

## Bonus points introduced

Students taking Maths 2 and a language other than English at SACE Stage 2 level may have their chance of entry to University of Adelaide courses boosted from the year 2000.

In broad terms, students who successfully complete Maths 2 and/or a language other than English at the required level, and who have applied for entry to a University of Adelaide course, will receive bonus points which will enhance their tertiary entrance options.

Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor Doug McEachern says the offer of bonus points is a practical way of highlighting the importance of study in mathematics and languages in higher education.

"The scheme will encourage students to increase their career options in many important professional fields, and assist them to participate more effectively in industry and the community as Australia interacts increasingly with the rest of the world," Professor McEachern said.

Two bonus points will be available for students who successfully complete the Publicly Examined Subject (PES) Maths 2 at SACE Stage 2.

Students successfully completing at least one PES language other than English at SACE Stage 2 will also receive two bonus points (regardless of whether one or more languages are taken).

Thus, students will be able to obtain a maximum of four bonus points. For University of Adelaide entry purposes, these points will be added to students' scaled aggregate scores and then converted into a new Tertiary Entrance Rank.

Schools Liaison Committee convenor Dr Chris Dawson says the bonus points will be applied for the first time to students who complete the SACE in 1999, and are seeking entry to a University of Adelaide course in 2000.

The lead time will ensure schools and students have sufficient time to prepare.

Schools were notified of the scheme late last year, and an intensive information program is now under way to provide school principals, teacher associations, school careers advisers, students and their parents with detailed information.

Interstate and International Baccalaureate students will also be eligible to receive the points for equivalent study.

Full information about the bonus points may be obtained from the Student Information Office (freecall 1800 061 459, or university extension 35208).

—Patricia Cree

## Academic Board requests further investigation of full fees issue

A further, more detailed analysis of the financial, academic and equity issues related to the introduction of a full fees option for Australian undergraduates at the University of Adelaide will be conducted following discussion of the issue by the University's Academic Board.

The meeting was attended by about 70 people including several members of the University Council and representatives of the Students' Association.

Vice-Chancellor Mary O'Kane told the meeting that, while her personal view was that the government should fully fund higher education for the benefit of the nation as a whole, the University should analyse the full-fee option in greater depth, given the higher education funding policies of both major political parties.

Tracing the effective decline of

Commonwealth operating grant per student since 1983, Professor O'Kane said universities had tended to cope with the problems by adjusting at the margins of facilities, services and working conditions.

"It is now time to look at our finances afresh so we can retain and attract good staff, ensure the University is a place to which students want to come to study, and be an institution that the community respects," she said.

Students' Association president Amrita Dasvarma, education vice-president Olivia Nassaris and Union president Rosslyn Cox called on the University to consider the equity and access issues involved in permitting a full-fee option.

Academic Board requested the Vice-Chancellor to further develop the proposal for the introduction of upfront

fees for a proportion of Australian undergraduate students. The proposal would address the questions of which courses might be involved, how fees would be determined, the availability of loans or scholarships, the availability of alternative sources of funds, access and equity issues, and effects on entry and academic standards.

Some 20 speakers addressed the meeting. Academic Board Convenor Professor Doug McEachern said while academic staff were generally opposed in principle to the introduction of a full-fee option, there was also recognition that, for the University to fulfil its academic and community service role, additional sources of funds were required.

Further discussion is expected at future meetings of the University Council and of Academic Board.

—Patricia Cree



## Maestros and apprentices gather for fundraising

Sixty-two singers from the Elder Conservatorium Chamber Choir and six guitarists from the Flinders Street School of Music Guitar Ensemble came together in "Guitars and Choirs" on the entertainment program of "Maestros and Apprentices", the Helpmann Academy's fundraising dinner at the Hilton International Hotel on 30 May.

The black tie dinner was held to raise money for the Helpmann Academy Grants Scheme for which students, graduates and staff of the partner schools are eligible to apply.

The evening consisted of a six course meal created by international chef Cheong Liew, with wines from leading SA wineries and entertainment supplied by students and staff of the partner schools.

With the choir and guitarists in the photograph (from left) are John Della-Torre, Lecturer in Guitar at Flinders Street School of Music, and Grahame Dudley, Senior Lecturer, Elder Conservatorium.

Photo: Phil Jeffers



## Value for money but still only 24th best

I am writing this in Malaysia. As well as attending our excellently organised annual Graduation Celebrations here I am involved in an intense round of meetings with universities, government agencies and business. In many of my meetings there is at least some incidental discussion of the recent Asiaweek ranking of the top 50 universities in Asia. So how did Adelaide go in this ranking? Our overall ranking was 24th and that ranking was based on a weighting of: 30% for academic reputation (we are 17th), 25% for faculty resources (we are 19th), 20% for students selectivity (we are 43rd - urgh!), 15% for financial resources (we are 17th again), 10% value for money (we are 10th!). The score that really rankled was 17th for academic reputation. Who came first? Well that was the University of Tokyo. I suppose I can live with that, but what really stuck in the craw was the ranking of other Australian universities. The University of Melbourne ranked 3rd in academic reputation, ANU 5th, Sydney 8th, New South Wales 10th, Monash 12th, and Queensland 14th. It is interesting to note that our colleagues at the University of Western Australia were actually behind us at 20th for academic reputation.

Now before you dismiss Asiaweek's academic reputation rankings as nonsense in the light of the Australian Quality Round results it is worth stopping to note how Asiaweek came to the academic reputation ratings. According to its summary it "asked each university to rate its peers on a 1 - 5 scale with 5 as the highest score". In other words, despite our excellent academic rankings in the Quality Round and on hard indicators such as the Brennan Index which has consistently put us in the top three universities in Australia, it is clear that our academic reputation is not well known. Universities such as Monash and Sydney which score less well on the hard indicators have made a bigger impact in Asia.

