

Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

December 2011 | Volume 20 | Number 8 | Free Publication



Anatomy art
is a winner

Story on page 3

Actions speak louder

“The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.”

...said the English philosopher and sociologist, Herbert Spencer. Judging by the amount and rate of action generated by the staff and students of the University of Adelaide in 2011, I would say that we are fulfilling that aim in great earnest.

This year has been filled with exceptional results in teaching and research; achievements we have come to expect from our staff, students and alumni, and of which we can all be very proud.

From record-breaking funding for health and medical research to the launch of our purpose-built student learning space, Hub Central, the University has celebrated another year of significant accomplishment.

Of particular note, our inaugural Research Week and more recently, the Festival of Learning and Teaching, gave us a unique opportunity to reflect on what these fundamental pillars of our University really mean to us, as a higher education community, and more broadly to the general public.

Creating a renewed dialogue between staff and students, particularly relating to learning outcomes, and a student-centric experience, will provide a strong platform to guide our plans in the coming years.

Building on our links to the local community and working with industry and all levels of government, this year we have continued to unlock opportunities for partnerships that will

benefit so many through research, learning and innovation. This ranges from our acoustics researchers investigating the causes of wind turbine noise, with the aim of making them quieter and solving ‘wind turbine syndrome’, to our dental students providing free oral health care to Adelaide’s homeless people. Our individual and collective impact grows each year, addressing community need where it is needed most.

Quite unexpectedly, 2011 also revealed a profound sense of humanity and generosity at the University. If the aim of the education is ultimately action, then our student exchange, following the Christchurch earthquake with the University of Canterbury in semester one, has left an indelible impression of the power of extending an unconditional hand of assistance.

This simple yet far-reaching gesture transformed our University, reinforcing a truly organisation-wide capacity to act for a greater good. The legacy of this partnership will endure as current and future students and staff, from both sides of the Tasman, further the friendship that has been forged under the most tragic of circumstances.

Next year promises to bring new challenges for the University, and for the higher education sector as a whole. The removal of student caps, the introduction of new regulatory frameworks and changes to international education will impact us in different ways. Fortunately, we are well placed and prepared to respond to the uncertainties that the changes will invariably bring.

As another busy year draws to a close, I wish you and your family all the best for the festive season.



JAMES A. McWHA
Vice-Chancellor and President

Adelaidean

Adelaidean is the official newspaper of the University of Adelaide. It provides news and information about the University to the general public, with a focus on Life Impact.

Circulation:

9,000 per month

Online readership:

140,000 hits per month (on average)

www.adelaide.edu.au/adelaidean

Editor:

David Ellis

Design:

Chris Tonkin

Writers:

Candy Gibson
Kate Husband
Robyn Mills

Contributors:

Connie Dutton, Rebecca Pym,
Heather Riddell

Cover photo:

Photo by Michael Mullan

Adelaidean will return in 2012

Do you receive too many Adelaideans? Not enough? Want to be added to our mailing list or taken off?

Contact us to let us know.

Editorial enquiries:

Phone: +61 8 8303 5414

Email: adelaidean@adelaide.edu.au

Mailing address:

Adelaidean
Marketing & Strategic Communications
The University of Adelaide
SA 5005 Australia

CRICOS Provider Number 000123M

Printed by:

Lane Print & Post

Registered by Australia Post

No 565001/00046

Adelaidean is printed on Alpine Coated paper which features the following environmental profile.

dalton.com.au



sustainable forest



mill certified



elemental chlorine free

Follow the University of Adelaide on Facebook and Twitter:



facebook.com/uniofadelaid

twitter.com/uniofadelaid





Anatomy art is a winner

Body painting and digital animation of body parts are among the novel approaches helping to inspire the University of Adelaide's anatomy students.

These techniques have also earned recognition for Associate Professor Mounir Ghabriel, from the Discipline of Anatomy and Pathology in the School of Medical Sciences, who has won the University's top prize for teaching in 2011.

Associate Professor Ghabriel was presented with the Vice-Chancellor and President's Award for Excellence in Teaching at a celebration of the 2011 teaching year, marking the close of the University's inaugural Festival of Learning and Teaching.

The Festival of Learning and Teaching brought together staff, students and others to discuss and showcase new approaches to teaching and learning to deliver the best learning outcomes for students.

Associate Professor Ghabriel is employing multiple approaches to engage students' interest and help them learn complex human anatomy. These include body painting to help give a 3-D appreciation of what's beneath the skin, layered colour-coded diagrams the students produce themselves, interactive 3-D models, and digital animation. An e-museum for remote learning of the specimens in the School's museums is also being created.

"Learning human anatomy can be daunting for medical, dental and health sciences students, for the volume of anatomical terms and the complexity of the structure of the human body and its systems, particularly the nervous system," said Associate Professor Ghabriel.

"But it's an important subject as it provides the basis for understanding normal structure and introduces students to medical terminology and communication

– so it's principally taught in the early years of the course.

"Students have unique optimal learning styles so we aimed to interest all and lose none through multiple approaches."

The Vice-Chancellor's Award was selected from three Stephen Cole the Elder Awards for Excellence in Teaching.

"Mounir receives this award in recognition of his many years of commitment to improving the quality of anatomy teaching and the overall learning experience of medical students," said Professor Pascale Quester, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Academic).

"His strong concern for students and teaching development has had a significant and lasting impact on both his students and the wider teaching community."

The other two Stephen Cole the Elder Awards went to **Associate Professor Colin Kestell** (School of Mechanical Engineering) and **Dr Ben McCann** (School of Humanities).

The Award for Excellence in Support of the Student Experience was awarded to **Allan Carrington** (Centre for Learning and Professional Experience), and the Award for Excellence for Higher Degree by Research Supervision was won by **Dr Susan Hosking** (School of Humanities). A number of Faculty teaching awards were also presented.

The University next year will introduce new awards in recognition of contributions to the student learning experience.

