Performance management redesign is centre piece of Enterprise Bargaining offer

The University of Adelaide has offered staff a 12% pay rise, which would be paid in four instalments over the next 18 months.

The offer, which aggregates to 12.6%, was made in July as part of the Enterprise Bargaining process between the University management and staff.

The University's position is that the offer is dependent on agreement being reached on a range of other proposals which include changes to performance management, clauses on income generation, internal efficiencies, flexible labour and some limited redrafting of the General Staff and Academic Staff agreements.

About half of the pay rise can be funded under existing arrangements. The Enterprise Bargaining process is currently grappling with how to fund the remainder of the offer.

The offer is for the first instalment of 4% to be paid from 1 July 1997, the second instalment of 2% on 1 January 1998, the third instalment of 4% on 1 July 1998 and the final instalment of 2% to be paid on 1 January 1999.

An open meeting was held in the Hughes Lecture theatre on 19 July to discuss the Enterprise Bargain.

Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Doug McEachern, explained the University's offer, and then took questions.

Key concerns raised at the meeting included:

- involvement of non-unionised staff in the bargaining process;
- the University's proposals for a new performance management system, particularly proposed changes to the appointment process for Department Heads; and
- ways in which the University could fund the full pay offer.

Professor McEachern stressed the need for a co-operative approach to finding ways of diversifying and increasing the University's funding.

He expressed the desire to fund the pay rise without losing staff and without requiring already overworked staff to work even longer hours.

Several participants expressed concern about the proposed performance management system, saying it would have the effect of increasing workloads and represented a lack of trust in senior staff.

From the University's perspective, the proposed redesign of the performance management process—from appointment to probation, tenure, promotion, and performance review, to retirement and exit—is the centrepiece of the bargain.

The redesign aims to clarify the expectations of both sides in the employment relations through negotiation at the time of appointment and through the induction process. Agreed measures would be used to review performance on a regular basis with appropriate renegotiations in response to changed circumstances and opportunities.

The University's offer accepts the election of Heads of Department and goes on to focus on the incentives and support required for the position.

The National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) has expressed concern about the proposed performance management system, arguing that it is overly bureaucratic and will not achieve the University's goals.

A full text of the University's offer and the NTEU's response can be found on the Internet through the Vice-Chancellor's Office home page or directly at <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/EB/home.html>.

Those without Internet access should contact Pue-San Ng in the Public Relations & Marketing Office, ext. 35174.

—David Washington

University to provide on-call chemical advice

O.E.H. Consulting, operating under Luminis Pty Ltd, and based in the Department of Public Health, has secured a contract with the SA Department for Industrial Affairs to provide 24-hr on-call advice to emergency agencies dealing with hazardous material incidents.

“This contract is a good example of the expansion of university consulting activity, as well as the current trend of government to outsource services,” says Dr Dino Pisaniello, Senior Lecturer in Occupational and Environmental Hygiene.

A team of four advisers will work closely with the SA Metropolitan Fire Service and the Country Fire Service, and coordinate advice from support agencies such as the EPA, SA Health Commission and SA Water.

Each adviser has knowledge and experience in chemistry, environmental science and toxicology.

The latest communications and information systems are being used to provide a rapid and effective response, minimising the impact of chemical incidents on people and the environment.

“The arrangement is unique in Australia, and has several benefits for the University,” said Dr Pisaniello.

“Apart from providing much needed income to support infrastructure, it will enhance occupational health and safety teaching by way of case studies and chemical safety databases.”

Image courtesy of Dr Dino Pisaniello

INSIDE

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Influence

There is a wonderful character in Orphée Aux Enfers called Public Opinion, a meddlesome and disputatious fellow who is remarkably influential with Jupiter.

Public opinion can be remarkably influential amongst the academics and internationally powerful in affecting the course of events. Traditionally, universities have produced public intellectuals who help shape public opinion for good (or ill). Indeed, an underestimated service to the community is the University’s ability to inform opinion with detailed facts and arguments for and against any particular case.

At the moment we do not value this role highly, either in our promotion criteria or in the way we operate more generally; it may be to our own detriment that we have neglected the role of the public intellectual.

For example, when University funding was cut in the 1996 Commonwealth Budget, it was a not only the actual cuts but the way they were announced that was cut in the 1996 Commonwealth Budget. It is undoubtably true that universities have neglected the role of the public intellectual in Australia;

As for example, when University funding was cut in the 1996 Commonwealth Budget, it was cut in the 1996 Commonwealth Budget. It may be accomplished with a well-chosen pithy comment such as the quote from Professor Tony Thomas in The Australian a couple of Saturdays ago—“Physics is a bit like breathing, it doesn’t get a lot of publicity but if you stop it, you die”. And of course the role of the public intellectual need not be confined to influencing public opinion; it may also take the form of carefully informing Government via meetings, conferences and papers. One such event sponsored by the University of Adelaide was the recent conference on Funding Higher Education: Performance and Diversity, organised by Professor Jonathan Pincus from our Department of Economics, Professor John Siegfried from the University of Western Australia and Professor John Siegfried of Vanderbilt University.

