

Teamwork the key to Open Day success



One of the many young people who enjoyed the science offerings on show at Open Day. Photo: David Ellis



Faculty of Arts Registrar Gary Martin (centre) at work in Bonython Hall, which featured an Expo outlining course and career options. Photo: Patricia Cree



Staff in the information tent at Kintore Avenue. Photo: John Edge

The first University of Adelaide Open Day for 18 years attracted more than 10,000 visitors who braved rain and wind to pour into the North Terrace campus on Sunday 4 August.

Families and prospective students enjoyed a behind-the-scenes glimpse of University life, including research, teaching and learning facilities, and course and career options.

The Science Trail, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences tent on the Maths Lawns, University museums, Engineering testing facilities and laboratories, and the broad mix of Humanities and Social Sciences activities on the first floor of the Napier Building attracted crowds throughout the day.

Entertainment was equal-

ly popular, including the five hour Elder Hall program presented by Performing Arts, bands from the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM), and a Theatre Guild rehearsal of *The Comedy of Errors*.

Considerable interest was shown in communications technology, including the popular Huxley computer suite, Architecture's use of the Internet in teaching, the World Wide Web, and the use of computers in teaching everything from languages to medicine.

Some came just to enjoy a wander through "their" University; others to see the University's historical, cultural and artistic heritage.

The Bonython Hall Course and Careers Expo, where every faculty and University student services

were represented, experienced two busy days — on Open Day (Sunday, 4 August) and the traditional Information Day (Monday, 5 August), when school groups poured through.

Acting Vice-Chancellor Mary O'Kane said the public's enthusiasm for Open Day had demonstrated the importance of strong external links for the University.

"The challenge already being discussed is how to build on this achievement and its benefits for the future," she said.

Convener of the University's Schools Liaison Committee, Dr Robert Dare, said teamwork, enthusiasm and hard work by all involved had made Open Day a success.

—Patricia Cree

SA universities maintain pressure on government

South Australia's university community is maintaining pressure on the Federal Government to ensure that it keeps its election promises in the 20 August Budget.

The three SA vice-chancellors, the three student leaders, and representatives of the two major staff unions, held a joint press conference on 6 August at the University of Adelaide.

The group said the Federal Government's integrity and commitment to future generations of Australians was in the balance. They

said the Coalition's higher education policy was accepted in good faith before the March election. Since then, there have been numerous suggestions that the Government will cut university operating grants, in direct contravention of its pre-election commitment.

"(The Prime Minister) Mr Howard has said that he wants to restore the public's trust in the political process," the group said. "Cutting university funding and slapping more fees on students after promising the opposite would further entrench cynicism about politicians and their promises.

"But even more importantly, Australia's investment in its universities should be at least maintained at this time. This nation's economic competitiveness and intellectual, social and cultural well-being are dependent on a stable, healthy higher education sector."

The group said that Wednesday's protest march should "demonstrate to the Government that SA's university community is united in its opposition to cuts, and to the crude transfer of higher education costs to students who can ill-afford to pay".

At the media conference, the group expressed concern about apparent leaks to the media suggesting the Government was proposing to end triennial funding and introduce differential rates for the Higher Education Contribution Scheme.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, Professor Mary O'Kane, said she was concerned that these proposals were apparently being considered without consultation with the higher education sector.

—David Washington

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Acting UP

An open university

The word "open" is used in many ways in modern parlance. In the field of computing we talk about open systems interconnection. More generally we hear: "She's very open about that"; "That's a very open approach" or "I think we need to open talks on this issue". It's generally implied that open equals something good, or heralds a new beginning.

As society becomes increasingly global, universities will inevitably become more open. The UK's Open University was created to provide a mass-access, distance-learning approach to higher education. However my proposition that universities are becoming more open has more to do with "open systems interconnections". Our institutions are moving away from the closed society of specialist scholars that characterised the medieval university. While retaining something of the medieval university at its core a contemporary university has deliberately fluid boundaries with other communities and organisations.

As an example consider the way our University has opened its approach to working with industry in research and development. It is a core partner in eleven Co-operative Research Centres, a Special Research Centre, A Key Centre, and an Advanced Engineering Centre, all joint ventures with industry. We have several collaborative grants and industry-sponsored post-graduate awards. We've become adept at interacting over the Net for the purposes of collaborative research but we are just beginning to learn to interact effectively using electronic means for the purposes of teaching. As we share teaching with universities around the world will we risk losing our distinctive character, or will we be able to offer students a much richer experience? I believe we will have all the advantages of international access to the very best teaching materials available while still communicating the special values of the University of Adelaide. We will be an open university in the best sense of the word.

Our Open Day was a great success. Universities might be changing rapidly but Open Days still hold all the excitement and charm I experienced as a 12 year old Queensland country kid, attending my first open day at the University of Queensland. I am still fascinated by University Departments explaining their wares, and I do like wearing a Philosophy badge and trailing a yellow Science balloon. I very much enjoyed meeting our water python with her wonderful rainbow colours and seeing the cranky possum, her friend. I found the triticales pancakes very edible indeed and as usual the frogs performed their class act. And I got some show bags too, from Economics and Geology, to take home and open.

MARY O'KANE

Setting the record straight



In a recent article you published a generous article [*Adelaidean*, 1 July, p.7] updating readers on the successful overseas concert activities of Jane Peters. In it Jane was described as an Elder Conservatorium graduate "who began her studies with Adelaide teacher Lyndall Hendrickson".

There are those in this city who are grudging in their recognition of the immense contribution Lyndall has made to violin pedagogy in Australia. It is therefore important to ensure impressions are accurate, and to correct errors, especially when, as here, they occur without malice.

Jane graduated from the School of Music of the SA College of Advanced Education some seven years before its merger with the Elder Conservatorium. And Jane not only began her studies with Lyndall but continued with her through the BMus course of the SACAE, up to and beyond her success at the Tchaikovsky Competition in 1986, more than 15 years in all. Studying contemporaneously with Jane at the SACAE were Rafaella Acella, Paul Wright and a little later, Imogen Lidgett. All of these successful musicians owe a great debt to Lyndall from study with her in critical formative years. It is perhaps not widely known that the same can also be said of Adele Anthony.