Story by Robyn Mills

Above: Associate Professor Mounir Ghabriel (right) with dental student Stuart Renigers, demonstrating some of the anatomical art

Contents

- 4 \$25 million win shines light on research
- 5 Net tightens on aquatic pests
- 6 My-Time entrepreneurs rise to the challenge
- Rhodes Scholar returns
- 7 Uni is workplace safety champion
- Team-building ideas win national prize
- 8 Drawn to Adelaide by international agenda
- 9 Top academics reap State awards
- 10 Classics offers insights into human condition
- Facebook, Twitter in a healthy society
- 11 New centre to tackle housing stress
- Aboriginal Law Program offers study pathway
- 12 Leader in maths, physics dies
- 50 years on for the class of 1961
- 13 Alumni Privileges
- New look for ASQ
- 14 International award for music teacher
- Win a slice of history
- 15 Coming Events
- 16 Reader Survey – your chance to win a Kindle Reader

\$25 million win shines light on research

University of Adelaide researchers have been awarded more than \$25.5 million in national competitive funding over the past month for new discoveries and knowledge of great potential benefit to the community and our nation.

A total of 48 new research projects – grants totalling \$15.3 million – were announced as part of the Australian Research Council’s (ARC) major grants announcement for projects starting in 2012 to benefit our environment, our health, culture, technology and the economy.

A further \$10.2 million of ARC funding was awarded to 20 early and mid-career researchers under the inaugural Discovery Early Career Research Awards and prestigious Future Fellowships schemes. This funding will help retain some of the top minds already working at the University of Adelaide and support new researchers joining the University next year from the United States, France, Germany and from other Australian universities.

These excellent results followed the previous month’s announcement of a record \$44.8 million in 2012 National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) grants for 61 new health and medical projects.

“ARC grants are awarded to researchers who are considered to be among the very best in their fields, whose work and collaborative relationships will provide new knowledge and new opportunities for our nation,” said the University’s Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Mike Brooks.

“This research is helping us find answers in areas of great importance to the nation and the world – advancing solar energy, protecting us from disease, assessing the seismic safety of structures and many more.

“These results, following soon after our record \$44.8 million funding from the NHMRC, reinforces our position among the nation’s research leaders.”

The new ARC funding covers:

37 new Discovery Projects including -

- \$900,000 to Professor Gus Nathan (Centre for Energy Technology) – *Heat transfer in novel solar thermal reactors to process minerals and solar fuels;*
- \$860,000 to Dr Adrienne Paton (School of Molecular and Biomedical Science) – *Novel perspectives on the function of AB5 toxin B subunits in pathogenic bacteria;*
- \$320,000 to Professor Michael Griffith (School of Civil, Environmental and Mining Engineering) – *Improved analysis techniques for seismic assessment of unreinforced masonry buildings with flexible floor/roof diaphragms;*
- \$162,449 to Dr Emma Baker (School of Social Sciences) – *Pathways to health and wellbeing through housing: a new causal understanding of relationships, processes and interventions;*
- \$150,000 to Dr Ralph Bayer (School of Economics) – *Effective and efficient corporate tax enforcement.*

Among the Discovery Projects were three out of the nation’s 26 **Discovery Outstanding Researchers Awards** to Professor Gus Nathan, Dr Adrienne Paton and Associate Professor Samer Akkach.

The University also received funding for **nine Linkage Projects** and **two Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities** projects, both categories with external partners such as government and industry.

Eight Future Fellowships were awarded to Associate Professor Andrew Bradley (joining the School of Computer Science); Associate Professor Dusan Losic (joining the School of Chemical Engineering); Assistant Professor Francesca McInerney (joining the School of Earth & Environmental Sciences); Professor Corey Bradshaw (Environment Institute, School of Earth & Environmental Sciences); Associate Professor Philip Gerrans (School of Humanities); Dr Thomas Leistner (School of Mathematical Sciences); Dr Daniel Navarro (School of Psychology); and Associate Professor Andrew Rosser (School of Social Sciences).

The University received 12 of the inaugural **Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards** (\$375,000 each) to support and provide opportunities for standout early career researchers.

Story by Robyn Mills



Net tightens on aquatic pests

Australia's ability to protect the health of its aquatic resources has made a major advance with the opening of the South Australian Aquatic Biosecurity Centre at the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus.

The \$2.4m facility, funded by the South Australian Government through Marine Innovation SA (MISA), positions South Australia to become a key national provider in aquatic biosecurity research.

The South Australian Aquatic Biosecurity Centre provides researchers with highly secure conditions for the study of aquatic pathogens and pests, offering capabilities previously unavailable in Australia because of its combination of scale and level of containment.

The facility is jointly operated by the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) and the University.

"Safe research involving aquatic pathogens and pests, once limited in Australia, can now be conducted in a secure environment that enables a rapid response to new threats, and ongoing research to help safeguard our valuable aquatic resources," said the Member for Light, Mr Tony Piccolo MP, who officially launched the new centre last month.

"Such research is critical to the continued growth of the State's \$800m (gross food revenue) seafood industry," he said.

"Some organisms pose a threat to our seafood producers and aquatic ecosystems, and it is imperative that we can deal with these issues quickly, and preferably before they impact on our fishing industries and our coastal ecosystems."

The CEO of the Australian Southern Bluefin Tuna Industry Association, Brian Jeffriess, said the Aquatic Biosecurity

Centre was an important step forward for the Australian seafood industry.

"Australia's geographical isolation is no longer enough to protect us from the continuing major fish disease events in Asia and South America. This new biosecurity facility was developed with these realities front of mind," he said.

MISA Chair Professor Rob Lewis said MISA identified the urgent need for a highly secure aquatic biosecurity centre in 2005.

"The benefits of this type of research to marine industries are enormous, including increased certainty of production, improved sustainability and market access," Professor Lewis said.

The Executive Director of PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, Professor Mehdi Doroudi, agreed: "It is crucial for government and industry to be prepared for unexpected outbreaks and respond rapidly and appropriately."

The Aquatic Biosecurity Centre is co-located with the University's School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, offering researchers access to the School's state-of-the-art diagnostic laboratories and its veterinary specialists.

University Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha said having the centre within the School grounds gave students opportunities to study aquatic animal health within the veterinary curriculum, which is unique in Australia.

"The University is pleased to host the SA Aquatic Biosecurity Centre, which will deliver great benefits in collaborative

research and training in one of the State's most important but developing industries," he said.