This conference brought together specialists in the field of higher education funding from around the world and leading players in higher education funding in Australia.

The conference was opened by the Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs, who clearly appreciated the role the universities had played in creating a forum to debate such important policy matters in her portfolio, and bringing international expertise to bear on the issues.

It is undoubtedly true that universities could have much greater influence on public opinion and on Government if the role of the public intellectual were to become an integral part of their strategies for the future.

Certainly, I believe universities have the capacity to exert more influence on government and in the community by fostering critical debate on current issues.

MARY O’KANE
Search on for new divisional Heads

The University of Adelaide will seek new Heads for the Divisions of Science and Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.

The Head of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, Professor John Agnew, will retire in mid-1998 and Professor Jan Kotlarski, the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), has decided not to return to his position as Head of the Division of Science.

Professor Kotlarski will continue in her current role until the new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) is appointed and takes up duty. Professor Kotlarski said her appointment as Head of Division had a limited time to run and that she and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O’Kane, had agreed that the interests of the Division were best served by continuity of leadership.

Professor O’Kane paid tribute to both Professor Kotlarski’s and Professor Agnew’s achievements in their roles as Heads of Division.

Both have led their Divisions to sound financial positions and helped to shape a major vision for the future. Both have been major contributors to the collective management of the University.

Professor O’Kane said she hoped that Professor Kotlarski’s services would not be entirely lost to the University and that she hoped that Professor Agnew too would be deeply involved in the University in some way during his retirement.

At the same time as these two positions are being advertised, a consultant, Mr David Ryan, has been appointed to gather the views of staff in the science-based disciplines on the future of these disciplines and how the University can support an even more internationally-significant performance in these areas.

The University has great strengths in the Biological and Agricultural Sciences and is very strong in the Physical, Engineering, Mathematical and Medical sciences.

Professor O’Kane said that it was critical to build on these enormous strengths to make the University even greater in international terms.

C oncert management now a double-act

The Elder Conservatorium has a new management team for its concert programs.

Alison Beare, previously the full-time Concert Manager, returned to work in mid-June after 12 months on maternity leave. She is now working half-time, managing Elder Hall and coordinating the lunch hour concerts and the Bach Festival.

To manage the rest of its concert programs, the Conservatorium has appointed Brian Cooper, who has held a variety of positions with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra over the past 18 years. He will manage the Elder Hall Concert Series and other evening concerts at the Conservatorium.

The office will be staffed by Brian Cooper from Monday to Wednesday (1pm), and by Alison Beare from Wednesday lunch time until 5pm on Friday. Both can be contacted on 8303 5925.

Metals with a Memory: top scientist to give public lecture

The artificial hip operation is the most successful operation in the world yet one third of all hip operations are to replace failed hips. Why do artificial hips fail? Can we make artificial bone? Not yet—but we can make metals with a memory!

The magic of modern materials science will be the subject of a public lecture by Professor Colin Humphreys, the Goldie Professor of Materials Science at Cambridge University, who will visit Adelaide on Monday 28 July.

He will present a Free Public Lecture, “From Artificial Hips to Metals with a Memory: the Magic of Modern Materials”, in the Florey Lecture Theatre, Medical School at 7.00pm.

A Fellow of the UK Institute of Physics and the Royal Academy of Engineering, Professor Humphreys is the author of over 300 publications and is regarded as an outstanding materials scientist.

He is well-known in the United Kingdom as a public lecturer on a wide range of topics which range from modern materials to scientific dating of the Exodus.

In Australia, Professor Thompson has been awarded a 1997 Selby Traveling Fellowship by the Australian Academy of Science.

This allows him to tour Australia to present lectures to raise the awareness of science in the general public.

In a recent segment of the Science Show on ABC Radio, Professor Humphreys touched on some of the challenges that he has helped to develop and talked about the possibility of creating a material that will mimic bone, which would allow surgeons to recreate damaged or broken bones.

His lecture describes and demonstrates the many applications of modern materials, from keeping open narrowed arteries to keeping in shape weakened arteries. He extends his talk to shape memory alloys, which have the ability to return to the shape they were in before being deformed, and to the future.

Tickets to the lecture are available through Mrs Angela Rogers, tel 8303 5855 during business hours, or fax 8303 4356.