Lyndall Hendrickson's contribution to music education and, more recently, special education through her spectacular work in the field of autism, should be openly celebrated by the society which is fortunate to have her counted as one of its number. A correct record of her activities is an important part of that process.

Brian Chatterton
Co*Opera
Macclesfield

University governance



The article on Council's reaction to the new university governance Bill currently before State Parliament provided an interesting insight into its collective thought processes (*Adelaidean* 29/07/96). Any university council with a proper concept of its role and functions which, with a membership of 35 and no time cap on tenure, does not understand that it is already too big to carry them out effectively would seem to have provided the Minister with enough good reasons not to take too much notice of it. A smaller number with better defined duties may also help a greater proportion to see themselves not as representatives of interest groups but as fiduciaries acting in the interest of the whole. Even with the least number proposed, Council would still be considerably larger than seen by Hoare as appropriate to a properly functioning board.

Harry E Green
Member of the University Senate

Scales of wisdom



When I became involved with selection to university about twenty years ago I held similar views to those of the Hon. W. A. N. Wells (*Adelaidean* 29/7/96, p.2): that scaling was a sinister scientific plot, designed to clobber Arts students. At that time there was some truth in it; but now I am a good deal older and a little bit wiser, and my increase in wisdom has been exceeded by that of the administrators of the scaling system.

As now operated, the system makes no prior assumptions on what subjects are 'hard' or 'easy'. Its purpose is simple, even if its

mathematics are complex; choice of subjects should not be made to get the highest score. On the average, students who do subjects A and B should get about the same scaled mark in both (that is, those who score higher in A than B should be balanced by an equal number who score higher in B than A). This is especially important if A is a key subject for university entry involving long sequential preparation (say, French or Mathematics 2), and B is a subject originally designed especially for students who are not aiming at university (some such subjects will shortly form part of the main entry score for Flinders University and the University of South Australia, though not for most Adelaide degree courses). One may add that the markers of A often tend to mark low while the markers of B may be influenced by new subject enthusiasm and egalitarian aspirations. Unless the scaling system intervenes, there is a massive disincentive to do A, where the competition is fierce and markers eagle-eyed. The moderation procedures of the Senior Secondary Assessment Board are designed to ensure consistency of marking between schools within a given subject; they will not tell us (for example) that a student who gets a raw mark of 12/20 in A would get about 18/20 in B.

As a final note, it is not true that all Science subjects are 'scaled up' or Arts subjects 'scaled down'; Geology is an exception in the Science group, French, German and Latin in the Arts group.

I am afraid this is a very brief account of a complex process, and would welcome enquirers who want more details.

David Hester
Classics
Acting Chairman, University
Entry Committee

GUEST COMMENTARY

International Students: Values and Attitudes

On 13 June 1996 Professor Fay Gale told the National Press Club that the federal government's determination to inflict budget cuts on the public university system risks turning away international students and eroding revenues, currently around the \$A2 billion mark. The implications for strategic planning for University Colleges are major.

There is no such thing as a typical international student. There is no such thing as a typical level of support on the part of their family — some families are wealthy, some are poor; some have many children and have to select, sometimes on the basis of gender, who has educational opportunities and who does not, while some families have enough resources to educate all their children; some students come from developed countries, some from developing countries; some come to enjoy an international sojourn with a low level of study stress, others have phenomenal levels of stress imposed by families, governments and their own desire to achieve.

For the most part, Asian students are dedicated and exceptionally hard-working, determined to succeed and with a very clear view of what they need to improve their chances in the business world. They don't wish to live next door to a rowdy, drunken, destructive Australian ocker, particularly if their family has mortgaged the house and borrowed to the hilt to educate them. This market segment overall is price-sensitive, sophisticated, techno-

logically competent and strategically tuned.

The Malaysian Prime Minister, Dr Mahathir, addressing the recent 29th International General Meeting of the Pacific Basin Economic Council on the subject of Asian values, said that many in the West sincerely believe that the values and beliefs which they hold are universal and go together with civilisation. However even within a single country there are many shades of values and, he points out, "the starving in all societies share much, just as the very wealthy and the nouveau riche share much". He had the temerity to argue, he said, that "just as European values are more universal than American values, Asian values are in fact more universal than both". He went on,

However offensive or outrageous is the idea that others elsewhere can deeply believe in different things and that these beliefs, values and ways of doing things may possibly be better, more productive and even more civilised than one's own, one should at least be prepared to accept this possibility.

In 1994 David Hitchcock, the former director of East Asian and Pacific Affairs of the United States Information Agency, conducted a quantitative survey for The Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC to compare East Asian and American values.

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The newspaper of The University of Adelaide

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Police bike patrol lends helping hand to security on campus

The Police Bicycle Patrol will soon become a familiar sight at the University's North Terrace Campus.

The Bicycle Patrol has been encouraged to come onto campus grounds to act as a friendly uniformed presence, complementing the University's 22 security officers.

Formed last year, the Police Bicycle Patrol has been an enormous success throughout the city of Adelaide in terms of crime prevention and response to emergency situations.

Although police have traditionally stayed off campus unless specifically called in by University staff, the Bicycle Patrol has now been urged to include the North Terrace Campus in its usual rounds of the city.

Security Services manager Mr Bob Leaver said he welcomed the Bicycle Patrol to the University.

"We have a close association with the South Australian Police, and having the Bicycle Patrol on campus from time to time is an extension of that cooperation," Mr Leaver said.

"It should reinforce the message to staff, students and visitors to the University that we're doing everything possible to ensure this is a safe and friendly environment for work and study."

Mr Leaver said he viewed the University as a "city within a city", which brought with it the kinds of problems associated with any city.

He said one of the biggest problems was theft, both of private and University property. Last year \$162,000 worth of property was stolen from the campus. But steps were being taken to prevent that recurring, he said.

"Security has aggressively encouraged reporting of crime so that a better overall picture of the problem can be built up," Mr Leaver said.



Security officer Robert Nestler and police officers Amanda Bridge and Mick Pedler speak with a student at the North Terrace Campus. Photo: David Ellis

"We've put in place security awareness training for staff, which this year has been extremely successful in reducing theft, and we have computer-controlled access systems in some areas of the University.