"This purpose-built centre will strengthen our animal research and teaching capacity at the Roseworthy Campus, building on our expertise in production animals, companion animals and equine health.

"Our students will have the opportunity to learn in a state-of-the-art facility beside internationally recognised researchers. They will be able to take this unique experience and knowledge and apply it as animal science and veterinary professionals in a range of settings."

MISA's Marine Pests Program Leader, Dr Marty Deveney, said a priority for the centre would include research into *Perkinsus olseni*, a protozoan parasite that causes serious disease in abalone.

"It's a problem in the Central and Western Zone abalone fisheries in SA, with the first outbreaks noted in the early 1980s. Prior to this new facility, there was nowhere to safely study the pathogen on a large scale. There are environmental factors that influence its expression of disease, but we don't know what they are. We will now be able to design experiments to better understand these factors in this new lab," he said.

Above (from left): MISA Chair Professor Rob Lewis, University Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha, SARDI Director Science Partnerships Professor Simon Maddocks, Member for Light Mr Tony Piccolo, and PIRSA Chief Executive Ian Nightingale inspect the new aquaculture biosecurity facilities

Photo by Terry Price



My-Time entrepreneurs rise to the challenge

Frustration over on-site paperwork, delays caused by missing work tickets, and matching tradies with construction projects have laid the foundations for this year's winning idea in the University of Adelaide's ZEN eChallenge competition.

University of Adelaide PhD student Luke Holtham and his construction manager father David brought together the winning team My-Time to turn their ideas into a marketable solution.

My-Time's unique web and smartphone interface will efficiently link tradespeople with builders and contractors, provide paperless easy timesheets and billing facilities, and allow instant verification of work tickets. It also produces ready online data for project management.

My-Time team members Luke and David Holtham, Leon Whitehead, Dean Calvert, Adam Basheer and Daniel Wilson won ZEN eChallenge's \$10,000 first prize, the People's Choice Award – voted for on the night – and the Best Technology Commercialisation Award.

"David has been facing these problems throughout his career as a construction manager and safety officer," said Luke.

"Everyday he was turning away workers who had lost their tickets, and paper timesheet management was a nightmare. He was also acutely aware of the limited resources available for connecting work and workers. He's an entrepreneur at heart and he knew there had to be a better way.

"The ZEN eChallenge helped us assemble the correct team and develop our ideas ready to take to potential investors. Everyone we've spoken to about My-Time said 'What a great idea, just do it fast!'"

The annual ZEN eChallenge competition is run by the University's Entrepreneurship, Commercialisation and Innovation Centre (ECIC). ZEN Home Energy Systems is the naming sponsor.

Teams of up to six people develop a business plan for a new, previously unfunded business concept and each team must have at least one student member from any tertiary institution in South Australia. Semi-finalists are paired with an experienced mentor from the business community.

"ZEN eChallenge takes raw entrepreneurial talent and channels it into investment-ready, early stage companies with the guidance of top business mentors," said ECIC Director Professor Noel Lindsay.

"Entrepreneurship is essential to the future growth of Australia. ZEN eChallenge fosters innovation and speeds up the learning process towards a viable

business model and past finalists have gone on to develop successful and thriving businesses."

Second prize went to Twist and Shake for the development of a smart combination of a normal baby bottle and powdered milk dispenser for easier baby feeding.

Third prize went to VPDoc who are developing a virtual private doctor service by secure video network.

Foodcloud won the Innovate SA Venture Capital Ready Award for their meal planning Facebook application; Viewsoft won the Vroom Award for their 3-D online education tool; and Zero won the Best Solutions International Diamond in the Rough Award for their system for secure online shopping and delivery.

Story by Robyn Mills

Above: 2011 ZEN eChallenge winner My-Time, with team members (from left) University of Adelaide PhD student Luke Holtham, Daniel Wilson, Leon Whitehead, Dean Calvert, Adam Basheer and David Holtham

Inset: A mock-up of My-Time's app for smartphones



Rhodes Scholar returns

A Rhodes Scholar has returned to the University of Adelaide – and a career in science.

The ARC Centre of Excellence in Plant Cell Walls at the Waite Campus has hired Dr Natalie Betts as a Postdoctoral Fellow.

Her appointment is thanks to Federal and State Government funding to support a number of early career researchers at the centre's locations in Adelaide, Melbourne and Brisbane. But for Dr Betts, "early career" has taken on a different meaning.

"Until I started working for the Centre of Excellence, it had been 11 years since I'd last worked in a lab," Dr Betts said.

Dr Betts graduated from the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in 1996 and was a Rhodes Scholar to Oxford, where she studied for her DPhil (PhD) in Plant Science.

After graduating from Oxford, her career turned from science to business. She was hired by a global management consultant company, which aimed to put her problem-solving skills to different use.

Having moved back to Adelaide in 2002, Dr Betts found other work opportunities, such as writing technical documents and consulting for a medical device company. While she and her husband returned to Adelaide to raise a family, Dr Betts knew there would also be opportunities in Adelaide to participate in world-class science.

"I've long had a desire to get back into science," she said. "Last year I heard about an opportunity with the Centre of Excellence in Plant Cell Walls thanks to Dr Rachel Burton [one of the centre's four Chief Investigators], and everything just fell into place. I consider myself very lucky."

The centre is hoping to discover ways of altering the soluble fibre levels in grain, to maximise its potential for improved human health, and to benefit industry in diverse areas such as bioethanol production, malting processes for beer production, and pulp and paper manufacture.

The centre involves collaboration with the universities of Melbourne and Queensland, with major research and industry partners in Scotland, Sweden, Germany and the US.

The Australian Research Council has awarded the centre \$1.25 million to employ early career researchers, with an additional \$500,000 in support from the South Australian Government.

Dr Betts described her work at the centre, and its potential applications, as "very exciting".

"It's refreshing to be working in an area that has so many potential benefits for society," she said. "For example, if you consider the fact that so many people in the world could improve their fibre intake, which is important for the prevention of cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, colorectal cancer and so on, I'm very pleased to be working on some of the fundamental biology that could lead to that.

"The implications of the work we're doing – for human health and nutrition, and supporting the development of biofuels – means that our research can potentially achieve some great outcomes."

