

Adelaidean

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**Our new babies
are grand**

Story on page 3



Our new babies are grand

The world's finest pianos now grace the stage at Elder Hall, with the recent acquisition of two handcrafted Steinway Grand Pianos, collectively worth more than \$500,000.

Shipped from Hamburg, Germany – where the pianos were individually built – the Steinways represent the largest single acquisition by the Elder Conservatorium of Music in 20 years.

The Head of Keyboard at the University's Elder Conservatorium, Lucinda Collins, said the pianos were specifically selected to suit the size and acoustics of Elder Hall.

"They are beautifully matched to allow for two-piano repertoire," Ms Collins said.

The Steinways will replace two 19-year-old pianos – a Steinway and a Yamaha – that were purchased in the early 1990s.

"The acquisition of the Steinways is significant for the Elder Conservatorium of Music, in particular Elder Hall, where audiences are accustomed to hearing high-quality performances of classical music," Ms Collins said.

"They will give pleasure to so many people and have already generated a wonderful sense of excitement at the Conservatorium. Plans are already underway to celebrate their arrival with some special concerts in 2011."

The Elder Conservatorium is highly regarded for the quality of its performance programs and music teaching, with the acquisition of the Steinways ensuring that piano students have access to the best instruments in the world.

"The Steinway piano is recognised worldwide for the beauty of its touch, for its wonderful sound and for the range and beauty of its tonal colours," Ms Collins said. "As a pianist, they give limitless opportunities to explore sound and texture in music and provide a truly magical experience."

The Director of the Elder Conservatorium of Music, Associate Professor Carl Crossin, said Elder Hall audiences would now be able to hear not only world-class piano performances, but also a world-class sound.

"Whether it is for solo or two-piano recitals, concerto or chamber music performances, the beautiful tone quality of the Steinways will blend perfectly with the clear, warm, acoustics of Elder Hall," Associate Professor Crossin said.

"We are already hearing piano music with fresh ears in Elder Hall and, when compared to our previous concert grands, we know that our audiences are in for a pianistic epiphany," he said.

The new Steinway pianos will feature in the Elder Conservatorium's final public Masterclass for this year. See page 9 for details.

Story by Candy Gibson

Above: Associate Professor Carl Crossin, Director of the Elder Conservatorium of Music, and Lucinda Collins, Head of Keyboard, with the two brand new Steinway pianos
Photo by Mark Brake, courtesy of *The Advertiser*

Contents

- 4 First-year learning boost
- 5 iPads herald new era for science
- 6 Media student combines blogs with broadcast
- 7 Young researchers have road safety impact
- 8 Guitar festival takes students to Korea
- 9 Vet centre open to public
News in Brief
- 10 Our social justice ambassadors
- 11 Inspiring school students to achieve
- 12 Student expertise on display
- 13 IVF children sought for new health study
- 14 No obstacles for VC's scholars
- 15 Bragg legacy lives on
Alumni Privileges
- 16 Coming events

First-year learning boost

First-year Business and Economics students at the University of Adelaide now have a place to call their own.

The University's Faculty of the Professions has recently opened a First Year Learning Centre – a dedicated space for first-year undergraduate students who are studying with the Business School and the School of Economics.

It is the first dedicated learning centre of its kind for first-year students in South Australia. The facility is state-of-the-art, with computer stations, learning booths for group meetings, widescreen TVs with computer access for group work, digital projectors, lounges and meeting rooms.

"Our new First Year Learning Centre recognises the importance of the first-year undergraduate experience," said Professor Pascale Quester, Executive Dean of the Faculty of the Professions.

"We know that supporting new students in the transition from a school environment to university is critical in the students' overall academic success.

"The new Learning Centre promotes a 'social learning experience'. It gives first-year students a sense of belonging and shows them that they are valued. It encourages them to share their experiences



with their peers, make new friends and collaborate on group work, thus breaking the cycle of isolation that students can sometimes experience when they start at university," Professor Quester said.

The Academic Director of the new Learning Centre, Nishani Singh, said additional advice was immediately accessible to first-year students at the centre.

"We have Study Coaches, who can provide discipline-specific advice on core courses within Business and Economics, and a Learning Advisor, who is available for appointments each day, providing advice on academic skills, how to write papers, and other valuable information," Ms Singh said.

"Starting university can be a stressful time for the new student as well as for their family. Knowing that this level of support is in place for students should help to put parents at ease about the learning experience their child is having," she said.

Located in the Nexus 10 building, the new First Year Learning Centre is part of a \$50 million redevelopment of the Faculty's learning and teaching spaces at 10 Pulteney Street, Adelaide.

Story by David Ellis

Above (from left): First-year students Melita Ferguson (Commerce and Arts) and Harry Le (Finance) in the new First Year Learning Centre

Photo by Calum Robertson, courtesy of *The Advertiser*



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iPads herald new era for science

A new approach to learning and an advanced-level Bachelor degree are two ways in which Science is being reinvigorated for students at the University of Adelaide.

The University of Adelaide's Faculty of Sciences is leading the charge in Australia to eventually replace traditional textbooks and paper-based teaching materials.

As part of the move, new first-year students in undergraduate Sciences degree programs in 2011 will receive a free Apple iPad.