"Now, with the help of the Police Bicycle Patrol, our security officers will be better able to prevent and solve further problems in and around the University grounds," he said.

Adelaide's Police Community Liaison Officer, Senior Constable Paul Friend, said the Bicycle Patrol's presence on campus was a proactive move.

"The Bicycle Patrol will be in close contact with the University's Security Office and will drop by regularly to keep an eye on the campus," he said.

"Simply by being there and by keeping in contact with University staff and students, the Bicycle Patrol will be able to act as a deterrent to crime, while at the same time being on hand if an emergency arises.

"We believe the presence of these uniformed officers will be beneficial to both the University and to our efforts of policing the community of Adelaide," Constable Friend said.

Mr Leaver said all staff and students should make the Police Bicycle Patrol feel welcome on campus.

He also urged University departments that have not yet taken advantage of the free security awareness training to do so.

—David Ellis

Adelaide conference drive success

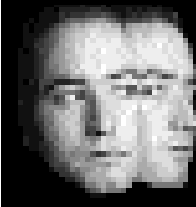
Recent efforts by the University of Adelaide to build its profile as a conference destination are paying off, with the recent awarding of two major international conferences to Adelaide.

The 5th International Congress on Sound and Vibration will take place here in 1997, bringing 600

delegates and an estimated economic impact of \$1,225,920.

Then in the year 2000, the 8th International Barley Genetics Symposium will venture to the Southern Hemisphere for the first time in over 15 years — with 400 delegates and an estimated economic impact of \$817,200.

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Dr Colin Hansen (Mechanical Engineering) and Professor Geoff Fincher (Plant Science) are the respective Adelaide contacts for the conferences.

Ms Anne-Marie Quinn, Manager-University Development at the Adelaide Convention and Tourism Authority (ACTA), has been working part-time in the Vice-Chancellor's Office this year to help build conference business for the University.

"The securing of two large international conferences to Adelaide is very positive," she said. "These results prove that Adelaide is a very strong international competitor, especially when the administration support provided by ACTA is combined with the research expertise at the University.

"Together, the University and ACTA can work to promote the city as a

centre for higher education conferences."

A new video specifically produced to promote both Adelaide as a conference destination and the conference facilities at the University will be launched on Monday, 19 August. Dr Hansen showed the video in Russia in June as part of his successful presentation bid for the Sound and Vibration Congress.

ACTA provides a wide range of support for conference organisers, from the earliest bidding process to the final realisation of the conference. An interest-free loan of up to \$15,000 is also available from ACTA to help conference organisers get their event up and running.

Anne-Marie Quinn can be contacted on 303 3011 (Tuesdays and Fridays) or on 014 472 345.

—John Edge

The News IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE

Professor Richard Pomfret from Economics is among contributors to a new book launched recently by the Centre for Strategic Economic Studies at Victoria University of Technology.

Dialogues on Australia's Future brings together twenty-five of Australia's leading economists and other experts to discuss key issues facing Australia in the 1990s. Professor Pomfret's article, "Australia and Asia: Lessons to be Learned and Implications for Australian Trade Policy", focuses on APEC.

The book explores the growing involvement with the dynamic but turbulent economies of Asia, the dramatic changes taking place in computing and communications technology, and the apparent dominance of financial markets over economic and financial policy, as well as strategies and policies which governments have used or might use to achieve national objectives. Other papers examine the link between economic growth and the quality of life and the ways in which economic theory and practice relate to the national interest.

The book costs \$24.95 in paperback (\$49.95 hardcover). For information/orders, telephone (03) 9248 1024, or fax (03) 9248 1048.

MINOR NAPIER FIRE DAMAGE

A fire caused minor damage to the 4th floor of the Napier Building on the evening of Tuesday 6 August.

The building's sprinkler system, installed several years ago, quickly contained the fire. Some books in the Politics Department meeting room were damaged, and water damage occurred in the meeting room and some adjoining offices. Police are investigating the incident.

Fire service officers at the scene said the building's fire safety features had worked extremely well in containing the blaze. The Napier building underwent an extensive fire safety upgrade in 1992-93, including the installation of sprinklers throughout the building.

NEW FUNDING BODY

Kirsten Freeman, Project Officer of the Australia Foundation for Culture and the Humanities, will be a featured speaker at a symposium organised by the Oral History Association of Australia (SA Branch) and the South Australian Centre for Australian Studies on Saturday 31 August.

Entitled "Dollars and Sense: Figuring out the Funding Game", the seminar provides the first occasion for a representative of the Australia Foundation to speak at a public function in Adelaide and an opportunity to learn more about this major new funding body.

The Foundation recently announced that 43 projects would receive a total of \$1.4 million in its inaugural funding program. It has allocated an additional \$500,000 to seven projects proposed by universities. Second rounds of applications will close at the end of September.

The seminar also includes an overview of funding sources for historical and cultural studies and a presentation by Patricia Walton, Training Officer of the Community Arts Network of SA, on how to prepare funding proposals.

The fee for the all-day seminar in the Lecture Theatre, Institute Building, North Terrace, is \$30 (\$20 concession). Further information can be obtained from Beth Robertson of the Oral History Association on 207 7349.

Subject tackles Aboriginal environmental issues

Students who take a closer look at the Aboriginal perspective on environmental issues will have an edge when it comes to getting a job in land management, according to a new lecturer at the University of Adelaide's Department of Environmental Science and Management.

Dr Jocelyn Davies, who was appointed to the department in May, is heading a subject at Roseworthy Campus called "Indigenous Australians and Environmental Management".

The subject, one of the very few of its kind among Australian universities, will be offered to students in 1997 as part of the new Bachelor of Environmental Management degree.

Dr Davies said her subject aimed to provide students with vital information and boost their confidence to prepare them for negotiations with Aboriginal people over environmental issues.

The subject takes into consideration the Mabo High Court ruling in 1992 (which recognised indigenous Australians' claim to land that has special significance to them) and covers many important issues, such as land degradation, protection of Aboriginal heritage sites, native title claims, and mining interests.

"These are the kinds of concerns our students will be confronting in the



Dr Jocelyn Davies. Photo: David Ellis

future," Dr Davies said.