Story by David Ellis

Above: Dr Natalie Betts at the Waite Campus



Uni is workplace safety champion

The University of Adelaide has won the title of Best Workplace Health and Safety Management System in the Public Sector at this year's 2011 Safe Work Awards.

The award, presented to the University's Manager of Health, Safety and Wellbeing, Gerald Butfield (pictured), will now see the University represent the State at the national Safe Work Awards in April 2012.

The judges said the University impressed them with its commitment to OHS through many levels.

Minister for Industrial Relations the Hon. Russell Wortley said: "The University of Adelaide demonstrated how it makes safety a core component of its wide range of work activities with a safety management system the judges noted was successful in reducing incidents and injury claims."

Dr Sharyn Gaskin, Research Associate in the Discipline of Public Health, also won one of SafeWork SA's Augusta Zadow Scholarships. She will use the scholarship in her research to better understand the influence of cosmetics on the skin absorption of chemicals among female workers.

Team-building ideas win national prize

Each day at the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus, Diane Whatling applies her 34 years of experience to veterinary care.

Ms Whatling, who is the Practice Manager with the University's Companion Animal Health Centre, has won a national award for sharing part of her experience and insight.

She won the inaugural "In the Black" competition run by the Australian Veterinary Business Association, sponsored by veterinary pharmaceutical company Boehringer Ingelheim.

The competition was run to find the best business ideas from veterinary practices around Australia.

Ms Whatling won the award for an essay on the importance of building a team culture in veterinary practice, and providing a case study of how to do it.

"I have been involved in the veterinary industry for 34 years and still believe that team players are the most important asset in veterinary business," Ms Whatling wrote.

"Encouraging a hunger for continuing education, self-improvement, enthusiasm and general workplace satisfaction is a starting point in supporting a team ethos."



Drawn to Adelaide by international agenda

Professor Kent Anderson has been appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) at the University of Adelaide.

Professor Anderson is currently Director of the School of Culture, History and Language at the Australian National University (ANU) and will take up his new role in February 2012, following the retirement of Professor John Taplin.

Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha said Professor Anderson was highly respected as a bold and innovative leader with a passion for internationalisation in the higher education sector.

"We are delighted to welcome Professor Anderson to Adelaide to lead the University's international agenda. In a city that genuinely embraces a dynamic and diverse student population, this role offers tremendous scope to build on our strong reputation for attracting students from overseas," Professor McWha said.

"Professor Anderson is joining us at a time of significant change in the higher education sector, nationally and internationally. His breadth of experience in universities across the globe and his understanding of the complexities of global education will bring valuable expertise to our international agenda."

Professor Anderson has had a broad range of experiences in the corporate

sector in addition to his formidable list of academic achievements.

After completing his tertiary studies in Japan, the United States and the United Kingdom, he worked as a marketing manager with a US regional airline, before practicing as a commercial lawyer in Hawaii, and then taking up an academic post as associate professor at Hokkaido University School of Law. He has also been a visiting professor at Waseda, Nagoya, Kyushu, Doshisha and Chuo Universities in Japan.

He has read Law, Politics, Economics and Asian Studies at Oxford University, Washington University, Kobe University and Middlebury College.

Professor Anderson said that having been a university student on three continents, he had firsthand experience of the transformative nature of studying overseas and was looking forward to increasing opportunities for students at the University of Adelaide to study abroad.

"I am delighted to be joining University of Adelaide," Professor Anderson said. "I am very impressed with the University's commitment to the international agenda.

"Universities are special places that have a unique role within society," he said.

"With that in mind, I was deeply impressed by the University of Adelaide's immediate offer of assistance to the University of Canterbury after the Christchurch earthquake. That is the kind of international institution I want to work for and the values that are important in fulfilling a modern university's mission in a globalised yet volatile world."

As well as being the Foundation Director of the School of Culture, History and Language in ANU's College of Asia and the Pacific, Professor Anderson holds a joint appointment with the ANU College of Law, having led the Faculty of Asian Studies as Director from 2007-2009.

Professor Anderson said he was looking forward to moving to South Australia with his family.

"The Adelaide Festival, WOMAD, the sporting events, the food are not only things we are looking forward to personally, they are the distinct features of Adelaide that gives it an enormous advantage when connecting the university internationally," he said.

Story by Kate Husband

Above: Professor Kent Anderson
Photo courtesy of the Australian National University



Top academics reap State awards

University of Adelaide staff, affiliates and graduates were among the recent winners of South Australian awards to honour excellence in the arts, science, health and education.

Nobel Laureate and University of Adelaide Professor of Literature **John (JM) Coetzee** won the Arts Award in this year's South Australian of the Year awards.

Professor Coetzee received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2003 and his novels *Life and Times of Michael K* and *Disgrace* have both been awarded the Booker Prize.

He joined the University of Adelaide in 2002 and, since then, has mentored students in the University's Discipline of English and Creative Writing, School of Humanities.

He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University in 2005 and, recently, lent his name to the University's new JM Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice.

The winner of the Health Award in the South Australian of the Year awards is an affiliate of the University of Adelaide. Associate Professor **John Greenwood** is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Discipline of Surgery, School of Medicine.

Associate Professor Greenwood is Director of the Royal Adelaide Hospital's world-class Burns Unit, and has developed a new burns treatment that will drastically reduce the pain, recovery time and treatment costs for burns patients.

The 2011 South Australian of the Year category awards were presented at a special ceremony at the Adelaide Town Hall last month by the Rt Hon. the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Stephen Yarwood.

The awards celebrate and profile individuals or organisations that have

demonstrated a consistent record of excellence and made a positive impact on the State.

Meanwhile, at the South Australian Science Excellence Awards, University of Adelaide plant scientist Professor **Peter Langridge** was named SA's 2011 Scientist of the Year.

Professor Langridge, who is CEO of the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics (ACPFPG) at the Waite Campus, won the award in recognition of his significant contribution to improving agricultural products in South Australia over a 30-year career.

Peter Langridge first joined the University of Adelaide as a lecturer in agricultural biochemistry in 1984. He became Professor in Plant Science at the University of Adelaide in 1998 and CEO of the ACPFG, which he helped to establish, in 2003.