IN BRIEF

Search on for new divisional Heads

The Friends of the State Library’s popular “Where’s Waldo?” series continued on 6 August with Robyn Archer talking about books in her life.

Robyn Archer, the Artistic Director of the Adelaide Festival for 1998 and 2000, is an Adelaide Arts graduate who has written 20 full length works for the theatre and opera. She has also released ten albums, and performed on all main stages in Australia, as well as overseas.

An articulate and passionate advocate for the arts, Archer is also the Director of the National Festival of Australian Theatre, and Chair of the Community Cultural Development Board of the Australian Council.

• Institute Building, North Terrace, 6 August from 1-2pm. $5 (3 concessions and Friends of State Library).

LUNCH HOUR CONCERTS

The Elder Conservatorium free lunch-hour concerts (resuming on 25 July) offer something for everyone.

Highlights include the Australian String Quartet with new cellist Niall Brown, the Adelaide Connection directed by Connaitre Miller, the University Waits with two dancers from the Meryl Tankard Australian Dance Theatre, and many of the Conservatorium’s staff, students and large ensembles.

Held on Fridays from 1.10-2pm during the academic year, and supported by ABC Classic FM and the Doris West Bequest, the series has become very popular and often plays to full houses.

Disabled access is available through the new lift on the eastern side of Elder Hall.

A TIME OF RECKONING

A new book by senior lecturer in Anthropology, Dr Adrian Peace, was launched at Unibooks on 18 July.

“Towards a Politics of Discourse in Rural Ireland,” is an ethnographic study of Killeagh, a small village in County Cork, Ireland, and the political conflict that followed a 1988 proposal by an American transnational company to build a chemical factory in the predominantly farming locality.

The local community’s campaign of protest led to a public hearing before Ireland’s national planning review body. A substantial part of the book is devoted to analysis of the politics of this hearing, and particularly the contending discourses at play—that of grass roots, community resistance on the one hand, and that of the transnational company and the Irish State (which supported the proposed chemical factory) on the other.

“Towards a Politics of Discourse in Rural Ireland” is published by ISER Books and is available from Unibooks (rrp $37.95).

DRAMA SCHOLARSHIP

For the second time the Cultural Italian- Australian Arts Organisation (CIAO) is offering a $2000 arts scholarship—this year to drama students.

The scholarship is open to all drama students of Italo-Australian background who have shown exceptional qualities and promise in their work.

Application forms from The Secretary, CIAO Inc, 54 Stanton Street, Leabrook, SA 5068, or the Helpmann Academy of the Performing Arts, Building 6, 1001 Rundle Mall. Entries close on 31 August 1997.
Local astronomer to head national body

The Astronomical Society of Australia has chosen Dr Roger Clay from the University of Adelaide’s Department of Physics and Mathematical Physics to be its President for the next two years.

The Society is the professional body which represents astronomers in Australia. It has about 360 members from all the States and major observatories in Australia.

The Society made its decision at its recent AGM which was held in conjunction with its annual four day scientific meeting at the University of New South Wales.

It also decided that the 1998 scientific meeting will be held at Adelaide. This will be only the second time it has been held here, the previous one being 25 years ago.

Dr Clay’s astronomical research interests are mainly in the area of high energy astrophysics, for which the Adelaide group has world renown.

That work covers the study of high energy particles from space and also gamma ray astronomy at the highest energies.

It is described in a popular book, Cosmic Bullets, written by Dr Clay and Dr Bruce Dawson, which was recently published by Allen and Unwin.

Dr Clay presented papers on those subjects at the scientific meeting.

However, he said the paper which caused most general interest was a description of the work being done at Adelaide to develop an instrument which will detect clouds at night.

Dr Clay said that many astronomers obviously need to know if there are clouds, or not there are clouds, he said.

“A casual glance at the sky, even by professional astronomers, is often quite erroneous.

“The high energy astrophysics group needed a way of monitoring clouds at remote sites without human intervention,” said Dr Clay.

“They have now developed prototypes which will do that, both at day and night, based on sensing the cloud temperatures using infra red sensors.”

Dr Clay said that the group knew some people had a need for such information but were quite surprised to discover the level of interest in the technique.

A prototype is about to be field tested in the United States. For their present experiment, Dr Clay said the group will need more than two thousand such detectors to give a complete continuous view of the clouds over three thousand square kilometres of desert areas of the United States and Argentina.

R & D award to visiting US scientist

Visiting American scientist Dr David Castillo has received good news from the United States—the research team he built back in the US has won an award for developing what is considered to be a major advance in technology.