"Whether they'll be working with soils boards, in land use mapping, or as park rangers, interaction with Aboriginal people — as land holders or native title claimants — will become an increasingly large part of their careers.

"Due to the importance of indigenous environmental management skills, students that undertake this subject will have an edge on their rivals when tackling employment opportunities once their course is completed," she said.

Dr Davies, whose position has been

funded through the University's Aboriginal Programs budget, said she hoped to attract more Aboriginal students to Environmental Management through her course.

"We're offering South Australian students something they can't get anywhere else in the State, and the department is building strong links with Aboriginal communities who are very positive about having an association with Roseworthy and our students.

"I'm now working closely with the University's Aboriginal programs unit, Wilto Yerlo, to draw this area of study to the attention of Aboriginal students, because Aboriginal organisations that deal with land planning and natural resource management would prefer to employ Aboriginal people," she said.

"We see this new subject as a drawcard for Aboriginal students, and at the same time our non-Aboriginal students will also benefit enormously from it," she said.

Information about the Bachelor of Environmental Management is available from the Student Information Office: (08) 303 5208 or freecall 1800 061 459. For more information about "Indigenous Australians and Environmental Management" phone Dr Jocelyn Davies: (08) 303 7889.

—Sylvia Porss
—David Ellis

Beef forum success 'no bull'

Over 200 people from as far away as Kimba and Leigh Creek attended the ninth JS Davies Beef Forum at the Waite Campus, Naracoorte and Jamestown last month to hear the five speakers and examine experimental cattle from Struan.

"We had a good attendance at all three venues, and the speakers were very well received," said organiser Dr Wayne Pitchford, from the Animal Genetics Research Group at the Waite Campus.

The concept of an annual forum was developed in 1987 so that producers, industry personnel and scientists could interact to spawn ideas, disseminate knowledge, and ultimately develop a more efficient and profitable beef industry.

Dr Scott Newman, Manager of the Northern Quantitative Genetics Program for the Meat Quality Cooperative Research Centre and Principal Research Scientist with CSIRO's Division of Tropical Animal Production, was one of two keynote speakers at this year's forum.

Dr Newman spoke on contemporary issues in breed utilisation, particularly focusing on the importance of choosing bulls. He stressed the need to look at performance details and Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) across breeds as well as covering the use of composite synthetic breeds developed from other breeds.

The second keynote speaker was Armidale-based beef consultant Mr Don Nicol, Project Coordinator of the Angus-

Murray Grey Marketing and Research Project for export of high quality beef to Japan.

He spoke on balanced breeding, with particular emphasis on selecting for improved profitability in all sectors of the industry, not just breeder or feedlot profitability.

Three other speakers from the Waite Campus — Professor Cynthia Bottema, Dr Pitchford, and Mr David Rutley — focused on new genetic information and technologies to assist cattle breeders.

"Designer Beef: Different Genes for Different Means" was sponsored by major agricultural company IAMA and the SA Stud Beef Cattle Breeders Association.

—Elizabeth Butler



Struan Experimental Cattle. Photo: Elizabeth Butler

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Unique test model for Wirrina project

A highly sophisticated hydraulic model that can simulate the movement of waves in coastal environments is being used as a key planning and research tool for the new Wirrina Cove marina development south of Adelaide.

The \$22.5 million marina is to be built by MBFI Resorts as part of the redevelopment of the Wirrina Cove resort.

MBFI and the SA Tourism Commission have sponsored a research project at the University of Adelaide that investigates the penetration of waves into the proposed marina area.

This research makes use of the Model Wave Basin — a 120 square metre model controlled and monitored by state-of-the-art computer systems. It is used in research and consultancy by CivilTest, the commercial arm of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

A scale model of the Wirrina Cove marina has been built in the Model Wave Basin, allowing researchers to determine what shape the marina should take to

provide protection for boats and the local environment.

Data from the model will also be compared with data from the actual marina site over the next 18 months.

The manager of CivilTest, Mr Matthew English, said this project was a major achievement for the University.

"Hydraulic modelling has traditionally been a strength within our department, and with the recent appointment of hydraulic and coastal modelling researchers Dr Martin Lambert and Dr David Walker an even greater emphasis has been placed on this valuable resource," he said.

"The Model Wave Basin is unique in South Australia and is one of the leading facilities in the nation. This research project is a significant step forward for us."

The model was featured at the launch of the Wirrina Cove marina development, which was held at the University of Adelaide on 28 July.

—David Ellis



The model showing the planned Wirrina Cove marina. Photo: David Ellis

Nottingham VC visits Adelaide

Advertisement

The Vice-Chancellor of The University of Nottingham, Sir Colin Campbell, recently visited the University of Adelaide to discuss issues of Quality in tertiary education.

The universities of Adelaide and Nottingham signed a formal agreement this year to make a combined effort to achieve international best practice standards in their academic and administrative operations.

Cooperation between the two universities will involve information sharing and staff exchange programs, with the possibility also of student

exchange programs.

During his visit to Adelaide, Sir Colin Campbell met with several key staff involved in achieving best practice at the University.

They included the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Ian Falconer, the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Ieva Kotlarski, the Head of the Division of Health Sciences, Professor Derek Frewin, the Head of the Division of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, Professor Malcolm Oades, Academic Services

Registrar Mr Colin Smyth, the Director of the Advisory Centre for University Education, Dr Gerry Mullins, and Director, Quality, Mrs Heather Howard.

The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane, said the University of Adelaide and University of Nottingham were very similar institutions with strong industry links.

Professor O'Kane and Sir Colin agreed that collaboration between the two universities should be provided over the next few years to their mutual benefit.

—David Ellis



Professor Ian Falconer greets Sir Colin Campbell (r). Photo: David Ellis.

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Alfred Tennyson.

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Making cultural sense of schizophrenia

Understanding of schizophrenia — by the public, health professionals, research scientists, and those who suffer from it — is strongly shaped by cultural beliefs, according to a new book by University of Adelaide psychiatrist and anthropologist Rob Barrett.

Dr Barrett, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Psychiatry, carried out an ethnographic study of “Ridgehaven Hospital”, a psychiatric hospital where he worked in the 1980s.