Professor Langridge pioneered the use of molecular markers in cereal breeding. His research interests are in the area of deploying genetic technologies and new strategies to improve the breeding of cereal crops in the developed and developing world. He has recently chaired a Federal Government committee examining issues of food security.

"Australia is regarded as the world leader in this technology because of his [Professor Langridge's] work and he's an outstanding winner of South Australia's highest award for science," said the Science and Information Economy Minister, the Hon. Tom Kenyon.

The awards recognise and reward excellence in science and acknowledge commitment and skills in raising public awareness of science.

Three other University staff and graduates won in their categories of the Science Excellence awards, namely:

Dr Natasha Rogers (University of Adelaide PhD graduate and Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Pittsburgh), who won the award for PhD Research Excellence – Health and Medical Sciences;

Dr Stephen Warren-Smith (ARC Super Science Fellow, Institute for Photonics and Advanced Sensing (IPAS) and School of Chemistry and Physics, University of Adelaide), who won for PhD Research Excellence – Physical Sciences/Mathematics/Engineering; and

Chris Heddles (University of Adelaide Graduate Diploma in Education, and science and maths teacher at the Australian Science and Mathematics School), who was a joint winner for Early Career STEM Educator of the Year – School Teaching.

Above left: Professor JM Coetzee has won the Arts category of the South Australian of the Year Awards
Photo by Ben Osborne

Above right: Professor Peter Langridge, who was named the 2011 Scientist of the Year for South Australia
Photo courtesy of the SA Science Excellence Awards

Classics offers insights into human condition

One of the University of Adelaide's most outstanding researchers, Professor Han Baltussen, has been appointed to the Hughes Chair in Classics.

The prestigious appointment – it is one of only three foundation chairs established by Sir Walter Watson Hughes in 1874 – has been empty since 1992 when it was vacated by the 8th incumbent, Robert Ussher.

Professor Baltussen is the recipient of two ARC Discovery Grants totalling \$320,000 in the past four years to undertake projects dealing with important questions of human life and society.

In 2007 he was awarded Federal Government funding for a three-year project to investigate the strategies employed by ancient civilisations to deal with grief, loss and bereavement and apply it to a modern context.

"We can learn from the human experience over past centuries, no matter how far back we go," said Professor Baltussen.

"It is interesting to note that grief counsellors are increasingly using methods from literature and theatre, as part of today's coping mechanisms."

His project, which is near completion,

shows how past civilisations coped with grief in different ways.

The study makes use of letters and other writings that reflect on the human condition and offer several different types of consolation for those who have suffered loss.

It has also produced new insights into the grief of some famous individuals, including Greek and Roman philosophers Cicero, Plutarch and emperor Marcus Aurelius.

In a second ARC Discovery project awarded this year, Professor Baltussen will look at how ancient civilisations balanced the individual's right to free speech with the public good.

"While the censorship practised in countries like China and Iran is notorious, even States with a constitutional commitment to freedom of speech impose limits on that freedom; nowhere is the right absolute," he said.

"The arrival of the internet has made the perennial issue of how to balance the right to free speech against other legitimate concerns more acute, resulting

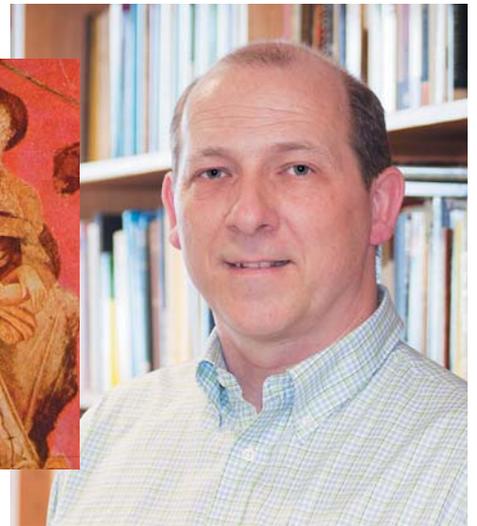
in an explosion of interest in the issue of censorship."

Professor Baltussen will spend the next three years working on this project with Visiting Research Fellow in Classics Associate Professor Peter Davis, researching ancient censorship and extracting lessons for the modern age.

"We would argue that censorship is as much of a philosophical or cultural problem as it is a technological one," Professor Baltussen said.

Professor Baltussen has made significant contributions to teaching and research within the Discipline of Classics since joining the University of Adelaide in 2002.

In 2010 he was named the "Most Outstanding Researcher" in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and appointed the Hughes Professor of Classics in September this year.



Story by Candy Gibson

Above: Professor Han Baltussen

Inset: A fresco from the Villa of the Mysteries near Pompeii, 1st Century AD

Art & Heritage Collections

Mirna Heruc
Manager, Art & Heritage Collections

Right: Snow goggles from one of Sir Douglas Mawson's expeditions to Antarctica

Photo by Elizabeth Pascale

Treasures from Sir Douglas Mawson's expeditions to Antarctica can be found in the University's Earth and Environmental Sciences Collection on display in the Tate Museum (Mawson Building, North Terrace Campus).

Mawson worked at the University for 50 years until 1958, when he retired at the age of 70. His work as a geologist is overshadowed by his heroic explorer label. It is particularly important to think of his explorer extraordinaire status now as we are marking a centenary of the 1911-1914 Australasian Antarctic Expedition. This was the ill-fated expedition which ended as a most incredible tale of human survival.

On display in the Museum are various rocks, implements and photographs documenting Mawson's Antarctic expeditions. For us in Art & Heritage, these snow goggles (pictured) are the best of the items – made of fabric and using the

new material of the early 20th century, bakelite, to hold the lenses in place.

Come and see them in Tate Museum or join us for a special Mawson tour from February 2012 and hear his story.



For more information email art.heritage@adelaide.edu.au or call 08 8303 3086

Facebook, Twitter in a healthy society

Social media may become the most important tool in promoting good health in Australia if a University of Adelaide study can demonstrate its effectiveness.



Researchers are about to embark on a two-year study in conjunction with the Lyell McEwin Hospital in Adelaide's northern suburbs to ascertain how social networks and new communication technologies influence behaviour relating to health.

Chief investigator Dr Andrew Skuse will lead a team of University of Adelaide health and social media experts working with pregnant women and new mothers from socially disadvantaged areas.