The research team has produced an improved tiltmeter, a hi-tech device similar to a carpenter’s spirit level, which can measure changes in the tilt of the Earth’s crust to a billionth of a degree.

The new version of the tiltmeter will help oil companies more accurately determine where to place their oil wells. It could also be used in earthquake research, measuring changes in the Earth’s crust at extreme depths.

Dr Castillo was the senior investigator for the research team at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. He is currently working in the University of Adelaide’s Department of Geology & Geophysics, where he’s conducting a two-year research project to better characterise the hydrocarbon reserves in Australia’s Timor Sea area.

Late last month Dr Castillo was notified that he and his US research team had won an R&D Magazine award for developing “one of the year’s 100 most technologically significant products”. The R&D 100 awards are typically shared by some of the world’s biggest research and development organisations and companies, including NASA.

“The tiltmeter has a number of applications, but the main application at this stage is as a tool for the oil and gas industry. We’ve had a lot of involvement with oil companies because they stand to markedly improve their production efficiency and save costs thanks to this technology,” Dr Castillo said.

Oil is often difficult to produce because it is trapped in disconnected pores in the earth. By using special hydraulic techniques, oil companies can create fractures that make the reservoirs more permeable, allowing the hydrocarbons to flow.

But until now, oil companies have not been able to accurately predict the direction and extent of these fractures. This is particularly true in areas where techniques such as steam/water/gas flooding are utilised.

The tiltmeter, because of its extreme sensitivity, enables hydraulic fractures to be mapped, thereby providing information to oil companies on where to drill their next well, saving the company time and money. So far, fractures up to 3km below the Earth’s surface have been mapped using an array of tiltmeters.

Dr Castillo said this technology could also be used by Australian oil companies.

“This would be perfect for operations in the Cooper Basin, where these kinds of drilling activities occur,” he said.

“It really is critical for companies to know what the orientation of underground fractures is, especially when each oil well they drill can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. They simply don’t want to put the well in the wrong place.”

The advanced tiltmeter was developed as a collaborative project of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, the US Department of Energy, Sandia National Laboratories, Pinnacle Technologies Inc. and several major oil and gas companies.

—David Ellis

DVC Seminars

The short-listed candidates for the positions of Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) of the University of Adelaide will each present a seminar in early August.

The seminar presentations will be open to all, and will be part of the selection processes for the new positions.

The short-listed candidates will present the seminars on Tuesday, 5 August, and Wednesday, 6 August, at times and venues to be announced.

Full details—including names of candidates—will be made available soon through the electronic bulletin boards and memos to Divisions.
German historian praises Australian example

One of the world’s leading researchers of racial hatred says he doesn’t believe racism to be a major problem in Australia.

Professor Wolfgang Benz is the head of the Centre for Research on Anti-Semitism at the Technical University of Berlin. For the past 30 years he has studied Germany’s modern history, including the rise and fall of Hitler and the mass extermination of the Jews in Europe.

He recently spent four weeks as a visiting scholar with the University of Adelaide’s Centre for German Studies (now part of the Centre for European Studies).

His wife, Ute, a psychoanalyst, also spent some time in Adelaide, enabling her to finish writing a book about issues affecting German youth.

Professor Benz, who has visited Australia several times before, told the Adelaidean the opportunity to share research and discussion with overseas colleagues was extremely important.

He said the field of Anti-Semitism research was significant for many people throughout the world.

“Anti-Semitism is the oldest prejudice in the world, the oldest religious, social, cultural and political prejudice against a minority. And in these days of the Holocaust, it was worked out to the absolutely bitter end, murdering about six million people.

“So as long as people who survived the Holocaust and their children are living, we must remember. We must learn to handle living with minorities in a multi-cultural society.”

Despite the amount of media attention given to Independent MP Ms Pauline Hanson’s One Nation Party and anti-Asian minority groups, Professor Benz said he did not see racism as a major problem in Australia.

“Australia is a very good example for the world, because it is changing into a multi-cultural society. The foreigner walking through Rundle Mall in Adelaide sees people from Asian backgrounds with people from European backgrounds, and it’s a good feeling to see they are neighbours living friendly and peacefully together.

“I have spent a lot of time in Sydney and have always seen people from different backgrounds living together.

“It is not a problem in Australia to have a mixed society—people from all backgrounds are friends, neighbours, co-citizens.”

Professor Benz’s stay in Adelaide is an example of the ongoing links between the University of Adelaide and overseas institutions.

At his invitation, Dr Peter Montefiore from the University’s Centre for European Studies is currently spending four weeks in Berlin as a visiting scholar.

—David Ellis

Probing the basics of human movement

Philip Thompson, a neurologist who specialises in movement disorders, has been appointed to the first Brian Salls Chair of Neurology at the University of Adelaide and Royal Adelaide Hospital.