He documented the organisational pattern and culture of the hospital, approaching his task in much the same way that a social anthropologist would if studying a small-scale or tribal society.

The Psychiatric Team and the Social Definition of Schizophrenia formed Dr Barrett’s thesis for his PhD in anthropology at the University of Adelaide and was published recently by Cambridge University Press.

He found that patients with schizophrenia and their families, as well as the doctors, nurses and other staff treating them, had “common sense” ideas about the disease, many of which originated in 19th century European notions of human nature.

Because he worked in the hospital at the time he was carrying out the research, Dr Barrett’s study was difficult, and the findings are potentially controversial. He interviewed and observed his colleagues, other staff and patients, and his book goes through the sometimes painful process of dissecting their cultural beliefs and values, especially those related to schizophrenia.

Schizophrenia is a serious condition characterised by delusions and hallucinations, as well as disordered and confused thinking. It is usually treated with anti-psychotic drugs, in combination with education and support for the patient and family members. In many cases, gradual rehabilitation is necessary.

“In spite of more than a century of research effort, the causes of schizophrenia are still poorly understood,” Dr Bennett said. “Genetic factors play a role in many cases. There is also evidence in favour of the theory that there is an imbalance of neurotransmitters in the brain, but it is not possible to be conclusive. In some patients one can demonstrate structural changes in the brain, but not in all cases.”

Dr Barrett does not subscribe to the romantic notion, once espoused by the anti-psychiatry movement, that people with schizophrenia are simply “different” but have been labelled by society as mentally ill. However, he believes it may be necessary to rethink the whole category of patients considered to be suffering from schizophrenia, particularly for research purposes.

“Sometimes the agenda for scientific research is set by a series of cultural beliefs. It’s time we went back and questioned the ideas on which the concept (of schizophrenia) is based.”

So what are these cultural ideas and assumptions?

Dr Barrett traces the history of the idea that a normal person is a whole and integrated individual — and a mentally ill person is “disintegrated” or “split” into parts. This has its roots in the Romantic period in late 18th century Europe. Romanticism strongly influenced medical practice in that era, and this was a time when psychiatry was emerging as a separate discipline.

“These ideas continue to colour the way we practise today and they also colour the way people with schizophrenia are regarded,” he said.

For example, the idea that schizophrenia referred to a “split personality” remained fixed in the public imagination, in spite of recent education campaigns to dispel the belief.

“There is a widely-held assumption that people with schizophrenia manifest extreme opposites of behaviour — good and bad, logical and illogical, passive and violent — and that they can suddenly change from one extreme to the other. Hence they can be regarded as dangerous individuals.

“Since people who have schizophrenia share the same cultural assumptions as everyone else, they too can come to view themselves as ‘split in two’, as unpredictable or potentially dangerous — ideas which can have serious consequences for their self-image.”

Another key idea is “degeneration”. Dr Barrett said its origins could be traced to Renaissance thought, but it became influential in the Enlightenment, particularly in the field of natural science, with its concepts of pure species and degenerate forms.

The idea developed a politicised flavour in the 19th century, when it was held that certain races and social classes were degenerate — particularly black races and lower classes.

“In the 1850s the theory was advanced that certain forms of mental illness epitomise degeneration, and schizophrenia, or dementia praecox as it was then called, was the main one.”

It was thought there was a progressive decline in certain families which was transmitted from one generation to the next, beginning with mild nervousness and culminating three or four generations later in schizophrenia.

“This sort of pessimistic outlook has become ingrained into the idea of schizophrenia,” he said.

“This is why it is often thought to be an incurable disease characterised by progressive decline, even though, in many instances, it may not be the case.

“Neuroscience research is also influenced by these historically-based ideas: the question whether degeneration of the brain occurs in schizophrenia is still debated, though little evidence in support of the degeneration hypothesis has been forthcoming.”

Dr Barrett said people diagnosed with schizophrenia faced particular problems as a consequence of these beliefs.

“Other people often tend to interpret their actions and behaviour in terms of the schizophrenia,” he said.

“Instead of being thought of as a person with schizophrenia, they may be referred to as ‘schizophrenic’. It is difficult enough to experience hallucinations and disordered thinking, but many patients suffer the additional problem of being viewed (and viewing themselves) as people who are fundamentally flawed.

“In diseases like schizophrenia, even though biological mechanisms are at play, valuable insights are provided by an anthropological perspective, because it helps to identify beliefs and attitudes which may influence the experience of the illness and influence the way the illness is treated.”

—David Washington

GUEST COMMENTARY CONTINUED

International Students: Values and Attitudes

The results are set out in the following table, in order of importance.

SIX SOCIAL VALUES			
Asians		Americans	
1. Having an orderly society		1. Freedom of expression	
2. Societal harmony		2. Personal freedom	
3. The accountability of public officials		3. The rights of the individual	
4. Being open to new ideas		4. Open debate	
5. Freedom of expression		5. Thinking for oneself	
6. Respect for authority		6. The accountability of public officials	

The test material was administered to a sample of Australian matriculation students, with the following results:

Australians	
1. Freedom of expression	
2. Personal freedom	
3. The rights of the individual	
4. Decision by majority	
5. Rights of society	
6. Resolve conflicting views through open debate	

This sample closely follows the American results in Hitchcock’s study. The fundamental differences which he found in social values are confirmed in personal values:

FIVE PERSONAL VALUES			
Asians		Americans	
1. Hard work		1. Self-reliance	
2. Respect for learning and education		2. Personal achievement	
3. Honesty		3. Hard work	
4. Self-reliance		4. Achieving success in life	
5. Self-discipline		5. Helping others	

However, the Australian results are quite different from both of the above:

Australians	
1. Honesty and Personal achievement (equal)	
3. Hard work	
4. Self-discipline and Achieving success in life (equal)	

It is tempting to see in these latter results, which I found in my sample of matriculation students, an engaging series of values which bring together West and East, with values 1, 3 and 5 from the Asian and 2 and 4 from the American list — a satisfying amalgamation of strengths which bodes well for our future as Australians and for our place poised geographically in Asia but not culturally part of it.