"The nature and use of media is changing rapidly," said Dr Skuse, a social anthropologist.

"Mobile technologies and social media applications such as Facebook and Twitter are revolutionising the way people stay in touch, organise their lives and also deal with their problems.

"In a health context, existing research tells us that traditional methods of communication – such as leaflets, posters and teaching – seldom lead to positive health outcomes.

"The notion that applications such as Facebook could help disadvantaged mothers raise healthier babies is exciting and a 21st century research challenge," said Dr Skuse.

The first phase of the project, to be launched this month, will determine preferred media use among 80 pregnant women and new mothers in the Lyell McEwin Hospital.

Once that is established, hospital staff will tailor specific health messages to individual patients according to their preferred method of communication. These messages will relay information on diet and

lifestyle that is critical to ensuring healthy birth weights.

"Low birth weight is a significant contributory factor to health problems in later life," said Associate Professor Vicki Clifton, a member of the research project. "If we can develop a communication package which prevents this, the benefits will be immeasurable."

The study will explore the most effective ways to use health reminders – for example, to take medication or attend appointments – as well as convey health information concerning the adoption of healthy lifestyles and avoidance of risky behaviours, such as smoking, alcohol and drug abuse.

Dr Mike Wilmore, a media and communications expert from the University of Adelaide, said SMS messaging was particularly good for reminders, while social media worked well with peer groups.

"YouTube and video sharing will be useful in communicating with people who are less literate and more highly geared to audio-visual messaging. Also, if we are dealing with different cultures, we can use translation tools with video messaging," Dr Wilmore said.

The team expects the study to show significant cost savings in using social media to transmit critical health messages. Findings from the study will be adopted in other health contexts.

Other researchers involved in the project include Dr Sal Humphreys and Dr Dean Bruton from the Discipline of Media.

Story by Candy Gibson

Photo by iStock



New centre to tackle housing stress

A new centre to address homelessness and housing market imbalances in Australia has been launched at the University of Adelaide.

The Centre for Housing, Urban and Regional Planning – comprised of University researchers, academics and other practitioners – aims to assist some of the most disadvantaged people in Australia, according to its Director, Professor Andrew Beer.

"People affected with disabilities, Indigenous Australians, people living in remote areas and also those people impacted by industry restructuring will be our focus," Professor Beer said.

"One in every 200 people in Australia is living without safe, secure, affordable and appropriate housing and as many as 16,000 people are sleeping rough every night in this country, many with a psychiatric disability.

"Homelessness right across the board is increasing, particularly among young people and older women," Professor Beer said.

The centre will also look for solutions to housing stress, which affects about 1.3 million Australian households, according to the latest statistics.

For more information about the centre go to: adelaide.edu.au/churp

Aboriginal Law Program offers study pathway

An agreement between TAFE SA and the University of Adelaide will give Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students pathways to a law degree at university.

The agreement will give students completing a Certificate IV in Legal Services entry into the Bachelor of Laws program at the University of Adelaide from 2012 onwards.

The new study pathway is known as the Aboriginal Law Program.

"We're proud of our role in the tertiary education of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students," said the Acting Executive Dean of the Faculty of Professions and Dean of the University of Adelaide's Law School, Professor John Williams.

"We have been actively working to increase the participation of Indigenous students in Law for a number of years now. We're pleased to be able to add a new pathway to our Law degree and we look forward to welcoming new students through the Aboriginal Law Program," he said.

For more information about the Aboriginal Law Program email Anna Dearman: anna.dearman@adelaide.edu.au

Leader in maths, physics dies



CHARLES ANGAS HURST

Physicist

Born: 22 September 1923; Adelaide
Died: 19 October 2011; Adelaide

Professor Charles Angas Hurst FAA was born on 22 September 1923 in Adelaide. He was educated at the University of Melbourne (BSc 1948) and subsequently at Cambridge University (PhD 1952).

In 1952-1956 he was appointed Senior Lecturer in the Mathematics Department at the University of Melbourne, and in 1957 accepted the position of Senior Lecturer, Department of Mathematical Physics at the University of Adelaide. He held the position of Professor (1964-1988) until his retirement in 1988. He was appointed Fellow of the Australian Academy of Sciences in 1972.

Professor Hurst was a distinguished Australian scientist who was an international leader in research and a major contributor to the scientific community.

He served his country in World War II, played an extensive and distinguished part in the management of the University of Adelaide and contributed actively to his local community.

With his co-Professor in Adelaide (Prof. H.S. Green), Professor Hurst was responsible for the establishment of mathematical physics within Australia as a research field of international distinction.

His research contributions have been recognised by the international community through many visiting positions at leading institutions. He was a fine ambassador for his country and for Australian science.

During his research career he produced 90 publications, including two books.

Professor Hurst's commitment extended beyond the disciplines of Physics and Mathematical Physics. He served the Australian scientific community generally as a Member of the Council of the Academy of Science from 1983-1986 and as Vice-President 1984-1985. He was always

interested in fostering links across disciplines and did so particularly with mathematics as a founding member (1956) of the Australian Mathematical Society.

In addition to his role as a Professor and Head of Department within the University, Professor Hurst again provided leadership in ways that went well beyond the demands of his position. He chaired the senior Committee of the University, the Education Committee, from 1973-1976 and served as a member of the University Council from 1975-1978.

The Council of the University appointed him acting Vice-Chancellor in 1985, an indication of the high esteem in which he was held within the University. He was then appointed Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) from 1986-1988 and was responsible for a number of influential reports.

He was a member of the University of Adelaide (student) Union House Committee from 1964-1967, a member of the Union Council from 1964-1973 and Chaired the Union Planning Committee from 1965-1973.

He was concerned with the welfare of postgraduate students and was one of the prime movers for establishing the first Graduate College of the University of Adelaide, Kathleen Lumley College. He served on its Council from the inception in 1971 until 1974.

Since the 1960s Professor Hurst also volunteered his time and energy to support many community causes.

In the Australia Day Honours list 2003, Professor Hurst was awarded Member (AM) in the General Division "for service to science, particularly in the field of mathematical physics as an educator, researcher and administrator."