The Executive Dean of the Faculty of Sciences, Professor Bob Hill, said the aim of the trial was to revitalise the learning experience for students studying science at the University of Adelaide and make science more appealing as a highly sought after and diverse career pathway.

"I believe this approach will revolutionise the way science is taught at the University of Adelaide. We will be the first university in Australia to teach in this innovative way," Professor Hill said.

"Our teaching material will be more accessible, more relevant and more frequently updated, providing the flexible learning environment that students are looking for. The aim is for the new technology to increase student-teacher interaction."

Professor Hill said providing first-year students with an iPad as part of their core learning tools would transform their educational experience on campus. The roll out of the iPad-enhanced curriculum will start as a trial with the 2011 intake of first-year science students.

"This is a long-term initiative," Professor Hill said. "It will take a couple of years to phase out all the printed textbooks and review and transfer all of the content online. This process will start under the leadership of first-year directors for Biology, Physics, Chemistry and Geology, coordinated by one of the University's award-winning teaching staff, Associate Professor Karin Barovich.

"From 2012 onwards, we expect to roll out fully online versions of our first-year Science courses. Students enrolling in a Science course in 2011 will be the very first to trial the significant benefits of the iPad-enhanced curriculum," he said.

The iPads will be offered to commencing first-year students who enrol in a minimum of two semester 1 courses in an undergraduate Sciences degree program for 2011.

Meanwhile, the Faculty of Sciences has launched a new degree for 2011 that aims to provide a focus for students interested in high-level science.

With a minimum Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 95, the new

Bachelor of Science (Advanced) is designed for high-achieving students who want to develop their research skills.

"This new program gives students who are passionate about science an early opportunity to get involved in the academic and research culture of the University," Professor Hill said.

"As the name suggests, students who undertake this degree program will receive advanced access to activities and opportunities normally only accessible to Honours and postgraduate students. At the same time, the degree still provides students with the choice and flexibility of the current Bachelor of Science."

Professor Hill said research placements and lab attachments would form part of the degree program, introducing students to state-of-the-art laboratories where they can gain practical experience and develop their skills.

"We want to base science teaching around the big questions for the future, such as climate change and food security. We want our students thinking about how they can make an impact on their world, and understanding how science can help them to achieve that," he said.

"The combination of technology-rich science study from first year and the access to a cutting-edge research environment offers the perfect grounding for students to launch rewarding careers in so many areas."

For more information about the iPad-enhanced learning initiative or the new Bachelor of Science (Advanced), go to: www.sciences.adelaide.edu.au

Story by Kate Husband and David Ellis

Below: Science student Erinn Fagan-Jeffries with an Apple iPad. These devices are about to play an important role in the way Science is taught from 2011.

Photo by Calum Robertson, courtesy of *The Advertiser*





Media student combines blogs with broadcast

Five years ago, Jonathan Brown tentatively dipped his toes into the world of community broadcasting when he signed up as a volunteer with Radio Adelaide.

It was 'love at first sound bite' and he quickly became immersed in the medium, which gave him the opportunity to have a voice, and hear many others.

"There's something really powerful about a person's voice telling a story and community radio is one of the only places I have seen that flourish. It is not pretending to be something else because it is raw and real," he said.

The 22-year-old final-year Bachelor of Media student has taken his passion for community radio a step further this year.

In an Australian first, he has established a C Blogging project, which encourages the nation's youth to integrate new media with community broadcasting to reach a whole new audience.

Jonathan is undertaking a nationwide search for 20 young community broadcasters who are keen to learn new digital media skills, which they can incorporate into their radio programs.

In late October he will help train the successful applicants in new media at the national conference of the Community

Broadcasting Association of Australia (CBAA) in Hobart.

As the CBAA's national youth representative, he said young people were crying out to learn new skills they can apply within the community radio environment.

"They will be blogging, tweeting, networking, filming and reporting live from the conference from 21-24 October," he said.

Jonathan's C Blogging initiative has been acknowledged by the Foundation for Young Australians, which has named him as one of 14 Young Social Pioneers in 2010.

Modelled on the International Youth Foundation's global Youth Action Net initiative, the Young Social Pioneers' program is designed for youth aged 18-29 who are committed to social change and who demonstrate a passion and purpose in this regard.

Jonathan will spend the next 12 months undergoing an intensive mentoring, leadership and development program with the 13 other Young Social Pioneers to build on their individual skills and talents.

"I am really interested in social change and how communication can help bring people together," he said.

"In that respect, the Bachelor of Media degree and Radio Adelaide have been the perfect fit for me. They have allowed me to put the bigger picture into context and understand how the media and other communication outlets have such an enormous impact on our lives.

"My passion is to make sure communication skills are shared across society and to ensure that a diverse range of Australians have a voice – not just the top tier, or those with the most money or education."

For more information about the C Bloggers project and the Young Social Pioneers program, go to:

www.cbloggers.org.au

www.youngsocialpioneers.org.au

Story by Candy Gibson

Above: Bachelor of Media student Jonathan Brown at the Radio Adelaide studios

Photo by Chris Tonkin

Young researchers have road safety impact

Young researchers at the University's Centre for Automotive Safety Research (CASR) have won acclaim at Australia's premier road safety conference.