The Chair was named in honour of Mr Sall’s long service to the RAH as a Director and Chairman of the board.

Professor Thompson, who is the University’s Department of Medicine based at the RAH, has an international reputation for his work on the control of voluntary movement and movement disorders, which includes neurological diseases such as Parkinson’s Disease.

An Adelaide graduate, Professor Thompson had extensive training and experience in clinical neurology in Perth and London before returning to the University in 1993 as Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine.

He is also the Director of the Stroke Unit and Head of the Department of Neurology at the RAH.

His work, while applicable to the treatment of many common neurological diseases, delves into the basics of human movement—how messages from the brain result in movement.

“Much of the brain is to do with movement,” he said. “If you can understand movement you can understand better how the brain works. You can’t see somebody think, but you can see them move.”

The work has focused on how complex and multiple systems appear to control movement, including an “automatic” system which comes into operation after a movement is learnt.

It appears that this automatic system can break down in sufferers of Parkinson’s disease, for example.

“If you push someone with Parkinson’s disease, you can actually make them move rather well,” he said.

“The great question is why there should be such a great difference in their performances when you urge and push them to do things compared to when they go about their daily life.”

“The answer probably is that there are different systems that control the way we move. The Parkinson’s disease is a breakdown in the internal mechanisms driving a movement sequence, but when you replace that with external clues such as a researcher urging them on, they can do rather well.”

“We have the ability to learn complex movements and then regulate them to an automatic system. Part of that system may be breaking down in Parkinson’s disease.”

Children offer a fascinating field of study, because researchers can see the motor system developing as they acquire new movements, he said.

“If you look at an infant or very young child, they move their hands awkwardly, with twisted postures and coarse movements without fine finger control, they have difficulty guiding their hands in space, their balance is poor and their walking is unsteady.”

“Some of the motor behaviour of young children can reappear as a sign of disease of parts of the brain. People with diseases of the frontal lobes can exhibit grasping and a tendency to put things in their mouth, signs that are referred to as ‘primitive reflexes’.”

“Elderly people may lose walking skills, progressing in a reverse sequence to a child learning to walk.”

“The reasons for this are not clear, but in crude terms, multiple sources of movement control are acquired in childhood in a hierarchy, beginning with the ‘lowest’ and extending to the ‘highest’ levels of motor skill—in the elderly these highest levels, the last acquired, are lost first in the elderly brain.”

Continued on Page 6

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CAMPAIGN REVIEW 1997

Going to a conference this year?

If you will be attending a national or international conference this year, then consider volunteering to host it in Adelaide.

The Adelaide Convention and Tourism Authority (ACTA) is working with the University of Adelaide to bring more conferences to Adelaide. We are here to help you and provide complimentary support from the earliest bidding process to the final realisation of the conference.

We provide an impartial ‘one stop shop’ and can help you with all of your conference needs.

So if you will be attending a conference in 1997, why not take a package of information on Adelaide, including a complimentary promotional video.

For details of support provided, and to obtain your Adelaide package, contact Ms Anne-Marie Quinn on 8212 4794 or the Vice-Chancellor’s Office on ext 33011. Email: aquinn@registry.adelaide.edu.au

The Adelaide Convention and Tourism Authority A U S T R A L I A
Microbes offer 'glowing' solution to pollution

Cleaning up contaminated sites around Australia could become cheaper and easier thanks to new 'glowing' microbes that 'eat' pollution.

The microbes are genetically engineered to give off a fluorescent glow when they come in contact with certain toxic chemicals found in soil.

The chemicals become food for the microbes; they 'eat' the toxic components, leaving behind harmless end-products in the form of carbon dioxide and water.

Previously contaminated soil can then be reused, such as for housing development. And because the microbes give off a glow when they detect pollution in the soil, scientists can quickly and accurately determine how effective the microbes have been in breaking down that pollution.

The microbes are being used in a joint research project involving the University of Adelaide’s Department of Soil Science, the CSIRO Division of Land & Water, and the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Soil & Land Management. The research group comprises Ms Jennifer Clarke, Dr Rai Kookana, Dr Steve Rogers and Dr Ian Singleton.

"Although not as big a problem as that faced by other industrialised nations, Australia’s contaminated sites are currently estimated at 60,000, which represents a major hazard both to the environment and the community," Ms Clarke, a postgraduate student with the CRC and the Department of Soil Science, said.

Soil contamination is usually caused by the poor storage or handling of chemicals, or dumping.