What does this tell us, and does it matter? At its simplest level it tells us that with our peers in the region our reputation is lower than performance indicators suggest it should be. And does it matter? At the very least it displays a missed marketing opportunity. And does a marketing opportunity matter? Almost certainly if we wish to achieve our goal to be one of the great universities of the world over the next 25 years. It is our reputation which will draw staff and students to us in the first instance, and our reputation which will be important in protecting our financial security and our future. In this regard it is particularly interesting to note in the submission to the West Committee from the Business/Higher Education Round Table that business particularly values universities' capacity to help Industry gain entrée to other countries. Needless to say, Business and Industry will not spend time checking esoteric performance indicators, they rely on word of mouth. Therefore, it is important that the word of mouth about the University of Adelaide is pretty good.

As I have said before, if universities are to be valued by the community (and that includes the communities of the whole region, indeed the world community) then it needs to know what universities do. Clearly we have much work to do in this area but the indicators show that we have excellent material on which to base the story we must tell. The challenge now is to tell it. I wonder what our ranking will be next year?

MARY O'KANE

## Democrat: 'appalled'



I have just read your lead article on Repromed and its relationship with Indonesia in the 5 May edition of *Adelaidean*.

I am appalled to think that the University of Adelaide is associated with such a project, and even appears to be proud of the fact.

With money being spent on what is clearly an optional extra for the rich when there are people in that country who do not even have access to clean water, the morality and priorities of this arrangement should be rethought, and urgently.

Sandra Kanck  
MLC

## ... and Repromed responds



As readers of the *Adelaidean* would be aware, Repromed is a highly successful Adelaide company which over the past 10 years has built up an international reputation for its first class medical treatment of infertility.

Readers should also be aware that approximately 20 million people in Indonesia earn more than the average wage of Australians. Some of these people desire world standard private medical services, including those requiring treatment for infertility. These people want treatment in their own country.

In response to demand the Indonesian Government is issuing Assisted Reproductive Technology licences to the private sector, with the stipulation

that licensees have an expert, ethical and culturally sensitive partner (eg. Repromed). No government funding is going into the private sector programs that are being set up.

From a South Australian point of view, financially successful overseas activities for Repromed will mean jobs in Adelaide, funds for research and, flowing on from that research, improved treatment options for South Australians.

We believe Ms Kanck, and all South Australians, should be proud and supportive of Repromed's international status and outstanding achievements – not looking to shackle us.

Roger Stables  
General Manager, Repromed  
Professor Colin Matthews  
Professor of Reproductive  
Medicine, University of Adelaide

## GUEST COMMENTARY

# Protecting the public good: the role of university public health departments

Public health workers take the view that human health is influenced by the actions of humans on the environment. Human activities strongly influence the population's states of health — and disease. For example, an energy-rich

food supply combined with a plethora of energy saving devices, from cars to TV lounges, appears to be responsible for much of the increase in obesity affluent societies have experienced in the past half century. To a large extent public health can be seen as the application of knowledge about the infrastructures which underpin social life for the promotion of the public's health. These systems include the food, water, transport, occupational and energy generation systems as well as the health services and community and family networks.

The Department of Public Health applies knowledge gained from its multidisciplinary status in the critical examination of these "infrastructures" as well as in collaborative projects aimed at improving their health outcomes. The Department differs from other university departments both in its inclusion of a wide range of disciplines (as one staff member puts it: "from psychology to phycology") and in its pursuit of an equitable distribution of health and well-being among the population.

These human and environmental emphases of public health are essentially historical and optimistic. Today's public health academics inherit a tradition of public health ideals developed in Europe, North America and Australia during the past 150 years. Many health problems, such as epidemics of infectious diseases like cholera, were overcome through the activities of public health workers in earlier times and we, in a sense, live off their successes. When we look at the ways in which seemingly impossible obstacles to health were overcome (eg the control of infectious disease in western countries) we have cause for optimism.

Right now, we face a number of strong global and local public health challenges. Globally, the most pressing problems result from the recent sharp increase in population. Today there are approximately 5.6 billion people

by  
Tony Worsley  
Head  
Department of Public Health

alive. 850 million of these are severely malnourished and two billion are deficient in one or several micronutrients. Many people have only one meagre meal each day (usually made up of one staple, like maize or cassava)

and millions of people do not have the 50 litres of clean water required daily for drinking, cooking and washing.

Over the past 30 years the Green Revolution has improved the energy consumption of most of the world's population but in many developing countries the percentages of women and children who suffer from nutrient deficiencies has actually increased. These nutritional woes are compounded by parasitic and infectious diseases, water and air pollution, land degradation, and in affluent areas of developing countries, by the increasing incidence of diabetes and heart disease. That's right now, but *if things go well* (ie there are no global catastrophes) an additional three to four billion people will populate the world during the next three decades.

Recently staff from the departments of Public Health and Plant Science joined the worldwide Food Systems in Health Alliance, which is led by Cornell University. The Alliance emphasises that one of the main outputs of agriculture and the food system is human health. One cannot say that a food system is functioning well if people do not have access to adequate, sustainable supplies of nourishing foods and fresh water. There are good opportunities for other departments in the University to join in this approach. A related development is the South Australian Consortium for Environmental Health which is composed of academics from our department as well as from Flinders University and the University of South Australia. This aims to foster research, consulting and education, especially in food and water quality issues and in environmental epidemiology. We see the education and training of personnel in the food, water and waste disposal industries as important ways of developing partnerships to improve population health.

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# Elder Hall gets wheelchair lift

People with disabilities and the elderly now have improved access to the University of Adelaide's Elder Hall.

The hall, which is almost 100 years old, has become a popular venue for concerts and other public events, but in previous years the lack of an access for people with disabilities made it difficult for all members of the community to attend.

A special lift has now been installed in Elder Hall, enabling people such as those in wheelchairs to gain access to the building.

The University of Adelaide has been aware of the issue of access for people with disabilities for many years. The University's Property Services Branch, which only last year was responsible for providing wheelchair access to Bonython Hall, had already undertaken some preliminary planning for Elder Hall as part of the building's Heritage approval.

The issue was again brought to the University's attention by the Norwood Community Legal Service, which had been contacted by people wanting to attend concerts at Elder Hall.

Ms Helen Finch, from the Norwood Community Legal Service, praised the University for its work to provide "equitable and dignified" access to its Heritage buildings.