CASR Automotive Engineer Sam Doecke won the award for best research paper comparing the merits of roadside clear zones with roadside barrier protection, and PhD student James Thompson was awarded the best paper by a new researcher. His paper presented the results of a study on older drivers, both rural and urban, and the likelihood that crashes they are involved in result in serious or fatal injuries.

The awards were made at the annual Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference in Canberra. It is the second year in a row that CASR has won both awards and the third year it has won the best research paper award.

CASR Director Mary Lydon said CASR played an important role in Australian road safety and had a national and international reputation for high-quality research.

"The work done by CASR on the relationship between speed and risk provided the impetus for speed limit changes around Australia and is still widely quoted by organisations around the world," Professor Lydon said.

"The CASR program of at-scene crash investigations is still the only program of its type in Australia and has provided data for a wide range of research projects including the work on roadside design which won the best paper award."

Sam Doecke is an automotive engineer who graduated from the University of Adelaide in 2006 and has since been working at CASR. He is involved with CASR's in-depth crash investigations and various research projects focusing on safer vehicles, roads and roadsides. His particular expertise lies in crash reconstruction and simulation.

His paper, *Effective use of clear zones and barriers in a Safe System's context* with Jeremy Woolley, re-examines the use of clear zones as the preferred rural roadside safety measure protecting against fixed object crashes, as compared to barriers.

Mr Doecke simulated single vehicle crashes using advanced computer techniques and found that adequate clear zones to ensure low impact speeds weren't possible in most situations and that barriers provide a viable alternative.

James Thompson is a PhD student focusing on comparing the different mobility and safety issues that face older drivers in rural and urban areas. He hopes that his research will help older drivers reduce their exposure to risk when they drive, but at the same time help them to maintain their mobility for as long as possible.

His paper, *Older drivers in rural and urban areas: Comparisons of crash, serious injury, and fatality rates* with supervisors Matthew Baldock, Jane Mathias and Lisa Wundersitz, found older drivers had fewer crashes but those were more likely to be serious.

Story by Robyn Mills

Below: Award-winning road safety researchers: Sam Doecke (left) and James Thompson

Photo by Robyn Mills



Guitar festival takes students to Korea

Students and staff from the University's Elder Conservatorium of Music have played an important part in the first Korean International Guitar Festival.

Three students – Jakob Brunnbauer, Benjamin Leahy and Phillip Nguyen – attended the event in Yeongju City, South Korea, along with Adjunct Lecturer in Classical Guitar Oliver Fartach-Naini, who was one of the organisers of the festival.

Benjamin and Jakob are both in their third year of Music Education, while Phillip is studying for a degree in Classical Performance combined with his studies in Medicine. All three are studying classical guitar under Mr Fartach-Naini and perform regularly as part of the Elder Conservatorium Guitar Ensemble.

The week-long event saw guitar students and teachers from around the world take part in masterclasses and performances.

"With over 25 concerts and 50 masterclasses, this festival is a great addition to the international guitar events calendar," Mr Fartach-Naini said.

"It was an honour to be part of it and a tremendous pleasure to be able to share this experience with some of my students."

Jakob said: "The opportunity to have lessons and play in Korea has been invaluable – it was a big learning experience for us.

"In addition to the masterclasses we all performed in a large student ensemble, conducted by Japanese guitarist and composer Shingo Fuji. This provided us with the opportunity to meet and perform with many of the top students from Asia.

"We also had the chance to meet and learn from some of the leading guitarists from around the world, such as Eduardo Fernandez of Uruguay and Shin-Ichi Fukuda of Japan," he said.

With more than three concerts daily, the festival saw many internationally recognised guitarists in action, including Mr Fartach-Naini.

Among the many student performances was *Slapdash Stampede*, an original composition written by Jakob Brunnbauer, which he performed with Benjamin Leahy and South Korean participant Ahn Kwan-Sik during the closing ceremony.

While in South Korea, the students also travelled to the seaport city of Pohang to play in one last concert, which also featured Jakob's composition.

Meanwhile, fellow Classical Guitar Masters student Jody Fisher has also recently returned from overseas. She spent a month in Europe having lessons and performing by invitation at international guitar festivals in Germany and Liechtenstein.

Jody Fisher and members of the Elder Conservatorium Guitar Ensemble will feature in the Adelaide International Guitar Festival's *Guitarissimo* on Saturday 27 November.

For more information, go to: www.adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/guitarfestival

Below (from left): Benjamin Leahy, Jakob Brunnbauer, Oliver Fartach-Naini and Phillip Nguyen

Photo by David Ellis





Vet centre open to public

Members of the public will get their first chance this month to take a behind-the-scenes look at the University's new, state-of-the-art Veterinary Health Centre at the Roseworthy Campus.

A free Community Open Day will be held at the Veterinary Health Centre from 10.00am-3.00pm on Sunday 10 October.

The \$28 million centre is the first of its kind in the State. It is part of a total \$37 million investment at the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus to make it the home of teaching, research and community engagement for animal and veterinary sciences.