The sixth most important core value to Asians — fulfilling obligations to others — was stressed by 39% of Asians but only 25% of Australians and 19% of Americans; while ‘achieving success in life’ was stressed by 59% of Americans and only 30% of Asians. The relative emphasis on ‘personal achievement’ was similar.

Significant for education is the fact that a massive 69% of Asians emphasised respect for learning, while only 15% of Americans and Australians did so.

It is tempting to speculate whether historical reliance on what might be called ‘frontier virtues’, shared by many Australians, permits enough breadth and depth, which learning and personal discipline could supply, for coming to terms with the basics, still less the complications of the contemporary world.

To return to Dr Mahathir’s address, there are many values, Western and Asian, that he does not defend. He cites excessive materialism and excessive anti-materialism; extremist spiritualism, usually manifested in extremely unspiritual ways; the ethics of fatalism; arrogance; excessive deference to authority; inequality; the repression of women and the weak; and the economic, political, intellectual and social disempowerment of millions.

It is greed, as much as ignorance and poverty, which drives people to disregard not only the well-being of others but “God’s living creatures ... [and] the physical environment which man holds only in trust”.

Dr Mahathir’s call for openness to mutual cultural enrichment would seem to be what we in University Colleges seek.

As he concludes, “Let us all admit that no one has a monopoly of wisdom. Let us ... enthusiastically partake of a feast of civilisations, where we each take the best that all of us have to offer — and together build for the first time a single global civilisation such as the world has never seen.”

—Dr Rosemary Brooks
Principal
St Ann’s College

Alumni IN BRIEF

Elder Hostels visit to Adelaide

St Mark's College, North Adelaide, will once again be "home base" for a group of North American visitors travelling with the Elder Hostels scheme later this month.

Organisers would like to hear from readers willing to invite one or two of the Elder Hostels visitors into their homes for a meal on the evening of Wednesday 28 August. The visitors are retired graduates from a range of backgrounds. Home visits have been a highlight of the Elder Hostels trips in past years, enjoyed by visitors and hosts alike.

If you would like to be a Home Visit Host, please call Adrienne Eccles at the Alumni Office on 303 3196 before Wednesday 21 August.

Distinguished Alumni Awards

Nominations are now invited for the 1996 Distinguished Alumni Awards.

Any member of the alumni body of the University of Adelaide may nominate alumni for Distinguished Alumni Awards.

Further details from the Executive Secretary of the Alumni Association, Mr Geoff Sauer, on telephone (08) or 61 8 303 4277, fax (08) or 61 8 303 5808 or by email: gsauer@registry.adelaide.edu.au

Nominations close 31 August 1996.

Early Graduates Afternoon Tea

A special invitation is extended to alumni who graduated more than 50 years ago. Families and friends welcome. Saturday 31 August in the Equinox Bistro at 3.00pm. Bookings with the Alumni Office on 303 4275. \$7.50 per person.

1946 Golden Jubilee Commemoration

The 1946 Golden Jubilee Commemoration will be held on Thursday 24 October at 6.00pm in the Bonython Hall.

The occasional address will be given by Dr Jim Bonnin (MBBS 46 MD 55). A reunion dinner follows in the Union afterwards. Details from Adrienne Eccles on 303 3196.

Research help sought

I am a joint honours student in History and Women's Studies.

For my thesis I am looking at the women who were involved with teaching or research at the University of Adelaide, from its beginning until the 1950s. Initially I am trying to compile a list of who they were and when they worked at the University.

I would be interested to hear from or receive written comments from anyone who can assist me with research on these women.

My address is c/o Dr Margaret Allen, Women's Studies, University of Adelaide.

Amelia Kay

Afternoon with Janis and Cello

Join the Cornell Chapter in the Hartley Concert Room on Sunday 18 August from 2.30 to 5.00pm, for "An Afternoon with Janis and his Cello".

Cellist Janis Laurs will talk about the changes in his musical life following his retirement from the Australian String Quartet and his return to more solo work.

With pianist Lucinda Collins he will play the Sonata in F for cello and piano op.6 by Richard Strauss, and may also give musical demonstrations arising from discussions. He has agreed to answer questions about his distinguished and varied musical career, as well as give insights into the life of a touring musician.

Drinks will be provided, and those attending should bring a small plate of finger food. There is no charge for admission, but notice of intention to attend should be given to the Alumni Office on 303 4275.

—Elizabeth Silsbury
Trustee: Performing Arts

Pictured right: Janis Laurs in the foyer of the Mitchell Building. Photographer: Colin Hentschke



Kate wins Olympic Gold in rowing

Congratulations to 24-year-old Kate Slatter from the University of Adelaide's Boat Club, following her gold medal rowing performance at the Atlanta Olympics.

Slatter and Australian teammate Megan Still crossed the finish line at Lake Lanier, Georgia, just .39 seconds ahead of the United States in the women's coxless pair rowing event. France finished third.

Kate Slatter has been a member of the Adelaide University Boat Club since 1989 when she started a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematical and Computer Sciences at the University. Since 1991 she has been with the

Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra, where she was paired with Megan Still from New South Wales.

Last year Slatter and Still became the first Australian women to win a world championship in an Olympic rowing event, defeating the US in the women's coxless pair in Finland.

Slatter and Still's Olympic gold performance confirms their position as world champions and marks the pinnacle of their rowing career, which includes 6th place at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics (coxless four), 3rd at the 1994 world championship in Indianapolis (coxless pair), and 1st at the 1995 European champi-

onship (coxless pair).

Although no longer a student with the University of Adelaide, like most Australian team members Kate Slatter retains strong ties with her home rowing club.

Another member of the Adelaide University Boat Club, Jaime Fernandez, should also be congratulated for his efforts at the Atlanta Olympics. Jaime and teammates Benjamin Dodwell, Brett Hayman, Robert Jahrling, Nicholas Porzig, Geoffrey Stewart, James Stewart, Robert Walker and Richard Wearne came 6th in their event, the men's eight.

—David Ellis

Fulbright winners

Three Adelaide University Law graduates are among winners of 1996 Fulbright awards and scholarships which were announced recently.

They are Nicholas Shaw, who won a Fulbright Postgraduate Student Award, Darryl Cronin, awarded an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People Award, and Andrew Graham, the 1996 Coral Sea Scholarship winner.