"This demonstrates what can be achieved by organisations working cooperatively with people with disabilities to achieve a built environment that is accessible to the whole community," Ms Finch said.

"It is imperative that we have an Australian community that is inclusive, with no one made to feel that they do not belong in the community because of a personal attribute, be it gender, race, ethnicity or disability.

"The community looks to universities to provide examples of best practice in the area of access and equity, and it's important for other universi-

ties and like organisations to follow Adelaide University's example," she said.

The improved access to Elder Hall was made possible by the round three Quality funds awarded to the University of Adelaide last year, as well as a contribution from the Faculty of Performing Arts.

Elder Conservatorium Administrator Mrs Helen Simpson said the University was pleased to be able to provide the wheelchair access.

"It's very important that all people have the chance to attend the concerts and other events held in the hall, which have proven popular in the past and will continue to be well attended.

"The feedback from those people requiring the wheelchair access has been very good, and we're more than happy to be able to suit their needs," she said.

—David Ellis

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## Frogs versus mosquitoes

Frog secretions could form the first line of defence against mosquitoes thanks to new research at the University of Adelaide.

Apart from being a nuisance to Australians trying to enjoy the 'great outdoors', mosquitoes are carriers of several diseases both of humans and livestock, including Murray Valley Encephalitis, Ross River Fever, Dengue Fever and Yellow Fever.

The common personal insect repellents available today contain high concentrations of the toxic compound diethyltoluamide (DEET). DEET has been known to cause mild irritations to the skin and can exacerbate pre-existing skin problems. Serious skin problems have been caused when used in tropical conditions.

Researchers are now working on a new non-toxic, environmentally friendly mosquito repellent, which uses chemicals commonly found in some species of Australian frogs.

The work is headed by the University of Adelaide's frog expert, Associate Professor of Zoology Mike Tyler, who is world renowned for his research into the biology, behaviour and ecology of frogs.

"This program started as a result of some quite chance observations in the Northern Territory. At a remote cattle station, standing in a swamp at two o'clock in the morning, I was completely covered with mosquitoes, and yet the frogs that I was collecting in the water had no mosquito attack whatsoever," Associate Professor Tyler said.

"It was quite obvious — a child could have understood it — that somehow this frog species had a mosquito repellent that was highly effective. And so we began some work here in Adelaide and discovered that to be true."

Associate Professor Tyler

posed the question: could the repellents found in frog skin be useful for humans, and prove safer and more environmentally friendly than traditional repellents?

The answer seems to be a resounding 'yes'.

The research team, including Professor John Bowie from the Department of Chemistry, and Adelaide pharmaceutical manufacturers Hamilton Laboratories, has discovered several chemical compounds in frog skin secretions which repel mosquitoes.

When tested against DEET, the frog skin secretions have proven to be at least as effective as the commercially available toxic substance in preventing mosquito bites. However, the chemical components found in frog skin are present in frogs in very low concentrations, indicating that they are highly effective.

Work is continuing to identify the more volatile mosquito-repelling components in frog skin. Once they have been identified a synthetic method of preparation will be developed.

Associate Professor Tyler said the research team was now looking for private investors to help develop the frog skin secretions into a commercially available product. Investment from Japan was being sought for the project by Austrade.

"With today's heightened consumer awareness of health and environmental issues, we believe there's a need for safer, more effective, and environmentally friendly personal insect repellents.

"This is an extremely exciting, potentially extremely rewarding program which will benefit both consumers and the environment. What we need to do now is to collaborate with a major company to make sure we can achieve those goals," he said.

—David Ellis

## The News IN BRIEF

### AWARD FOR ANTHROPOLOGIST

The head of Anthropology at the University of Adelaide, Professor James Weiner, has been awarded US\$15,000 for an international anthropology conference.

The conference, entitled "From Myth to Minerals: Place, Narrative, Land and Transformation in Australia and New Guinea", is to be held in Canberra in July.

Professor Weiner and co-organiser Alan Rumsey, from the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at ANU, were awarded the money by the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, which is based in New York City.

The conference will look at the traditional and modern-day links between the indigenous societies and cultures of Australia and Papua New Guinea, and will involve anthropology experts from around Australia and overseas.

Financial support for the conference has also been provided by the University of Queensland and ANU.

### NOT ABOUT AN EARTHQUAKE

Students from the University's Drama Department are taking their work to the country in *Not About An Earthquake*, a piece developed from workshops, research and experimental theatre techniques.

Directed by Drama lecturer, Tony Mack and with script and songs by the eight performers, *Not About An Earthquake* — which takes a humorous look at roads, cars and the differences between the country and the city — is being presented at Minlaton and Clare, with students giving workshops to schools in the area.

The production then moves to town for a season at Junction Theatre (cnr. South Road and George Street, Thebarton) from 4-7 June at 8.00pm.

Further details from Tony Mack on 8303 3728 or 8303 4393 (fax).

### HARVARD PROGRAM FOR DEAN

The Dean of Performing Arts, Dr Anita Donaldson, has been accepted into the intensive Management Development Program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education this month.

The keenly-contested program is designed for people holding middle and higher level management positions, such as Deans, Assistant Vice-Presidents, Directors, etc.

The Curriculum includes subjects on Diversity and Community, Politics and Influence, Financial Management, Human Resources Management, and Legal Issues in Higher Education.

"After the program has finished I am planning to visit a number of universities which have graduate centres or programs in dance, to get some ideas about how we might redevelop dance here," Dr Donaldson said.

These include the Tisch School at New York University, the Laban Centre in London, the Roehampton Institute, and the National Research Centre at Surrey University.

### EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

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

**Greg Van Gaans**  
(Environmental Science & Management)

"An Evaluation of Lotus Learning Space for Distance Education and Classroom Teaching"

Tuesday 3 June 1.15pm  
Lecture Theatre LG29, Napier Building.

# Bush doctor scheme

# Genocide scholar: important not to forget Holocaust lessons

Efforts to attract more doctors to the bush have been boosted by the awarding of 14 new scholarships to students in the University of Adelaide's Faculty of Medicine.