The new Vet Health Centre houses a public access Companion Animal Health Centre (for dogs, cats and other domestic pets). The clinical services provided at the Companion Animal Health Centre will play a vital role in furthering the education of students in the University's School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences at Roseworthy. This opens to the public on 1 November, offering a wide range of services. The Vet Health Centre also includes a veterinary diagnostic pathology laboratory and teaching facilities.

The Companion Animal Health Centre contains intensive care, ultrasound, radiology, surgical theatre and other specialist facilities, and is staffed by a range of experienced vets and vet nurses.

At the Community Open Day, public tours will be available through areas of the Vet Health Centre normally only accessible to University staff and students.

Members of the public will also have the chance to join a live Vet School class, see where and how pets are treated, and better understand the important role the practical side of animal care plays in educating the next generation of vets.

"The new Veterinary Health Centre at Roseworthy Campus is a facility that the local community can feel truly proud of," said Professor Gail Anderson, Head of the School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences.

"It's the biggest, the best and most state-of-the-art facility of its kind that I've ever had the pleasure of working in.

"People who come to our Community Open Day will be amazed at what we have achieved here at the Roseworthy Campus. Whether or not they're intending to bring their pets to us for care and treatment, there will be a lot of interest in what our new Vet Health Centre has to offer," she said.

Story by David Ellis

Photo by Randy Larcombe

News in Brief



Michael Eustice in *Influence*

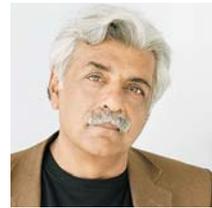
Photo by Chris Tonkin

Theatre Guild wins award

The University of Adelaide Theatre Guild has won the Adelaide Theatre Guide Curtain Call Award for Best Ensemble (Amateur) for its production of *Influence* by David Williamson.

Directed in May by Brant Eustice, *Influence* starred Michael Eustice as radio shock jock Ziggi Blasco, alongside cast members Emily Branford, Alicia Case, David Jobling, Cate Rogers, Tony Sampson and Kate Vanderhorst.

www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild



Author and commentator Tariq Ali

Photo by Nina Subin

Memorial lecture: the future of Palestine

High-profile British Pakistani author and political commentator Tariq Ali will deliver the sixth annual Edward Said Memorial Lecture at the University of Adelaide.

His lecture, entitled *The Future of Palestine: Israel protectorate, genuine independence or a single-state solution?*, will be held at 5.00pm on Saturday 9 October in Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus.

The Memorial Lecture was established in 2005 in honour of one of the most influential and famous Palestinian intellectuals, Edward Said, who died in 2003.

Tariq Ali, a leading figure of the international left since the 1960s, was a long-time friend of Said's and interviewed him many times, publishing this material in the 2005 book *Conversations with Edward Said*.

The lecture is sponsored by the Australia Friends of the Palestine Association. Tickets are \$20 and can be bought online at www.afopa.com.au or by calling 08 8333 9701.

www.adelaide.edu.au/esml

Public masterclass with renowned pianist

Adelaide pianists and music lovers will get the chance to 'meet' the new Steinway pianos in Elder Hall (see story on page 3) and also have the opportunity to witness the creative process in the final of this year's public Masterclass Series.

Renowned German pianist Bernd Glemser will work with talented students from the University's Elder Conservatorium of Music from 1.00pm-3.00pm on Monday 11 October. Admission is \$10. For bookings, call Claire Oremland on 08 8303 5925.

www.music.adelaide.edu.au/elderhall

Our social justice ambassadors

Three University of Adelaide students have been singled out by the St Vincent de Paul Society for leading the way on social justice issues.

Lucky Giirre, Bec Taylor and Jessica Wright were last month named Vinnies Award Ambassadors for 2010 at the charity's second annual Social Justice Awards night.

The three students were among a select group of four, chosen as ambassadors from 15 young adults in South Australia who are all "making a difference" in society.

Lucky Giirre, 23, a Law and Languages student, is a Somalian refugee who in 2008 co-founded the Muslim Girls Kollektive in Adelaide, a ground-breaking initiative aimed at giving young Muslim women and refugees the opportunity to access educational and recreational activities in their community.

Lucky coordinated a series of workshops and social activities for the group, including talks by various people about accessing higher education pathways, learning basic life skills, and advice on relationship, social isolation and identity issues, among other topics.

In July, she presented a paper on this project at a World Health Promotion Conference in Geneva, after successfully being selected ahead of 3000 other applicants.

Bec Taylor, 20, a double degree Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science student, has been instrumental in lobbying the University to become a Fair Trade accredited campus.

Fair Trade is an organised social movement and market-based approach that aims to help producers in developing countries obtain better trading conditions and promote sustainability.

In May, Bec organised a Fair Trade and Social Justice Expo on the North Terrace Campus, which brought a large number of not-for-profit organisations onto campus to liaise with the students.

Bec also runs a website called Socially Justified (www.sociallyjustified.com), which contains resources and stories about a range of social justice issues, including ethical investments, military conflicts and other moral discussions.

Bachelor of Science student Jessica Wright, 19, is a Vinnies Youth volunteer and has spent the past three years working with disadvantaged children in Adelaide's southern suburbs.

Jessica's volunteering journey started in 2006, when she spent several months in the Moroccan city of Salé working as an art teacher for children outside of the mainstream education system.