Mr Shaw (BA Jur 1992, LLB Hons 1994) is presently an Associate in the office of the Chief Justice of South Australia. He will be studying Constitutional Law for his Master of Laws degree at Columbia University, New York.

Mr Cronin (LLB 1989), who is currently working as a Research Assistant with the North Australia Research Unit,

ANU, in Darwin, is currently visiting the United States to confirm which institution he will attend.

He plans to study Indigenous Self-Determination in the US, looking at self-government structures, the contracting of programs and services by Tribal Governments, the powers of Tribal Governments to control and manage tribal lands and resources, and the powers to govern effectively on behalf of Tribal members.

The Coral Sea Scholarship winner Andrew Graham (LLB 1991, BA 1992), from Techsearch Business Services at the University of South Australia, will spend his time in the United States investigating, assessing and developing for application in Australia, practices and strategies which facilitate the transfer of technology from universities to industry.

Dental Chapter dinner successful

The Sir Joseph Verco Dental Chapter of the Alumni Association recently held a dinner at the Adelaide Club to raise support for the Dental Students Overseas Electives Program to the Asian Pacific Region.

Nineteen members attended the dinner. Mr Tim Goh, a fifth year student who was involved in organizing the very successful Asian-Pacific Dental Students' Congress in 1995, gave the address. A very stimulating discussion followed of the role of the Faculty with Asia.

Present were Professor Roger Smales and Dr Loretta Rupinkas, who are currently based in Hong Kong. Professor Smales indicated that the Faculty has a high profile there and that this is based on personal contacts. He commented that the Faculty's elective program is an important part of the establishment of two-way contacts.

—Dr Judy Packer
Trustee for Dentistry
Chair, Sir Joseph Verco Dental Chapter



• The Acting Vice Chancellor's monthly discussion on the station can be heard this Friday (16 August) at 6.00pm during "On Campus". It is repeated at 2.00pm on Saturday.

• 5UV's fine music alter ego 5MBS FM returns to the airwaves on 2 September for a month on the frequency of 100.5 MHz.

The station's full program is available now from 5UV or libraries and good record shops around town.

• Folk band Quintessence can be heard live to air on the Folk Show at 5.00pm on 24 August.

New look Quartet tunes up

The University's Quartet-in-Residence, the Australian String Quartet (ASQ), has a new member starting rehearsals with it this week (12 August).

Cameron Retchford, well known to Adelaide audiences as the Principal Solo Cellist with the Australian Chamber Orchestra, arrived in Adelaide last week to take up the position as Quartet cellist.

Cameron Retchford graduated from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music in 1986, and then did further studies in Switzerland and Germany, obtaining his Soloists' Diploma from Cologne's Musikhochschule in 1990.

The first opportunity Adelaide audiences will have to hear Cameron Retchford perform with the ASQ will be on Thursday 26 September at the Quartet's subscription concert in Elder Hall. The program will open with Mozart's String Quartet K589, a work that gives particular prominence to the cello.



L to R: Keith Crellin, William Hennessy, Elinor Lea and Cameron Retchford. Photo: Grant Hancock Photographers courtesy of Australian String Quartet.

Comedy is 'good clean fun' for Shakespeare lovers

It's one of the world's most famous and funniest stories of mistaken identity, and it's coming to the University of Adelaide's Little Theatre this month.

The play is Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*, presented by the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild and Parting Company.

It's the story of two men — Antipholus and his servant, Dromio, of Syracuse — who are on a quest to find their long-lost twin brothers. They arrive at the town of Ephesus, where their brothers are now living also as a master and servant combination called Antipholus and Dromio.

The Syracusan pair are immediately mistaken for their Ephesian brothers; the Syracusians think they could be victims of enchantment, while the Ephesians think enemies are plotting against them. As the confusion escalates, almost everyone else believes that Antipholus and Dromio are simply going crazy.

This fast-paced and light-hearted classic is co-directed by Cate Rogers and Gina Tsikouras, who have directed several Shakespeare plays to the acclaim of both critics and audiences, including last year's *The Taming Of The Shrew* and the sell-out 1994 Fringe production of *The Tempest*.

Ms Rogers said *The Comedy Of Errors* promised to be a vibrant and entertaining production.

"Because Gina and I enjoy this play so much, and because it makes us laugh so much, we want the audience to get as much out of it as we do," she said.

"It's a lot less philosophical and touchy-feely than some of Shakespeare's other plays. It's mainly just good, clean fun, and we're working very hard to get every last drop of that fun out of Shakespeare's text."

Ms Rogers said their version of the play was set in a "contemporary but surreal" environment.

"In times gone by we've tended to go for a particular environment, like Shakespeare in the outback or in the corporate yuppie world. With *Comedy Of Errors* we're using a more surreal, no time or place setting, which is in keeping with the town of Ephesus because it's supposedly enchanted," she said.

The Comedy Of Errors plays from August 16-31 at 7.30pm in the Little Theatre (south-west corner, Union Cloisters). Tickets: \$15 (\$10 concession); bookings at BASS or through the Theatre Guild on 303 5999.

—David Ellis

ACCOMMODATION

ADELAIDE: SE Corner - Person wanted to share lge townhouse with one other. \$82.50 pw. Ph 223 3396.

ALDINGA BEACH: Cosy, relaxing, self catering, 2 br holiday unit on seafront. \$70 per night (min 2 nights), \$450 pw. Ph 211 7500.

ASCOT PARK: Granny flat, close to transport. \$70 pw. Ph 374 1658.

CAMBRIDGE: UK couple wish to swap 3 br house, garden, in attractive village 12km from city for house in Adelaide, preferably Blackwood/Eden Hills area, from approx Dec 96 - March 97 (or part). Non smokers. Children negotiable. Reciprocal use of car if desired. Ph 370 3764.

CRAFERS WEST: 2 br, self contained granny flat with sep access. Quiet, neat, country views, on .5 acre, fully furn or otherwise. 30 min drive to city, 10 mins to bus. \$120 pw. Ph Dana 208 1714 (8am-6pm) or 041 461 1263.

GLENELG: Non-smoker wanted to share beachfront apartment. Spac, 2 br, fully furn, close to trans. \$80 pw + exp. Ph 303 5431.