The John Flynn Scholarship Scheme is a new Federal Government initiative with scholarships divided between Australia's medical schools according to enrolments.

Scholarship winners must spend two weeks of their vacation time each year for four years in a rural community, attached to a GP or a health service. The scholarships are worth \$2500 a year and are part of the Government's Rural Medical Workforce Crisis Strategy.

Dr Brian Symon, a Lecturer in the Department of General Practice, said the Adelaide scholarship recipients would be working in rural communities across Australia.

"As most people would be aware, there is a difficulty in getting students to move to the country after they have graduated," he said.

"One of the arguments (for why this is so) is that students may have no country relationships — all their relationships are in the city.

"If they can spend time in the bush they will be more likely to make friends and contacts. Then, hopefully, the country won't be threatening and, in fact, may be attractive and they will want to go there.

"The scholarships are complementary to the Medical School's programs to develop improved skills and attitudes towards practicing medicine in rural Australia."

—David Washington

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While there are some who deny that it occurred, and others who try to downplay its significance, University of Adelaide graduate Pierre James knows only too well the truth about the Nazi Holocaust during World War Two.

For the past four years Mr James has been researching the fate of his grandfather, Franz Prager—an Austrian Jew who was killed at the Auschwitz concentration camp in 1942 at the age of 24.

The work required to trace his grandfather took Mr James across Europe and to Israel, where he searched through thousands of documents containing details of Holocaust victims.

This research forms part of Mr James's PhD thesis, "A Genealogy of Genocide: the Extermination of the Jews and the Longing for a German Nationalist Utopia".

Mr James, who has published a number of articles about racism and anti-Semitism, graduated from the University of Adelaide with degrees in Economics and Arts in 1988 and 1989.

He began his PhD studies in Adelaide before transferring to the University of Amsterdam, and then to Germany's Philipps-University of Marburg.

He returned to Adelaide last month to give a public talk about the important work of the International Red Cross in tracing victims of the Holocaust.

"The research of my grandfather and his family led me to the Red Cross, which is without exaggeration the world's most important organisation for tracing victims of the Holocaust," Mr James said.

"The Red Cross has an ongoing program to trace all victims of the Nazi terror, and it receives about 100,000 requests every year for information about victims, both living and dead."

Mr James said his own research was a difficult and emotionally

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Pierre James: "I've always been sensitive to the problems of racism and anti-Semitism." Photo: David Ellis

exhausting task.

"To try to get documentation about one person, my grandfather, I've had to go through about five archives in Austria, one in Israel, and two or three in France.

"There are also many archives in Germany, and of course there's the Red Cross tracing service, which has the world's largest archive of Holocaust victims.

"The Nazis kept the most bizarre details of all the people they exterminated, and they kept many copies of the same documents.

"Sometimes you'll go through all the lists of names and see where and when they were born, and you realise many of these victims were just children who were thrown onto trains and transported to concentration camps.

"It's very disturbing to know there were bureaucrats just sitting there typing all this information, knowing that in all probability these people were going to be murdered."

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Mr James said he hoped to continue his association with the Red Cross once his PhD was completed, and he planned to continue promoting the organisation's work in tracing victims of the Holocaust.

He said it was important not to forget the lessons the Holocaust taught the world about racism.

"Because my grandfather perished in the Holocaust, along with 50 members of his family, I've always been quite sensitive to the problems of racism, and in particular anti-Semitism.

"Unfortunately there are many people who want to reduce the significance of the Holocaust for political reasons, and of course there are some extremists who deny it outright.

"It's very important to remain vigilant against this, so that we don't forget what happened to those millions of people who were killed," he said.

—David Ellis

# Protein researchers make overseas links

A research team with the University of Adelaide's Biochemistry Department is making its mark in the world of protein research.

The team, headed by Dr John Wallace, is researching biotin carboxylases, which are essential enzymes in metabolism, and insulin-like growth factor (IGF) binding proteins, which are vital for promoting cellular growth in the human body.

The biotin carboxylase project includes a three-way collaboration between the Biochemistry Departments of the University of Adelaide, University of Cambridge and University of Illinois.

Dr Anne Chapman-Smith, who is working on the project, was awarded a travel grant by the Department of Industry, Science & Technology and last year visited the laboratories in Cambridge and Urbana. While there she presented seminars on the research work conducted in Adelaide and was able to build strong relations with her overseas colleagues.

PhD student Mr Graham Hobba, who is researching IGF systems, was awarded two travel grants — one from the University of Adelaide and another from the Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB). This enabled him to carry out the final experiments for his PhD research with major pharmaceutical



L to R: Anne Chapman-Smith, Graham Hobba and Melinda Lucic — sharing research with the rest of the world. Photo: David Ellis

company Pharmacia and Upjohn in Stockholm, Sweden.

Mr Hobba presented a poster at the European Protein Society meeting in Cambridge and was invited to present a paper at the National Institutes of Health, Washington DC. He was also

awarded a poster prize at the Lorne Protein Conference in February.

"The facilities we have here in Adelaide are comparable to some of the world's best universities, such as Cambridge," said Dr Chapman-Smith, "and as far as the work goes, John

Wallace is one of the leading people in this field in the world. There's no question about that."

"It's a fertile environment in which to work," added Mr Hobba. "The international ties John has built up over the last 20 years or so are extremely important, because we're able to share our research efforts with the rest of the world and we can benefit from experience overseas."

Another member of the Adelaide research team also working on IGF systems is PhD student Melinda Lucic. Ms Lucic was awarded a poster prize at last year's Annual Meeting of the ASBMB in Canberra, and she has recently been awarded a travel grant by the International IGF Society to attend a world symposium in Tokyo.

Dr Chapman-Smith said in the long term the biotin carboxylase project could have medical applications.

"If people don't have biotin carboxylases, if this process doesn't happen, they die. It's a relatively rare disorder but it is fatal. So the research conducted by groups such as ours could be a step forward in preventing that," she said.

Mr Hobba said the research into IGF systems would help scientists better understand how IGFs influence cellular growth and differentiation in cells, and ultimately in whole organisms.