As a Vinnies Youth Leader she has participated in numerous camps and activities for disadvantaged students, or those at risk of social exclusion.

At the awards night held at Nazareth College, Lucky Giirre spoke on behalf of the four Ambassadors, telling the audience that helping others had many positive outcomes.

"If you support, encourage and believe in young people, they believe in themselves and then anything is possible. Volunteering doesn't just help others; it boosts your own self-confidence in so many ways and is extremely fulfilling," she said.

Catriona Standfield, a double degree student in Arts and International Studies, was also nominated as a Vinnies Youth Ambassador for her work in nuclear disarmament, human rights, the Red Cross, and many other social projects.

St Vincent de Paul Society CEO John Haren described the Ambassadors as "a shining light to young and old".

"They represent many young people who make a difference for others. As well as being our future, they are already young leaders creating a fair and just community," Mr Haren said.



Story by Candy Gibson

From left: St Vinnies Youth Ambassadors Jessica Wright, Lucky Giirre and Bec Taylor

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Inspiring school students to achieve

Raising school students' awareness of the myriad of career opportunities available to them is a key aim of the University of Adelaide's community engagement activities.

The University's Office for Community Engagement, with the help of many volunteers, organises annual 'enterprise days' – events that bring together school students, community and business leaders, and others who make a positive impact on society both locally and overseas.

Recently, more than 275 students from primary and secondary schools attended separate events for the western and far northern regions of Adelaide.

The annual Western Region Enterprise Day, held last month in Bonython Hall on the North Terrace Campus, involved primary and secondary students as well as members of charity enterprises.

For the first time, a Northern Enterprise Education Day was also held at the University's Roseworthy Campus, joining secondary students with members of business.

"These events are all about giving students a broader view of their future career options," said the Director of Community Engagement, Martyn Evans.

"By hearing stories from young business people who share their tales of personal success, and from social entrepreneurs who are making a positive impact on local

and overseas communities, we hope to enlighten and inspire students to think about new pathways to follow.

"The enterprise days also encourage students to think about the basic business principles that apply to social enterprise and entrepreneurship," he said.

At the end of each event, secondary students gave PowerPoint presentations to demonstrate some of the ideas they gained during the day, while the primary students involved in the Western Region Enterprise Day developed their own fundraising product.

"These activities complement the students' teaching and aim to provide them with a basic understanding of such things as business practice, marketing and financial management," Mr Evans said.

Now in its 14th year, the annual Western Region Enterprise Day event has inspired more than 2500 school students. The keynote speaker was Nikki Lovell from One Village, a charity that helps people in the Ugandan village of Namwendwa.

South Australian Youth Minister the Hon. Grace Portolesi MP attended the event, as well as a number of representatives from Charles Sturt, West Torrens, and Port Adelaide Enfield councils.

The Member for Wakefield, Mr Nick Champion MP, officially opened the Northern Enterprise Education Day at Roseworthy. The keynote speaker was Mike Chalmers from Add Value Promotions and President of the Entrepreneurs Organisation.

A number of other representatives from Playford, Gawler, Barossa and Clare and Gilbert Valley council districts also attended.

Mr Evans said he was grateful for the involvement of state and local governments, community and business organisations, Advantage SA, Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) and the schools themselves.

"They all understand the value of engaging with students in this way, and helping students to discover what kind of future they want for themselves and for their communities," he said.

Story by David Ellis

Above: Prospective Student Adviser Tony Duggan (far right) working with secondary students at the Northern Enterprise Education Day

Photo by John Hemmings



Student expertise on display

Our future engineers and computer scientists will this month showcase their innovative ideas for our society to industry and the general public in a series of exhibitions.

Final-year students from four schools within the University of Adelaide's Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences will exhibit their work at the Adelaide Showgrounds and in the new 6-star Innova21 building on campus.

The Adelaide Showground's Goyder Pavilion on Wednesday 27 October will be filled with projects including a solar thermal air conditioner, a self-balancing electric unicycle, a wind turbine for urban environments and a robotic 'graffiti artist'.

These are just some of the more than 60 projects on display at the School of Mechanical Engineering's 16th annual Honours Project Exhibition, open to the public from 9.00am-4.00pm. This year there will also be an invitation-only launch the evening before, Tuesday 26 October, with a public preview from 7.00pm-9.00pm.

"The exhibition has evolved into a celebration of ideas, innovation and engineering talent," said the Head of the School of Mechanical Engineering, Associate Professor Bassam Dally. "The projects and the exhibition are well

supported by industry and government, and attract many high school students, teachers and the general public.

"It gives our students an opportunity to both develop their presentation skills and to show and explain their ideas to potential employers and the public.

"The staff are very proud of the annual exhibition. It demonstrates the skills level and breadth of talent of their graduating students, and the hard work that has gone towards solving real engineering challenges facing our society."

During October, there will be a further four public exhibitions in the exhibition space on the ground floor of the university's new Innova 21 building.

On Thursday 14 October, the School of Chemical Engineering will hold its Research Poster Presentations from 11.30am-2.30pm.