Contributed by Max Lohe

LANE
PRINT&POST

quality clean fast



environment



quality



short run digital



transactional

LANE PRINT & POST has a clear objective when it comes to Environmental Commitment, and as a certified Sustainable Green Printer we aim to exceed the Environmental Management benchmarks of ISO 14001, as a responsible printing and mail house company, without reducing the presentation or performance of our printed products.





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

CALL 8179 9900

and speak to Sandra or Aimee about your next print project. www.laneprint.com.au



50 years on for the class of 1961



This year's Golden Jubilee – celebrating the 50th anniversary of those who graduated from the University of Adelaide in 1961 – was the biggest in the annual event's 26-year history.

A total of 132 past graduates – including many who travelled from locations such as the United States, Canada and Malaysia, and a large number from interstate – were welcomed back to the University by the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor James McWha, and Development and Alumni Director Robyn Brown.

In majestic Bonython Hall, the Chancellor, the Hon. Robert Hill, presented the graduates with their Class of 1961 commemoration booklets.

1961 graduate Ken Allen AM (Bachelor of Economics (Hons)) provided the keynote address, reminiscing about life both on and off campus.

"The late '50s and '60s were a great time in Adelaide – a time when Adelaide could be proud of the way that it was a centre of more liberal and more tolerant thinking," he said.

"The University gave us all a more worldly and universal set of values.

"Our own Robin Warren has won a Nobel Prize, and amongst us we have professors, a Head of a Prime Minister's department, eminent surgeons and physicians, bio-chemists and engineers," Mr Allen said.

Mr Allen used the occasion to announce the establishment of the Class of 1961 Scholarship. He encouraged all 1961 graduates to contribute towards and support this Class Gift.

Professor McWha gave an update on the current position of the University, highlighting some of the recent developments on campus.

"We are creating new pathways to broaden access and participation in our programs. We are becoming a much more student-centred university, with increasingly flexible options for study, and a strong focus on the student experience," he said.

"Hub Central (our brand new Student Hub) has revolutionised the on-campus experience for our students. It is a wonderful space that students helped design themselves."

The Golden Jubilee Commemoration Ceremony was followed by a reunion luncheon at the new Crowne Plaza Hotel in Hindmarsh Square, at which sisters Mara Siksna (nee Freidenfelds) (Bachelor of Science) and Maija Sils (nee Freidenfelds) (Bachelor of Dental Surgery) gave the toast to the 1961 graduates and their families.

The Golden Jubilee for graduates of 1962 is scheduled for 19 October 2012.

Story by Connie Dutton

Above (main): The class of 1961 outside Bonython Hall
Inset: 1961 graduate and keynote speaker Ken Allen
Photos by John Hemmings

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.



Special Offer of the Month: Tennis SA

Tennis anyone?

Tennis SA is offering University of Adelaide alumni 20% off all Health Partners City Tennis Programs at Memorial Drive and the Millswood Complex.

Enjoy this special offer for the following programs all year round:

- Social Tennis
- Cardio Tennis
- Men's Duos
- Mid Week Ladies

For more information on the Tennis SA special offers and the full alumni privileges, please go to: www.alumni.adelaide.edu.au/privileges



International award for music teacher



Jim Bailey, Percussion Senior Lecturer and former Head of Percussion at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, has received the 2011 Lifetime Achievement in Education Award from the international Percussive Arts Society.

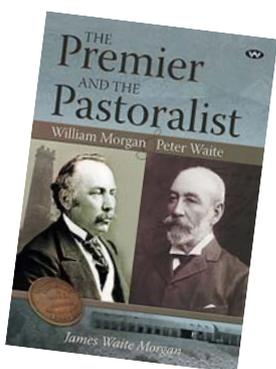
Throughout his long career Jim has made an outstanding contribution to the percussive arts and education, and has trained some of Australia's top percussionists.

The award recognises the contributions of the most highly regarded leaders in percussion education throughout the world. Winners demonstrate a history of exceptional and innovative teaching practices.

"This is the first time the Lifetime Achievement award has been given to an Australian, so as you can well imagine I'm very honoured to say the least," said Jim (pictured), who received his award at the Percussive Arts Society International conference in the United States last month.

Amanda Grigg, Head of Percussion Studies at the Elder Conservatorium, congratulated Jim for his award. "As one of Jim's former students I understand the significance of the contribution he has made to percussion education in this country," she said.

Win a slice of history



A new book has been launched about two pioneering South Australian men who made their mark on Australian political and pastoral history.

The Premier and the Pastoralist tells the fascinating story of politician William Morgan and pastoralist Peter Waite, whose name lives on today in the Waite Campus of the University of Adelaide.

Written by family descendant James Waite Morgan, *The Premier and the Pastoralist* is published by Wakefield Press and sells for RRP \$34.95.

One lucky reader of the *Adelaidean* has a chance to win a copy of this book. To win, be the first caller on 08 8303 5414 before Thursday 15 December 2011.



New look for ASQ

The Elder Conservatorium of Music's Quartet in Residence, the Australian String Quartet, has announced a new line-up which is no longer an all-female affair.

Two of the most sought after names in classical music – violinist Kristian Winther and violist Stephen King – will share the stage alongside existing members Anne Horton (violin) and Rachel Johnston (cello). The pair replaces violinist Sophie Rowell and violist Sally Boud, who departed the ASQ last month.

The ASQ's 2012 Season, beginning in March, will see the debut of its new line-up.

Kristian Winther, 27, is considered one of the most ambitious and engaging violinists in Australia.

"Kristian has an infectious energy and is not only one of the brightest stars in classical music, but he has the personality and presence to match. He's a seasoned performer, having worked with all of the major Australian symphony orchestras," said ASQ Executive Officer Alison Beare.

"To be joining the ASQ family is the greatest honour of my career. I've always admired the group's journey," Kristian said.

"I believe that the world deserves great quartets and I'm looking forward to creating new musical chemistry alongside Stephen, Anne and Rachel, and bringing great music to stages around the country."

Stephen King returns to string quartets after a nine-year stint with the Australian Chamber Orchestra (ACO). King is one of the most respected musicians in the country and brings international experience,

which has seen him perform around the world with the likes of the Coolidge String Quartet and the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra.