—David Ellis

## Guest commentary — continued from page 2

On the local Australian scene things are often assumed to be better than in many overseas countries, after all, non-Aboriginal Australians are the third longest lived population on Earth and heart disease mortality has been drastically reduced over the past thirty years. Unfortunately such statements mask massive inequalities. The health of many Aborigines, for example, is appalling, being on a par with the poor of Bangladesh. The Department works in partnership with Aboriginal community leaders to examine the effects of past government policies on Aborigines' health. The hope is that policy makers will not repeat yesterday's mistakes.

Other problems the Department's staff and students tackle are the disparities in the health of rural and urban com-

munities, the differences which occur between the high and low socio economic status regions of Adelaide, the high incidence of family violence and mental ill health, the continuing dangers associated with the workplace, and the "emerging problems" associated with infectious diseases such as Hepatitis C and food borne illness, among others. In the case of workplace health, the Department has co-founded the SA Centre for Occupational Health and Safety — a joint Universities-TAFE venture which puts all occupational research and education under one umbrella.

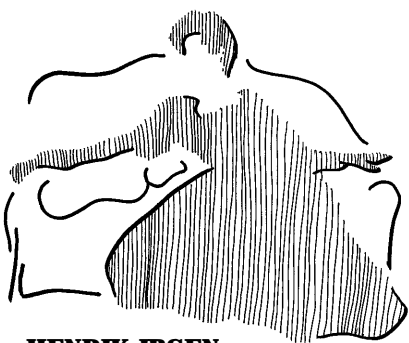
A number of special issues confront most university departments of Public Health in Australia. For example, there are instrumental problems such as the continuing struggle to maintain

adequate funding particularly to maintain staff salaries beyond the short term; to obtain adequate accommodation for our staff and students; and, the need to respect the multidisciplinary nature of the public health endeavour.

In addition there are issues of principle. These include the tension between academic independence and constructive criticism and the need to involve ourselves in the practice of public health; and the struggle to ensure that socio-technical systems (such as the health services) actually ensure *all* the public's health. But above all, in the current political climate, there is the need to protect the notion of the public good. If society is based solely on self interest we will not be able to cope with the massive changes confronting us.

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# Graham Lawton: a valued leader in Geography

Emeritus Professor Graham Lawton, the Foundation Professor of Geography at the University of Adelaide, died on 4 May in Adelaide.

Professor Lawton will be remembered with great affection and respect by his university colleagues and the many hundreds of students who were privileged to have been taught by him over the 26 years that he served the University of Adelaide with such distinction. He was not only instrumental in establishing Geography as an important field of study and research in the University of Adelaide and in South Australia more generally, but was a major pioneer in the development of research into Aboriginal settlement in South Australia.

Professor Lawton was born in Victoria and graduated with Bachelor degrees in Arts and Education at the University of Melbourne before proceeding to Oxford where he took a Masters degree. Like many of his generation, Professor Lawton's academic career was interrupted by the war but following it he held posts in some of the world's most prestigious Departments of Geography at that time — University of California, Berkeley, University of New Zealand at Canterbury and the University of Washington, Seattle.

In 1951 he arrived at the University of Adelaide to take up the position of Reader-in-Charge of the newly estab-

lished Department of Geography. Geography prior to his arrival had been taught at the University since at least 1904 and on his arrival in Adelaide there were three part-time lecturers teaching the subject — Mrs Ann Marshall, Sir Archibald Grenfell Price and Mr CA Martin. Professor Lawton then proceeded with these colleagues to mount a full undergraduate and honours program.

Student numbers grew in the 1950s and full-time staff were recruited and he became the foundation Professor in Geography in 1957. Within a decade he had established, along with colleagues, a major research and teaching Department with a high national and international reputation. The first honours and PhD student was Professor Fay Gale who succeeded Graham as the second Professor of Geography at the University and is now Vice-Chancellor of the University of Western Australia.

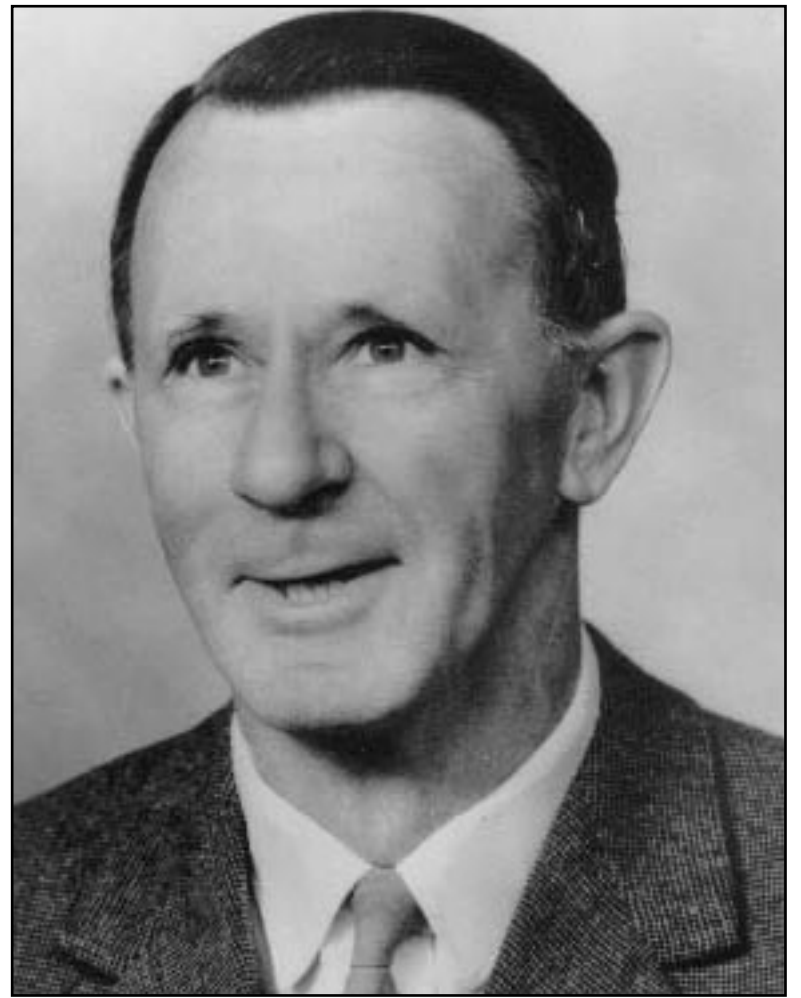
The Department expanded rapidly in the 1960s and with the passage of the baby boom cohorts through the university system many hundreds of students came under Professor Lawton's influence. Many of them now hold senior position in South Australian and Australian government departments, throughout the education system, and in research positions across the world.