On Friday 29 October, 10.00am-12.30pm, the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering will exhibit final-year projects, including a musically-excited water fountain, a bicycle lane traffic enforcer, and

a radio relay system for remote sensors in the Antarctic.

From 1.30pm-3.30pm, the School of Computer Science will hold its Honours and Masters Project Exhibition, including a project in sports computer vision enabling accurate tracking of football players around the field, and software to help collect and combine data from multiple sources to help in emergency management situations.

From 4.00pm-6.00pm, Computer Science will also hold its Mobile and Wireless Networks Exhibition, including mobile phone applications showing the real-time location of buses fitted with GPS trackers – so commuters can tell whether they've missed their bus – and an English language learning aid.

All of the exhibitions are free and open to the public.

Story by Robyn Mills

Above: Students with the self-balancing electric unicycle

Photo by Michael Mullan



IVF children sought for new health study

South Australians conceived through in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) between 1985 and 1992 are being sought for a study to determine whether they are more at risk of developing obesity and associated risk factors, such as type 2 diabetes.

The study, led by Associate Professor Leonie Heilbronn from the University of Adelaide's Robinson Institute, will test emerging evidence showing there are DNA modifications in IVF-born children and whether these contribute to obesity and diabetes.

"A couple of recent studies have shown that IVF-born children as young as five years of age are more susceptible to obesity," Dr Heilbronn said.

"There is much greater obesity in the whole community than a decade ago due to lifestyle factors, but children born through IVF appear to have a greater risk."

Up to 20 IVF-born individuals aged between 18 and 25 years are needed for a week-long pilot study involving three days of a regulated diet followed by another three days of high-fat feasting.

Their insulin levels will be tested at the end of both stages and their results compared with a control group of naturally conceived adults in the same age range, gender and comparable body weight.

"We are predicting that people born through IVF will have much bigger increases in glucose and insulin," Dr Heilbronn said.

DNA chemical modifications – known as methylation – are laid down during embryo development and may be formed differently when conception occurs outside of the body, Dr Heilbronn said.

"This may alter the production of certain genes, contributing to a greater risk of obesity and diabetes," she said.

IVF-born children now account for between 1-3% of all births in the western world, with an estimated three million people around the globe who have been conceived through assisted reproductive technology.

"Early studies reported little or no difference in the incidence of birth defects in children conceived through IVF, but emerging evidence shows that there may be more subtle DNA modifications, which could later influence adult health," Dr Heilbronn said.

For more details about the study go to www.robinsoninstitute.edu.au or call Dr Heilbronn on 08 8222 4900.

Story by Candy Gibson



Students, staff head *Into the Woods*

Students and staff from the University of Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium of Music and TafeSA's Adelaide College of the Arts will jointly present a production of Stephen Sondheim's fairytale musical *Into the Woods*.

The singers and orchestra for the production have been drawn from students at the Elder Conservatorium, while the theatre and rehearsal space as well as the technical, lighting and sound expertise will be provided by the Adelaide College of the Arts.

This cleverly written fairytale musical incorporates the plots from a number of Brothers Grimm stories, including *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Rapunzel* and *Cinderella*.

When: 7.30pm Wednesday 6 to Saturday 9 October, 5.00pm Sunday 10 October

Where: Main Theatre, Adelaide College of the Arts, 39 Light Square

Cost: Tickets: \$25, \$20 concession. For bookings phone 08 8303 5925

Into the Woods has been supported by a Helpmann Academy major grant.

Theatre Guild goes raw for *Some Girl(s)*

This month, the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild is stripping its production right back to a more simplified format.

In two performances only, the Guild is staging a moved play reading of Neil LaBute's "hilarious but unsettling" work, *Some Girl(s)*.

Some Girl(s) tells the story of Guy, whose method of preparing for marital bliss is to spend all of his savings jetting around the USA, catching up with his old lovers.

Four girls, four hotel rooms in four cities, four scathing and emotionally raw pieces – *Some Girl(s)* is an honest and compelling examination of modern sexual politics.

In a moved play reading, the actors read from their scripts, there are minimal props and set pieces, and there is just a hint of costuming. This raw format enables the Theatre Guild to test the potential of otherwise overlooked plays for fuller presentation.

When: 7.30pm Friday 15 and Saturday 16 October

Where: Little Theatre, near the Cloisters, North Terrace Campus

Cost: All tickets \$15, available from the Theatre Guild on 08 8303 5999 (fee applies for credit card bookings) or on the door, subject to availability.

www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild



No obstacles for VC's scholars

Two promising University of Adelaide students are this year's recipients of the prestigious Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships.

Funded entirely from donations from alumni and the University community, the scholarships support outstanding students who experience geographic and/or financial disadvantage for the duration of their degree.

This year's recipients, Kathryn Grocke and Peter Pham, bring the total number of students at the University of Adelaide currently supported by Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships to nine – a figure that pleases the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor James McWha.

"Since it began in 2003, we have offered 18 Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships to worthy students who have been faced with financial obstacles to study," he said in launching the 2011 Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship Funds Appeal.

"Nine of these students are still studying their undergraduate degrees at the University, and next year this number will rise to 11.

"We want the best and brightest students to attend the University of Adelaide and the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships give these students the opportunity to do this, regardless of their backgrounds."