HENLEY BEACH SOUTH: 2 br unit in small group. Immac cond, fully carpeted, ceiling fans, newly painted,

lge rooms, car park next to unit, first time let. Steps to beach, shops & bus. \$100 pw. Ph Claudia 373 1151.

HIGHBURY: 4 br absolute luxury home, avail fully furn. Offers entertaining and living rooms on a grand scale. Master br features w-in robe and ensuite bathroom. Luxury, all white kitchen. Formal lounge and dining rm. Dble garage, auto sprinkler system, security system. \$400 pw. Ph Heather Semmens 015 719 700.

HIGHGATE: Fully furn, 1 br flat avail for 10 weeks from 30 Aug - 10 Nov. Walking distance to Waite. \$65 pw (incl elec). Ph Li 303 7331.

HOUSESITTER: Mature, avail from 20 Aug, long-term preferred. Refs avail. Pets welcome. Ph 332 7452 or 272 0693.

KANGAROO ISLAND: Vivonne Bay - Self-contained, architecturally-designed house. Sleeps 5. Beautiful beach, bush, wildlife. Ph 388 6404.

KENSINGTON PK: Fully furn, lge, 3 br villa. Close to the Parade & buses, 15 mins to city, share with 2 others. Prefer non-smoker, student. \$50 pw. Ph 364 6563.

MILE END: Unfurn room avail in fully furn, 2 br, old stone, maisonette. 5 mins to shops, cafes and trans-

Adelaidean

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port. Avail immediately. \$65 pw + bond, and shared exp. Ph Andrew 437 160.

MISSION BEACH: North Queensland - tropical, 2 br, self-catering holiday unit with pool and bbq, on esplanade, opp Dunk Island. \$560 pw + cleaning. Ph 211 7500.

PARKSIDE: 2 br unit, partly furn, free standing, parking for 2 cars, walking distance to city. Avail Sept. \$150 pw. Ph 271 7129.

WANTED: 2 br, furn apartment required by staff member from mid-Aug for 6 mths. Ph 014 913 367 or email: lcspai@mim.com.au

WEST LAKES SHORE: Mod, 2 br townhouse, fully furn with r/c air cond. Fully equipped kitchen, sep laundry, dining, lounge at ground level and 2 br with balconies & bathroom upstairs. Encl courtyard & lock-up garage, fully maintained gardens. \$200 pw. Ph 331 7476.

FOR SALE

ALFA ROMEO: 33 GCL gold metallic, 69,000km, 1985, fully optioned, new Pirelli tyres, service history, immac t/out. UNK 394. \$11,500

ono. Ph Margaret 337 2046 or 0419 817 152.

DAIHATSU HANDIVAN: 1982, semi-auto, good cond. BP 3378. \$1,500 neg. Ph Nupur 303 3998 or 333 2432 (ah).

DATSUN: 1975 sedan, silver, good motor, runs well, new tyres & clutch. SAY 031. \$850 ono. Ph Hessam 303 3579 or 365 4682.

LAPTOP COMPUTER: Macintosh Powerbook 230 with external floppy disc attachment. Greyscale display, very handy, exc cond, less than 2kg. \$1,500 ono. Ph 332 9261 or email: tmceleb@smug.student.adelaide.edu.au

MACINTOSH LCIII: 4Mb RAM, 160Mb HD, system 7.1, keyboard, mouse, monitor and software. \$1,500 ono. Stylewriter II, \$300 ono. Ph Michelle 303 7224 or 398 3175 (ah).

MITSUBISHI MAGNA: Exec sedan, 1989, grey, auto, air cond, power steer, car alarm, immobiliser, Sherwood rad/cass, exc cond. UYT 022. \$8,800 neg. Ph Fabian 338 2873.

MITSUBISHI MAGNA: TN sedan, 1988, air cond, auto,

low km, very clean inside and out, exc cond. VED 175. \$7,500 ono. Ph Michael Farber 272 5639 or email: mfarber@maths.adelaide.edu.au

MODEM: Banksia 14,400 external fax/modem, as new cond, in original packaging, manuals, cables, Fax-Link-II software for PC. \$125. Ph Peter Ashenden 303 4477 or email: petera@cs.adelaide.edu.au

NISSAN MICRA: 1995 LX, silver (metallic paint), 8,900km, grey trim, matching sheepskin covers, exc cond, under factory warranty. VTZ 735. \$13,600 ono. Ph Esther 201 3852 or 293 1158 (ah) or email: laes@cc.flinders.edu.au

SIGMA: 1981 GL sedan, manual, air cond, rad/cass, new tyres, reg until Nov 96, regularly serviced, very good cond, reliable. SET 478. \$2,500. Ph 332 6010.

TOYOTA CORONA: 1982 sedan, manual 5 spd, blue, exc body and interior, runs wells, rad/cass. UWS 880. \$2,700 ono. Ph 332 9261 or email: tmceleb@smug.student.adelaide.edu.au

MISCELLANEOUS

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL GROUP: The student/staff group of the University of Adelaide meets each

Thursday at 1.00pm in the Canon Poole Room, Level 5, Union Building. New members and interested people welcome.

DIARIES: Orders may now be lodged for the 1997 Uni diaries. Infill \$12.50, cover \$2.50. Orders must be sent on an official purchase order to the Property Services Branch Store.

NANNY: Semi-permanent, casual, College Pk, 4 children. 3pm to 7pm. Must have current driver's license. Have to collect children from school and assist mother. Car can be provided to drive children. Pay neg. Ph Dr Rositano 258 9103.

SPECIALISED ENGLISH SERVICES: Ongoing language tuition, assistance with essay and thesis writing, analysis of literary texts. Ph Pamela Vogiatzis 234 4567 (after 5pm).

TIMESAVERS: Home cleaning professionals are offering a \$25 introductory "SparklingKleen" on an average size home. North Adelaide and Eastern suburbs only. Ph Louise or Neil 363 2663 or 041 623 492.

WORD PROCESSING: \$2.50 p/p @ 250 words p/p; Thesis, formatting/proof reading of your data entry; accurate spelling; city location; 7 day service; fax; 24 hour pager. Ph Anne Every 415 7866.