Professor Lawton's contribution to the development of Geography in South Australia

was immense, as was that to the development of the University of Adelaide and its Faculty of Arts, which underwent its most rapid growth during this tenure. He also must be considered as one of the pioneers of scientific research into issues relating to Australia's indigenous people — a fact recognized when the Federal Government approached him to serve on the first council of the then Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

His huge administrative and teaching loads during the time of rapid expansion left him little time for his own research. His interests in Asia and Aborigines tended to reflect his own deep humanitarian commitment and strongly-held principles of fairness and equality. He was a great encourager and facilitator of the research of his staff and students and as a result of this, together with his total commitment to the highest standards of intellectual inquiry, the Department established and maintained a high international reputation for its research activities.

On a personal level I never had the privilege of being a staff member under Professor Lawton but I was one of his students and am proud to now occupy the Chair of Geography he founded. As a student we found Professor Lawton to be highly supportive and personally encouraging to all of his students at the time when sheer numbers made this extremely difficult



Graham Lawton. Photo courtesy of Geography Department

He inspired many of us to go further and I can trace my own commitment to work in Asia to his influence.

He always demonstrated the highest standards of integrity and his total commitment to equity and providing the highest quality of education to all, regardless of gender, ethnicity or socio-economic background, was apparent to all of his students. His paramount interest was the well-being of his students and his lasting legacy is the work of the many hundreds across the world to whom he not only taught Geography but the importance of integrity, fundamental humanitarian values

and fairness.

As a Head of Department, colleague and teacher Graham demonstrated the highest qualities of academic leadership and collegiality. He was unfailingly supportive, encouraging and fair in all of his dealings. All whom I have spoken to have emphasised his honesty, integrity and the fact that he genuinely cared about his staff and students. He was a wonderful man who will be greatly missed by his colleagues and students.

We in the Department of Geography owe him a great debt of gratitude.

—Graeme Hugo

## Surprise bequest a boost for Library's collection

In March this year the Barr-Smith Library was advised that it was a beneficiary under the will of Mr Ralph Meyrick Hague, a distinguished South Australian lawyer and former student and lecturer with the University of Adelaide who died at the age of 89 on 10 March. Mr Hague had bequeathed his entire collection of books, journals and magazines to the University.

The bequest came as a complete surprise, and the immensity of Mr Hague's personal library was only fully appreciated when we arranged for the packing and transportation of the collection from his home at Gilberton. What we found was a house full of publications, more than 30,000 in total, with shelving completely occupying his study, two library rooms, and overflowing into the dining room, basement and bedrooms.

This collection was accumulated over some 70 years, which means he must have purchased on average a book a day for every day, plus subscriptions to a wide range of scholarly journals, and new books continued to arrive as we packed!

The collection, mainly comprising 20th century publications, is a testimony to Mr Hague's broad scholarly taste; with particular interest in history, liter-

ature, and biography, but also evidence of interest in art, architecture, cricket and gardens. There are many works on book collectors and collecting, and hundreds of fine limited editions produced by private and small quality presses, English, Australian and American. Piles of booksellers' catalogues were found, indicating his absorption in the passion of book collecting and his multiple sources of supply.

It took a team of removalists more than four days to pack and transport the 30,000 volumes, which have now been brought to temporary storage quarters within the Barr-Smith Library.

Ralph Hague was an outstanding student who graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Adelaide in 1932. He joined the Crown Solicitor's Office in 1946, ultimately becoming Crown Solicitor in 1969. In 1938 he was appointed Lecturer in Jurisprudence at the University and held this position until 1949, with leave of absence for war service. Mr Hague edited with meticulous care and consideration the State Reports for 40 years and the Law Society Judgement Scheme for 20 years. His contributions to the legal profession and to scholarship were

recognised by the award of the CBE in 1971, but — with characteristic modesty — he declined a proposal by the judges of the Supreme Court in 1987 to establish a prize in Law in his name at the University.

Among his collection of books are four works by Hague himself on South Australian legal history (one a history of the law in South Australia and three biographies of early SA judges), each a further testimony to his familiarity with the legal world and his wide general reading, as well as extensive research.

The enormous task of checking and cataloguing Mr Hague's collection will begin early in June. The library is too large and varied in age and content to be maintained as a separate collection, but a Memorial Library is proposed for the Special Collections reading room. This will focus on Hague's interest in book collectors and collecting, bibliography and fine printing, and complement an anticipated development of Special Collections as a resource for the history of the book and print culture generally.

Other books and journals not held by the Library will be added to the main and Rare Book collections as appropriate. A bookplate is being



Just some of the 30,000 publications that were stored in Mr Hague's home. Photo: Stephen Beaumont

designed and will be inserted into all works retained by the Library as a permanent commemoration of Ralph Hague's munificent bequest.

—Susan Woodburn  
Special Collections Librarian

# Malaysian graduation caps active week in region

Australia's High Commissioner Designate to Malaysia, Mr Robert Cotton, was among the distinguished guests who joined around 600 family members and friends to celebrate the achievement of the 75 new University of Adelaide graduates who received their certificates from the Chancellor, Mr Bill Scammell, in a ceremony at the Hotel Istana in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday 25 May.

Engineering graduate Ir. Chris Chow Chow Pang (BE 1961), the Senior Vice-President of KTA Tenaga Sdn. Bhd and President of Adelaide Uni Alumni (Malaysia) Bhd, delivered the Occasional Address.