First-year medical student Kathryn Grocke grew up on her family's fourth-generation farm north of Adelaide and

attended Faith Lutheran School in Tanunda.

She described her Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship as a huge support during her first year at university.

"Relocating to the city is a big move for most country students and having the backing of a VC's Scholarship has made the experience much less daunting," she said.

"It has enabled me to settle into uni and focus on my studies by removing some of the worry about financing accommodation, textbooks, lab coats and stethoscopes."

Kathryn is keen, at this stage, to return to a rural community to practice medicine after completing her degree.

"To me, studying medicine offers the right balance of head and heart – it has both the intricacies of science and the opportunity to work compassionately with people and improve their quality of life," she said.

Peter Pham is studying a double degree in Mechatronic Engineering and Maths & Computer Science at the University of Adelaide.

The former Christian Brothers College student hopes to pursue a career working with robots and has no doubts that the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship has given his university studies – and career – a significant boost.

"Receiving the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship has had a great impact on my life," Peter said.

"It is nice to not have to worry about uni fees, and my parents are also very proud and thankful."

Peter is from a non-English speaking family, with both his parents caring full-time for his seriously ill sister.

"This scholarship has helped me and my family immensely, and we are sincerely thankful for the generosity shown to us through the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship Appeal," he said.

Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships are valued at \$5000 per year for the program of study. Recipients are selected on academic merit and financial need, with at least one scholarship each year awarded to a student from a rural or remote area.

To find out more about the 2011 Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships Appeal, or to make a donation, visit:
www.alumni.adelaide.edu.au/vcs_appeal

Story by Ben Osborne

Above: Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships recipients Kathryn Grocke and Peter Pham with the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor James McWha

Photo by John Hemmings



Bragg legacy lives on

A new, hi-tech research facility named in honour of the Nobel Prize-winning father-and-son team Sir William and Sir Lawrence Bragg has been opened at the University of Adelaide.

The Bragg Crystallography Facility is based in the University's Johnson Building on the North Terrace Campus.

The facility will enable researchers to determine the structure of both small and large molecules using a process known as X-ray diffraction. This will play a key role in research into areas such as cancer, Alzheimer's and other diseases, and the development of salt- and drought-tolerant crops, bio-fuels and nanotechnology.

With funding from an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities grant, the new facility has been established by the three South Australian universities and with assistance from the Hanson Institute, SA Museum, Bio-Innovation SA, and the Royal Institution of Australia.

"This facility has strong historical links with Sir William and Sir Lawrence Bragg, who conducted experiments into X-ray radiation and diffraction here at the University of Adelaide," said the director of the facility, ARC Future Fellow Dr Chris Sumbly from the School of Chemistry & Physics.

"These two truly exceptional scientists invented the 'Bragg's X-ray Diffraction Law', which was the result of their groundbreaking research with X-rays at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century.

"This law is fundamental to three-dimensional (3D) structural determination of

molecules, including large molecules such as proteins and DNA."

He said the new facility was established to meet the needs of the South Australian crystallographic community.

"We now have two state-of-the-art diffractometers capable of structure determination of small and large molecules. The strategic importance of the facility is highlighted by the recent establishment of several South Australian structural research groups, such as at the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics (ACPFPG) at the Waite Campus, and completion of the Australian Synchrotron in Victoria," said Associate Professor Maria Hrmova from the ACPFG.

"The Bragg Crystallography Facility will also support undergraduate and postgraduate training in techniques that underpin many areas of scientific endeavour, for example structural biology and nanotechnology," said Dr Sumbly.

"The new facility will help both scientists and students in South Australia to peer into structural and functional relationships of small and large molecules, and this will advance knowledge, understanding and culture in our society and research environment," said Associate Professor Hrmova.

Above: Associate Professor Maria Hrmova with one of the new diffractometers in the Bragg Crystallography Facility
Inset: Nobel Prize-winners Sir William Bragg and Sir Lawrence Bragg

Alumni

PRIVILEGES

Adelaide alumni have access to a range of exclusive benefits, services and discounts – and each month we bring you the pick of the bunch for a featured special.



EFM Health Clubs – 30 Days for \$30

University of Adelaide alumni can take advantage of this special offer at any of EFM's 60 Health Clubs throughout Australia during October.

EFM bridges the gap between a traditional gym and a personal trainer. What you get at EFM is the latest in fitness equipment and expertise, exercise programs that are tailored to you each session, and all at a fraction of the price of a personal training session.

For more information about EFM Health Clubs and the full alumni privileges package, including terms and conditions, go to: www.alumni.adelaide.edu.au/privileges





Research Tuesdays

SHARING GREAT RESEARCH
WITH THE COMMUNITY



Genes and Jumpers

How mobile elements in our DNA interact with genes to make us look like "us"

It's common knowledge that our genetic blueprint is encoded in our DNA, or genome. It's also commonly believed that the main component in that blueprint is genes.

But in reality genes comprise just 2% of our DNA and, paradoxically, are quite similar from species to species. So how do we account for such variety in appearances and behaviours?

The remaining 98% of the fabled double helix – largely mobile elements – would appear to be playing a key role. And research at the University of Adelaide is bringing it into focus.