Many contaminated sites are situated in inner urban areas and have high real estate and redevelopment potential. Of particular interest are old gas manufacture sites. These sites are associated with cities, and the land value is often high. But before redevelopment, such as housing, can begin, these sites must be cleaned up.

The main toxic chemicals found at old gas manufacture sites are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). One way of cleaning up PAHs is through a process known as bioremediation, using microbes to ‘eat’ the pollution.

Bioremediation is considered to be a cheaper alternative to more traditional clean-up methods, and the soil after treatment is reusable, which is a major advantage. Theoretically, bioremediation also produces no toxic end-products.

Although many microbes are known to degrade PAHs, Ms Clarke said the toxic compounds can be engineered to bioluminesce when breaking down PAHs.

"Bioremediation of the soil is limited because PAHs are very hydrophobic and stick tightly to soil particles," she said.

"This means the microbes can’t get the toxic chemicals into their cells, which is an essential part of the biological degradation process. The challenge then lies in making the toxic compounds freely available to microbes for degradation.

The joint research project aims to do just that, by manipulating contaminated soil so PAHs can make the PAHs more freely available to microbes.

"Using the glowing microbes, the research group can quickly and effectively determine how effective their techniques have been," Ms Clarke said.

Ms Clarke said researchers at the University of Tennessee were the first to develop glowing microbes, known as lux, to monitor the degradation of PAHs in the soil.

These microbes are found naturally in contaminated soils but have been genetically engineered to bioluminesce when breaking down PAHs.

"Using the lux technology we can see our results immediately—the more the microbes glow the more successful we’ve been in degrading the soil pollution. It’s real-time data and an essential part of determining our success rate.

"Much work remains to be done to improve this clean-up method, but we’re hoping this will eventually provide a cheap, effective and long-term solution to what has become a real environmental headache," Ms Clarke said.

—David Ellis

Summer study break provides a different perspective

Professor John Levy (front) with some of the American Law students (from left): Thomas Hicks, Cassandra Mayer, Nikki Jensen, DeAnn Thomas and Robert Tyler. Photo: David Ellis

Not everyone would choose to work during their summer holiday, but 20 Law students from the United States have done just that. They have been here for four weeks out of their summer break to study here at the University of Adelaide.

The students have been in Adelaide under the Summer Law Programs Abroad scheme, in agreement with the College of William & Mary in the US.

Although the American students trade-in a month of their summer for our winter, the work they do here in Adelaide is credited towards their Law degree.

The program also offers the students an exciting opportunity to study overseas.

Study destinations include England (University of Exeter), Spain (Universidad San Pablo, Centro de Estudios Universitarios) and Australia (University of Adelaide).

Another institution, the University of Malta in Kuala Lumpur, is joining the program next year.

This year’s group, which is made up of students from universities right across the US, was joined by the director of the program, Professor of Law with the College of William & Mary, John Levy.

He said there were great benefits for the students under the program.

"It is an extremely valuable learning experience for the American students. They are steeped in American law, and to a certain extent that’s the only thing they know.

"So they come over here and are taught by Australian law professors, who have a view of Australian law and international law, and it just broadens their understanding of those two areas.

"It makes them see that the way we do it in the States isn’t the only or the best way," Professor Levy said.

"I think the Australian academics also enjoy teaching the American students, because they bring with them a different perspective.

"And for myself, and for the other American professors who come over here as part of the program, it’s marvellous to have an exchange with our Australian colleagues.”

Study under the program is fairly intense, with lectures starting at 8.30 in the morning five days a week. But the visiting students also have time to enjoy themselves.

"They’ve had a ball," said Professor Levy. "This year some of them have already been to the Barrier Reef, to Alice Springs, Kangaroo Island, Coober Pedy... plus they enjoy the night life in Adelaide.

"We’ve been living at St Ann’s residential college, where the American students have met some of the Australian students. So they get together and go out and see parts of Adelaide... they didn’t not otherwise have seen.”

Nikki Jensen, a Law student from the University of Mississippi, said she’d found the study abroad program to be well worthwhile.

"I think it’s great. The classes are interesting, and I like the informal way they’re taught. I’m learning a lot,” Ms Jensen said.

“Enjoy the travelling and seeing the different cultures and the area. And you meet a lot of people from the United States, which is good. I’ve gotten to know a lot of people in the program.

“Adelaide is very easy to get around, and the people are nice. It’s a very pretty city,” she said.

The University of Adelaide also has an exchange agreement with the College of William & Mary which allows Adelaide students to study in the United States. William & Mary, located in Williamsburg, Virginia, is the second oldest university in the US.

—David Ellis

Probing human movement

From Page 5

As Director of the Stroke Unit, Professor Thompson aims to educate the public about the signs of stroke, which are much less well known than the signs of a heart attack.