"Stephen is held in such high esteem both nationally and internationally and we're delighted he has decided to return to his string quartet roots," Alison Beare said.

Stephen said: "I can't wait to begin this new musical adventure with the ASQ. It is humbling and exciting to build on the incredible history of the group and help take it into the future both in Australia and abroad. It is the opportunity of a lifetime."

Remaining players Anne Horton and Rachel Johnston are anticipating the change and the new possibilities that both Kristian and Stephen will offer.

"We have come to the end of a very special era with Sophie and Sally but we are filled with a sense of excitement for the new beginnings that are around the corner. There are great possibilities, and with change comes new creative energy and great opportunities for growth," said Anne.

For more details about 2012 concert dates for the ASQ, go to: www.asq.com.au

Above: The new look Australian String Quartet (from left): Anne Horton, Kristian Winther, Rachel Johnston and Stephen King

Photo by Jacqui Way Photography



Research Tuesdays

SHARING GREAT RESEARCH WITH THE COMMUNITY

WHEN:
5.30-6.30pm Tuesday 13 December

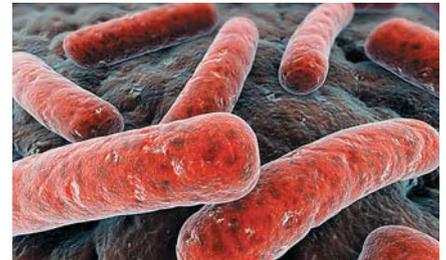
WHERE:
Napier 102 Lecture Theatre
North Terrace Campus

ADMISSION FREE, BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

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

Fatal Food: How deadly *E. coli* bacteria cause disease in humans and how we can protect ourselves from infection.

The massive outbreak of Shiga toxinogenic *E. coli* infection in Germany earlier this year highlighted the scale of human and economic damage that can occur when these bacteria enter the food chain. *E. coli* usually reside in the intestines of livestock, where they appear to cause little harm. However, the game changes when humans become infected, usually by consumption of foods contaminated with animal faeces. Once ingested the bacteria multiply in the human gut, releasing potent toxins that damage organs and tissues, causing life-threatening disease. Cases occur regularly in South Australia, with Australia's largest outbreak of *E. coli* disease (the "Garibaldi Outbreak") occurring in Adelaide in 1995.



Researchers at the University of Adelaide have been attacking this disease from multiple perspectives, achieving major advances in molecular diagnosis of infection, as well as characterisation of the bacterial

toxins responsible for disease symptoms. This knowledge has also enabled development of novel strategies for treatment and prevention of the life-threatening complications of *E. coli* disease. Professor James Paton will provide an overview of their work on this potentially fatal disease and how to prevent it.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Complete your degree faster

3 Jan – 17 Feb 2012
www.adelaide.edu.au/summerschool

ENQUIRE NOW
COURSES FILL FAST

THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

Carols on Campus

Tuesday 20th December 7pm Bonython Hall 2011
Free community event – all welcome



WIN A KINDLE READER

We are seeking your feedback to make *Adelaidean* even better and ensure we are delivering the type of publication you want.

Please fill in our brief reader survey on this page and return to us via Reply Paid post, or fill out the survey online at: www.adelaide.edu.au/adelaidean

By completing this survey, you will go into the draw to win a Kindle e-book reader valued at \$220.

Survey replies must be received by **31 December 2011** to be eligible for the prize draw. The winner will be notified by mail.

For full terms and condition, please visit: www.adelaide.edu.au/adelaidean



1 How do you receive *Adelaidean*?

- In the mail at home/office
- In internal mail system (University and affiliates)
- Online
- Pick it up on campus
- Pick it up elsewhere (eg, doctor's surgery, library)
- Other, please specify: _____

2. Which of the following best describes how you read *Adelaidean*?

- I skim through the headlines only
- I skim through and usually read a couple of the stories
- I tend to read most or all of the stories
- I don't usually read *Adelaidean*
- Other, please specify: _____

3 What kind of content do you enjoy reading most in *Adelaidean*? (You may select more than one)

- Research news and breakthroughs
- Staff/student achievements
- Developments in teaching and learning
- Information on upcoming events
- Current issues in higher education
- University of Adelaide's strategic direction
- Alumni news and privileges
- New books by University staff

4 Which areas of the University do you most enjoy reading about? (You may select more than one)

- Agriculture
- Animal and Veterinary Science
- Architecture and Design
- Arts
- Business and Economics
- Chemistry
- Computer Science/IT
- Education
- Engineering
- English, Creative Writing and Literature
- Environment
- Food and Drink
- Genetics/Molecular Science
- Geology and Earth Sciences
- Health
- History
- Languages
- Law
- Mathematics
- Media
- Music
- Politics
- Physics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Other, please specify: _____

5 What other content would you like to see in *Adelaidean*?

6 What do you like least about *Adelaidean*?

7 In what format would you prefer to read *Adelaidean*?

- Online (on the University of Adelaide's website)
- Printed magazine
- Email newsletter

8 How frequently would you prefer to receive *Adelaidean*?

- Twice a month
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Twice a year
- Annually

9 Do you also receive/read the University's twice-yearly alumni magazine, *Lumen*?

- Yes, always
- Yes, sometimes
- No, never

Tell us a little about yourself

Are you?

- Male Female

What age group are you in?

- Under 18 19-29
- 30-39 40-49
- 50-59 60 and over

What is your occupation?

Where do you live?

- Australia, Postcode _____
- Overseas Country _____

Please indicate what best describes your employment status?

- Retired
- Working
- Working at the University of Adelaide
- Government
- Private sector
- Student
- Unemployed

Do you have any dependents?

- (You may tick more than one box)*
- Yes, aged under 10 years Yes, 11-18 years
- Yes, over 18 years No

How do you stay connected with the University?

- (You may tick more than one box)*
- Adelaide onLION
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Events
- I subscribe to the University's RSS newsfeed

Have you attended a University event in the last 12 months?

- Open Day Elder Hall Concerts
- Alumni reunions Other
- Carols on Campus None
- Research Tuesdays

You may choose to remain anonymous or provide your details below to go in the prize draw.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please return to:
Adelaidean Editor
The University of Adelaide
Reply Paid 498
Adelaide SA
Australia 5005