In this fascinating presentation Professor David Adelson will reveal how these mobile elements affect our genes, how the genome changes over time and the impact this can have on our lives.

WHEN: Tuesday 12th October, 5.30-6.30pm

WHERE: Horace Lamb Lecture Theatre
North Terrace Campus

ADMISSION FREE, BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Register online:

www.adelaide.edu.au/researchtuesdays
or call: 08 8303 3692

Games Day (Fun in 1901)

What did children do for fun more than 100 years ago? A unique school holidays event suitable for ages 7-13.

When: Wednesday 6 October

Where: Urrbrae House, Waite Campus
(off Fullarton Road, Urrbrae)

Cost: \$12 children, \$8 adults

To book: Call 08 8303 7497 or email:
amanda.jackson@adelaide.edu.au

Energy Futures

A public seminar series organised by the Centre for Energy Technology in conjunction with the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

For more info email: environment@adelaide.edu.au
or visit: www.adelaide.edu.au/environment/cet

When: 5.00pm each Wednesday from 6-27 October

Where: Horace Lamb Lecture Theatre,
North Terrace Campus

Cost: Free – all welcome. No registration necessary.

Thinking Critically About Sustainable Energy – Non-Carbon Energy Technologies

Part of a public seminar series organised by the Centre for Energy Technology in conjunction with the Royal Institution of Australia.

For more info email: environment@adelaide.edu.au
or visit: www.adelaide.edu.au/environment/cet

When: 6.00pm-7.30pm Wednesday 6 October

Where: The Science Exchange,
55 Exchange Place, Adelaide

Cost: Free, but bookings essential

RSVP: www.riaus.org.au

Into the Woods

Students and staff from the University of Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium of Music and TAFE SA's Adelaide College of the Arts jointly present a production of Stephen Sondheim's fairytale musical *Into the Woods*.

When: 7.30pm Wednesday-Saturday 6-9 October,
5.00pm Sunday 10 October

Where: Main Theatre, Adelaide College of the Arts,
39 Light Square, Adelaide

Cost: Tickets \$25, \$20 concession

To book: Call Claire Oremland on 08 8303 5925

Friends of the University of Adelaide Library

Andrew Bovell: *When the Rain Stops Falling*. Andrew will talk about the journey of his play from the conception of the idea to its different interpretations.

When: 6.00pm for 6.30pm Thursday 7 October

Where: Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, Barr Smith Library,
North Terrace Campus

Cost: Free and open to all – gold coin donation invited

To book: by Tuesday 5 October call 08 8303 4064
or email robina.weir@adelaide.edu.au or

2010 Edward Said Memorial Lecture

Israel/Palestine in the 21st Century by Tariq Ali, British Pakistani historian, novelist, filmmaker, political campaigner and commentator

www.adelaide.edu.au/esml

When: 5.00pm-7.00pm Saturday 9 October

Where: Elder Hall, North Terrace Campus

Cost: Tickets \$18

To book: Purchase tickets online: www.afopa.com.au
or call 08 8333 9701

Veterinary Health Centre Community Open Day

Come and see behind the scenes at our state-of-the-art veterinary health facilities and meet our friendly vet staff.

When: 10.00am-3.00pm Sunday 10 October

Where: Veterinary Health Centre, Roseworthy Campus
(approx. 50 kms north of Adelaide)

Cost: Free – all welcome

Centre for Automotive Safety Research – free seminar series

ESC & High Speed Rural Road Crashes by Jamie Mackenzie

<http://casr.adelaide.edu.au>

When: 4.00pm Wednesday 13 October

Where: Art Gallery Auditorium, Art Gallery of South
Australia, North Terrace, Adelaide

Cost: Free

RSVP: Please register your attendance with
Leonie Witter on 08 8303 4114 or email: leonie.witter@adelaide.edu.au

ROCA (Roseworthy Old Collegians Association)

Annual ROCA Dinner, Reunion and AGM

When: 6.30pm, Friday 15 October

Where: Glenelg Golf Club, James Melrose Road,
Novar Gardens

Cost: \$50 ROCA members, \$55 non-members

To book: Contact Dale Manson on 0418 811 233

University of Adelaide Theatre Guild presents Neil LaBute's *Some Girl(s)*

A moved play reading directed by John Wells

www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild

When: 7.30pm Friday 15 and Saturday 16 October

Where: Little Theatre, near the Cloisters,
North Terrace Campus

Cost: All tickets \$15

To book: Tickets available from the Theatre Guild
on 08 8303 5999 (fee applies for credit
card bookings) or on the door, subject to
availability

Friends of the University of Adelaide Library and Unibooks in association with Allen & Unwin and the University of Adelaide Environment Institute

The Legacy; an elder's vision for our sustainable future by David Suzuki

When: 6.00pm for 6.30pm Thursday 21 October

Where: Scott Theatre, North Terrace Campus (off
Kintore Avenue)

Cost: \$20 or \$15 concession + \$3 booking fee

To book: Tickets available from Unibooks or Venue
Tix outlets, call 08 8225 888 or go to:
www.venueitx.com.au

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

For more information about Coming Events
please visit our News and Events website:
www.adelaide.edu.au/news