Mr Sallis, an economics graduate of the University of Adelaide, is Chairman of Directors of Advertiser Newspapers Limited and has served on the University’s Careers Advisory Board.

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Professor Derek Frewin, said the Brian Sallis Chair of Neurology was jointly funded by the Faculty and the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

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“Welcome been living at St Ann’s residential college, where the American students have met some of the Australian students. So they get together and go out and see parts of Adelaide... they didn’t not otherwise have seen.”

Nikki Jensen, a Law student from the University of Mississippi, said she’d found the study abroad program to be well worthwhile.

"I think it’s great. The classes are interesting, and I like the informal way they’re taught. I’m learning a lot,” Ms Jensen said.

“Enjoy the travelling and seeing the different cultures and the area. And you meet a lot of people from the United States, which is good. I’ve gotten to know a lot of people in the program.

“Adelaide is very easy to get around, and the people are nice. It’s a very pretty city,” she said.

The University of Adelaide also has an exchange agreement with the College of William & Mary which allows Adelaide students to study in the United States. William & Mary, located in Williamsburg, Virginia, is the second oldest university in the US.

—David Ellis
**IN BRIEF**

**AUGU/RC Heddle Award**

Applications are invited from doctoral candidates enrolled at the University of Adelaide for the 1997 AUGU/RC Heddle Award. This award was established by the former Adelaide University Graduates’ Union. Later, the name of Dr Robert Heddle, who established the University’s medical service, was attached to the award in recognition of his services to the University community.

A grant to the value of $1200 is available for a doctoral candidate studying at the University of Adelaide. It is offered to the candidate at the discretion of the candidate to whom the recipient of the grant will be responsible.

Application forms are available from the Alumni Office. Applications close at 5:00pm on Friday 29 August. Further advice may be obtained from the Secretary, Ms Adrienne Eccles: telephone 8303 3196, or email <aec2@registry.adelaide.edu.au>.

**Traditional Music of Japan**

Join us in the Hartley Concert Room on 20 August to hear a presentation by Dr Kimi Coaldrake, Head of the Department of Music Studies.

This presentation on the subject of traditional Japanese music will include performances on the koto, a Japanese stringed instrument. The presentation is free, but bookings are essential: call 8303 4275.

**Dr John Casley-Smith: a leader in lymphatic system research**

Dr John R Casley-Smith died suddenly in Paris on 19 June this year while attending a scientific meeting. A memorial service was held at St Michael’s Church, Mitcham, on 24 July.

John Casley-Smith went to Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar in 1958, and was Lord Florey’s last DPhil student. On his return from Europe in the early 1960s he set up the first Electron Microscope Unit at the University of Adelaide, the Henry Thomas Laboratory, which he ran until 1994.

The Henry Thomas Laboratory’s name has been associated with John Casley-Smith’s work on the pathophysiology of the microcirculation and the treatment of lymphoedema, not only in Australia but worldwide.

A pioneer in elucidating the structure and function of the lymphatic system in health and disease, Dr Casley-Smith was a founding member of the International Society of Lymphology, President of that Society 1983 - 85, 10th ISL Congress President, Associate Editor of the journal Lymphology, and was Founding Chairman and then Honorary Secretary of the Lymphoedema Association of Australia. He was an Honorary Professor at four universities and an Honorary Fellow of ten foreign and international Societies.

Much of his work on microcirculation and lymphatics was done at Adelaide, but in collaboration with around a hundred colleagues in many countries. He did much work in collaboration with his wife, Dr Judith Casley-Smith, whom he married in Oxford in 1960.

They were instrumental in founding the Lymphoedema Association of Australia Inc, which provides advice and support both for sufferers and for medical practitioners treating the disease. Patients in Australia have a wider range of treatment more readily available than anywhere else in the world due to the efforts of the LAA and the therapists and doctors influenced by it.

Dr Casley-Smith served the University of Adelaide as a member of Council from 1969 to 1976. He was a member of the Standing Committee of the Senate, the Education Committee, and many other Committees and Faculty Boards. He was a member of St Mark’s College Council from 1972 to 1982.

John Casley-Smith is remembered by his family, friends and colleagues as a man who had a passion for, and a joy in his work and teaching that would be difficult to surpass. He is survived by his wife Dr Judith Casley-Smith and his children Richard, Nicolas and Georgina.

**Alf French, 1916-1997: expanding knowledge from ancient Athens to modern Prague**

Alf French was born in Wolverhampton, England. When he graduated in Classics in 1938 he needed a job. He found one, at the British School in Prague, a city recently denuded of English-speakers as a result of a German invasion. He knew no Czech, which made life difficult at times.