Mr Chong urged the graduates to put the skills they have acquired to the good of their country.

"The graduates are going to enter into a new phase of life," he said, "holding their heads high in their chosen professions — be it as doctors, engineers, economists, executives in business, banking or corporations. Your country feels proud to welcome you all into our ranks in society.

"Malaysia is marching into the new 21st century with a number of notable achievements," Mr Chong said. "We should be very proud of what our Prime Minister is advocating in the international arena to bring about a just and fairer world. He sets very lofty goals... Ask yourselves what you can contribute to achieve these goals!

"While we realise we are entering the exciting IT age, we must not forsake our tradition, our culture, our values. No nation can be truly strong without its backbone and the moral fibre and unity of its people," Mr Chong said.

The Sunday afternoon graduation was followed by the Annual Dinner of Adelaide Uni Alumni (Malaysia), also held at the Hotel Istana. Many of the new graduates attended this function, along with older Malaysian graduates of the University, among them the first Malaysian student to study at Adelaide, Dato' Dr Gopal Sreenevasan (MBBS 1952).

The Chief Minister of Sarawak, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji (Dr) Abdul Taib Mahmud (LLB 1961, DUniv 1994), who is Patron of Adelaide Uni Alumni (Malaysia), was the guest of honour. In his address, the Chief Minister spoke fondly of his years as a student in Adelaide, and positively of the potential of the ongoing relationship between the University and its Malaysian alumni.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane also presented a warmly-received speech at the dinner which focused on the University's drive towards a greater internationalisation of its activities over the next 20 years.

In this context, the Vice-Chancellor referred to Pauline Hanson, describing Ms Hanson and her supporters as "a small section of Australian society who would like to see us return to a largely fictional past where the races were kept separate and Australia needed nothing that it could not find within its own borders."

Professor O'Kane re-affirmed the University's commitment to a global, non-parochial vision.

"Our work and our future have always been tied with the rest of the world," she said. "Our students have been drawn from many different cultures and have been welcomed into our community. The University of Adelaide will not be diverted from its engagement with students, teachers and researchers from across the globe."

Eight staff were in Malaysia for the graduation, as well as the Chancellor and the Senior Deputy-Chancellor, Mr Jim Bettison.

The event was the high point of a busy period which involved activities in Singapore, Sarawak, Sabah and Penang, and included: meetings with alumni in Sabah and Sarawak; a dinner with Singaporean alumni addressed by the Vice-Chancellor; a visit to Sepang Institute of Technology, where the University's twinning program is progressing very strongly; fruitful ongoing negotiations for the establishment of a joint graduate education centre with the Ngee Ann Kongsi which should see the signing of a final agreement in the near future; and productive meetings related to University of Adelaide arrangements with Universiti Sains Malaysia and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia.

The Vice-Chancellor was particularly involved in an intensive round of visits and meetings during her trip, ending in a project for the Malaysian Government as the leader of a team reviewing the Government's research development plan.

The Chancellor, the Registrar Frank O'Neill, and Alumni Relations Director Geoff Sauer were also guests at the 61st birthday celebrations of the Chief Minister of Sarawak at the beginning of the week.

—John Edge



Graduates pose for their official photographs after the ceremony.



Last minute instructions from Commemorations Manager Graham Feltham.



Mr Chris Chong Chow Pang delivers the Occasional Address.



The Chancellor presents Mazlina bt Mamad with her BDS certificate.



Graduates at the Adelaide Uni Alumni (Malaysia) dinner with the Chief Minister of Sarawak and Mr Chris Chong (front row, 5th & 4th from right). Photo: John Edge



Graduation in Kuala Lumpur is an occasion for all the family. The above photographs by William Abraham of Charlie's Photography, Klang.

Advertisement

# Ibsen's dark wit on show

The University of Adelaide Theatre Guild is revisiting the great Norwegian dramatist Henrik Ibsen for the first time in more than a decade with its second production of 1997, *Hedda Gabler*.

Featuring Andrew Clark and Helen Geoffreys, *Hedda Gabler* is the darkly comic story of a sharp-witted, intelligent General's daughter trapped in a marriage she doesn't want and desperate for some excitement in her life.

Helen Geoffreys, making her debut for the Theatre Guild, is a graduate of the Elder Conservatorium who spent ten years as a drama and music teacher before "retiring" this year to return to study at the Centre for the Performing Arts (CPA) under a retraining scheme for older students who have been in the workforce and have some experience in the theatre industry.

"Being at the CPA is wonderful," she said. "I go to my classes there and then head off to rehearsals for the Theatre Guild and apply what I'm learning to the creation of Hedda."

Ms Geoffreys says the challenge in playing the intelligent but bored and destructive Hedda is the way the character runs through the gamut of emotions, from one extreme to another in seconds.



Andrew Clark and Helen Geoffreys. Photo: Gary Rogers

"She's a woman who has cracks," Helen said. "Every now and again the cracks widen and you can see in; then she closes them again."

Andrew Clark, also making his debut with the Theatre Guild, plays Jorgen Tesman, the kindly but thoroughly foolish young husband who drives the more volatile Hedda to distraction — with disastrous consequences.

Mr Clark came to Adelaide from Whyalla last year, giving up a computer programming job to study Drama at the University of Adelaide with a

possible teaching career in mind. He says that he and other Drama students currently completing their degrees have pulled together after the disbelief and anger they felt at the University's decision to close the Drama Department late last year.

"The lecturers are giving their all, and we're determined to get as much out of the course as we can," he said.

**Hedda Gabler opens in the Little Theatre on Friday 6 June. Details: 8303 5999.**

## Adelaidean Feedback

### POLL THREE: Undergraduate Fees

The third Feedback Poll asked whether the University should introduce fee-paying places for Australian students in undergraduate courses in 1998.

This poll drew five respondents, all of them opposed to the introduction of undergraduate fee-paying places for Australian students.

Comments included:

"The equity targets of the University are already under threat; fee paying places will mean the end of any real attempt by the University to be an equitable institution."

