaide for a research professorial appointment with the University of Western Sydney, ahead of his term as Chair of Australian Studies at Harvard University in 2009.

“We are thrilled to have an author of Brian’s calibre joining the

University of Adelaide as Professor of Creative Writing,” said the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor James McWha. “His experience and expertise in publication, teaching and research supervision will greatly benefit our Creative Writing programs.”

The Chair of Creative Writing at the University of Adelaide is the only dedicated chair of creative writing in Australia, and is part funded by the South Australian Government through Arts SA.

Professor Castro is one of two acclaimed Australian writers to join Creative Writing at the University of Adelaide this year, with award-winning poet Jill Jones also being appointed to the role of Senior Lecturer.

Ms Jones is the author of five full-length books, two of which have won national literary prizes, seven shorter and limited edition works, editor of four others, and has extensive experience in publishing and journalism. Her works have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies in Australia, New Zealand, the UK, US, Canada, India and Singapore. Ms Jones is currently Program Manager for the Literature Board of the Australia Council. She took up her position

at the University of Adelaide last month.

“The dual appointments of Professor Castro and Jill Jones are a great boost for our Creative Writing programs, and will ensure that our students continue to be led and inspired by some of Australia’s best creative talents,” Professor McWha said.

“These two new staff understand the art and craft – and the business – of writing from years of experience, and will be invaluable in helping to shape the futures of new and emerging writers and researchers.”

Professor Castro said this was an exciting time to be joining the University.

“Under the previous leadership of Professor Tom Shapcott and Professor Nicholas Jose, Creative Writing at the University of Adelaide has gained great momentum and has earned a national reputation for the quality of its students and the work they are producing. I look forward to taking up the Chair in July, and to working with the University’s many talented new writers,” he said.

■ Story by David Ellis



# Emotional start to evening concerts

## ■ Music

“Being able to do justice to that emotion is what this performance is all about”

Above:  
Madeline Procopio

Photo by David Ellis

The eagerly awaited evening concert series for the Elder Conservatorium of Music – **ELDERHALL evenings** – has been announced for 2008.

The series of six concerts, held from June to November, showcases the musicians and ensembles of the University of Adelaide’s Conservatorium at their finest, alongside guest artists from Australia and abroad.

“With our new concert series for 2008, audiences will be thrilled with the rich and varied programs that range across all eras and styles,” says Claire Oremland, Concert Manager for Elder Hall.

The concerts will feature the Elder Conservatorium’s Chamber, Wind, Jazz and Symphony orchestras as well as all three Choirs.

The first concert, *Resonance*, opens the season on 9 June with the luscious string sounds of the Chamber Orchestra. The concert features the exquisite voice of Rosalind Martin in the evocative *I Would Sing a Little While* by Calvin Bowman. Talented young violinist Madeline Procopio is soloist in Sculthorpe’s *Irkanda IV*, with Josef Suk’s youthful yet hauntingly expressive serenade finishing the program.

At age 17, Madeline Procopio is already leader of the violin section of the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra. She is studying for a Music degree in Classical Performance at the University of Adelaide, where the staff “enlighten and inspire me every day”.

“The environment here has helped to improve me as a person, and has brought a new emotional depth to my performances,” Ms Procopio said.

That emotional depth will be needed when she performs solo violin with the Chamber Orchestra for *Resonance*. Australian composer Peter Sculthorpe’s *Irkanda IV*, composed in 1961 following the death of his father, is full of emotion.

“It’s a heart-wrenching piece, and this composition was one of the main reasons why Sculthorpe became well known,” Ms Procopio said.

“Being able to do justice to that emotion is what this performance is all about, and I’m hoping to be able to convey that to the audience.”

It’s this dedication to work by emerging musicians that makes **ELDERHALL evenings** stand out as a concert series, Ms Oremland said.

“The series of concerts will be made very special by the young, talented musicians from the Elder Conservatorium of Music as they share their expertise, passion and love for music with the community of Adelaide,” she said.

Other concerts in the **ELDERHALL evenings** series include: the jazz classic *Sketches of Spain*, featuring New York trumpeter Ray Vega; the *Three Choirs at St Peters*; *Connections* with the Wind Orchestra; a semi-staged version of Purcell’s *Dido and Aeneas*; and the stark beauty and deep passions of Sibelius’s Second Symphony, which will bring the series to its *Finale*.

### ELDERHALL evenings – series of six concerts

Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus, University of Adelaide and St Peters Cathedral, King William Road, North Adelaide (30 August only)

9 June – 29 November 2008 (times vary – check the website or brochure for details)

\$25 adult; \$20 concession; \$14 student

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