"CERTAINLY NOT if it means we have to take those who cannot compete equally with existing entrants on merit. There may well be a demand that a degree MUST be awarded because they are paying lots of money for one!"

One further poll in this trial series is scheduled for the issue of 16 June.

## Radio 5UV's new 'Law Spot'

A new series of radio programs aims to educate South Australians about the law.

Drawing on expertise from judges, lawyers, legal workers and police, the series (called *The Law Spot*) is a joint initiative of University Radio 5UV and the Law Foundation of SA.

Current and topical issues about the legal system, practical and unbiased legal information, and the answers to some commonly asked questions about the law will all be covered by the radio series.

*The Law Spot* is made up of 26 six-minute segments and will be broadcast on 5UV at 7.50 am each Thursday from 5 June until early December.

The series will also be released on audio cassette for schools, community legal centres and other organisations as part of an ongoing commitment to educate the public in this area.

Radio 5UV can be found at 531 on the AM dial. The station also broadcasts live on the internet <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/5UV/>>.

### ACCOMMODATION

**CENTRAL LONDON:** Clapham Old Town: Fully furn house avail July & Aug - 3 dble brs, 2 bathrooms & 1 wc, sunny breakfast rm, lge living & dining rms. Close to transport & park. £2,400 (for the 2 mths, all inclusive). Ph Brandino Rangoni + 44 171 622 0516.

**NORTH ADELAIDE:** Female to share 3 storey townhouse. \$80 pw + exp. Ph Alison 0414 888 307 or 8239 0507.

**TENNYSON:** Absolute beach front, fully furn, 3 br. Avail for 6 mths. Ph 8269 2892.

**WALKERVILLE:** Fully furn cottage avail for 6 mths. 1 br, huge living room, very peaceful. Ph 8269 2892.

**WANTED:** Academic couple (Flinders) require furn house for first semester of 1998 (and possibly beyond). 2 br, study, lounge. Prefer near

Goodwood or Unley Rds. \$160-\$210 pw. Ph Mark 8201 3673 or email: LSMAI@flinders.edu.au

**WANTED:** 2br house or unit near the beach for visiting academic from (approx) 29 Aug - 8 Dec 97. Ph Leah Hill 8303 4255.

**WANTED:** Professional couple seek house for min 12 mths in south-eastern suburbs. Will care for garden & pets. Reasonable rent offered. Ph 8271 6635.

**WANTED:** 4 br, fully furn home in eastern suburbs for family from July 97 - April 98. Ph Marilyn Ades 8379 4211 (ah) or fax 8379 0433.

**WANTED:** Going on leave? Scientist would like to rent your furn home/apartment. Periods as short as 1 mth considered. Ph Jim 8259 5895 or email: Jim.winkles@dsto.defence.gov.au

**WANTED:** Couple seeks 3-4 br house/townhouse from early July for 9-12 mths in

## Adelaidean

### CLASSIFIED

eastern suburbs or city. Ph 0419 813 355 or email: miriam@adam.com.au

**WANTED:** Accommodation for overseas postgrad student within walking distance or 15 mins drive/bus of Uni from 16 June. Ph Kelvin 8267 3368 or email: kseah@arts.adelaide.edu.au

### FOR SALE

**BED:** Queen size bed base only. On wheels, 6 yrs old, good cond. Ph 8303 4538 or email: ktull@library.adelaide.edu.au

**HOLDEN COMMODORE:** VN 1989 sedan, V6 auto, power steer, air cond, full metal jacket. Good cond. VBA 084. Ph David 8363 4371 or 8332 5982 (ah).

**HOUSE:** Panorama -

Executive style, 4 br, 2 bathroom home with study, in-ground spa and garage umr. Views to Glenelg, near Flinders, Scotch College & transport. Officers over \$240,000 welcome. Ph Paul 0411 19 4 340.

**HOUSE:** Rostrevor - Foothills retreat with 4 brs, 2 bathrooms, views & serenity. Architect's own rustic home, energy efficient and low maintenance. 2 studios (1 detached). Mid \$200,000s. Ph Robin 0411 19 4 330.

**LAWN MOWER:** Scott Bonnar with exc 3 hp Briggs & Stratton motor. \$260 ono. Ph Derek 8303 5748 or 8339 2986.

**MISC:** Simpson 2001 fan forced electric stove, \$200. Dinning table & 4 chairs (TH Brown & Sons), light honey

maple, 1950s style, \$200. Nest of three tables to match, \$25 & 1 larger lower table, \$30. 3 winter jackets, assorted colours, \$35 ea. Pram, \$175. Full size vaulting horse, school/gym use. \$75. Ph 8333 2582.

**MISC:** Westinghouse frost free fridge, \$100. National colour tv, Quintrix, \$75. Birdcage with stand, toys, mirrors, etc, suit 2 budgies, \$50. Ph Henk 8431 5202.

**TOYOTA CORONA:** 1981 manual, 2 ltr, mechanically exc, 161,000km. VHA 763. \$1,400 ono. Ph 8357 4778 (ah).

### DEPARTMENTAL

**TENDER:** Holden Commodore station wagon, 1995, petrol, white, 38,900km, VSW 032, auto, air cond, mudflaps. Inspection Wed 4 June, 10am-12noon, ph John Davey, 8303 7306. Tenders in a sealed envelope marked Tender No W221 to the

Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus by 10 June 1997.

**TENDER:** Toyota Hilux 4x4 ute/twin cab, 1996, white, VUJ 422, 40,000km, diesel, manual, mudflaps, tow pack, long range fuel tank, bullbar. Inspection Wed 4 June, 10am - 1pm, ph G Butfield 8303 5844. Tenders in a sealed envelope marked Tender No W220 to the Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus by 10 June 1997.

**YAMAHA C5 GRAND PIANO:** Manufactured 1980. Ph 8303 5286 for inspection. Tenders in a sealed envelope to Head, Department of Music Studies by 4pm Wed 11 June. No tender necessarily accepted.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**WORD PROCESSING:** From \$2.75 per page, after house service, professional formatting of WP on disk. Ph Anne Every 8212 6869 or 8415 7866.