Much happened in the six months he was there. He met and married his first wife, Lida. He tried to teach English to Czechs and was sacked for incompetence. Notwithstanding this unpromising start to employed life, he secured a job in the English Department at the Caroline University of Prague. And he witnessed the German invasion that came in March 1939, whereupon he decided to return to England.

He volunteered for the army when war came, in the hope that thereby he would escape some control over his fate. He was sent to North Africa and kept in touch with an extensive network of academic and artistic contacts. He translated Czech poetry into English and wrote an important book on Czech politics and society from 1938 to 1969. Three weeks before his death he completed a biography of the Czech artist, Alphonse Mucha. When death intervened, he was about to give a paper to the European History Conference at Adelaide University on Czech history after 1968.

A Visiting Fellow of the Classics Department during a long and productive retirement, he came in most days of the week to work on his latest project.

Alf will be remembered and missed as a fine scholar and teacher, conscientious and supportive colleague, and a man who brought much laughter to people’s lives. He had a wonderful sense of humour and never took himself too seriously.

Many of his best stories were told against himself, such as when he was made jeep-driver in the war without knowing how to drive and his unsuccessful attempts to get a South Australian driving licence.

When telling stories he often became so convulsed with laughter that the audience could not help joining in. Popular with students, his classes were often uproarious affairs. His ability to see the funny side of almost anything made departmental meetings almost something to look forward to.

Constantly outwitted by technology, one of his retirement’s major triumphs was to acquire a modest competence at word-processing. For this he earned the undying admiration of the Classics secretary.

Alf French succumbed to a cerebral haemorrhage on 6 July, a few days short of his eighty-first birthday. He was survived by his second wife, Alleeta, son Philip, and stepsons Derek and Paul.

Mr Alf French. Photo courtesy of the French family.

—Ron Newbold

**Traditional Music of Japan**

**Dr John Casley-Smith: a leader in lymphatic system research**

**Alf French, 1916-1997: expanding knowledge from ancient Athens to modern Prague**
NEWS

* The latest 5MBS Test Broadcast time to an end on Sunday 27 July. The station will be back on air during the Barossa Music Festival.

* SUV Producer Jo White leaves us this week to take up a staff position with our sister station in Sydney, Radio 2SER. Jo’s series “The Law” July 23 continues on Thursday mornings at 7:30am.

* The University of South Australia’s Journalism students start at 5UV on Thursday. There is one of a number of opportunities available to UniSA staff and students to utilise education radio via SUV.

* 5UV’s monthly live to air from the Central Market continue. You can hear the programs on the last Thursday of each month and breakfasts from 7-9am and “Live on the Dial” from 6:00pm.

* The award-winning series “Keep Roosted Alive” will be repeated on Radio SUV on Wednesday 30 July at 7:30pm as a one-hour special program. The series co-produced by Tony Ryan as part of a national continuing medical education initiative, the two programs are aimed at parents and anyone who works with young people at risk of self-harm or suicide.

The program also focuses on the effects of suicide on families, siblings and others who work with young people at risk of self-harm or suicide.

The medical team responsible for the project comprises Dr Paul Beckinsale and Dr Sheila Clark from the University of Adelaide’s Department of General Practice, and Dr Graham Martin from Flinders Medical Centre.

* WANTED: Mature, conscientious, non-smoking accommodation from Nov 97. Can house hi-tech, mind pets and gardens. Prefer inner city or inner suburbs. See references. Tel 8223 2261.

* WANTED: Person to share 3 bt’h cages, 5 mth from 20 Aug. Ph Marica or Vincent 8267 2735 or email: marica.litch@flinders.edu.au

* WANTED: Visiting academic requires accommodation in Adelaide for August 4-6 weeks. Phone Peter 8303 4483.

* WANTED: Visiting Canadian couple seeks a house (leave, no-smokers, no pets or children) seeks furnished living. Telephone North Terrace campus from early Feb to end June 98. Contact Dr Frances Greenwood, fax (415) 979 4936, email: fgreenwood@dental.utoronto.ca


* WANTED: House sitting sitter required for British expat, quiet hill area preferred. Garden and car care available. Tel 8278 4330.


* WANTED: Visiting academic, partner and child seek accommodation within the city for four to five weeks sometime in August/September. Tel Erika on 8213 5219 or University with organisation and protocol for international visits and functions. Mrs Coffey said she would be happy to assist anyone who required help in a similar way or who had experience of housing guests from overseas.


* TOYOTA HI-ACE CAMPER-VAN: 1995, low kms, Safari conversion, has full top and new canvas. Excellent condition, fully equipped with extras. UHL 443. Ph Neil or Louise on 8363 2662 or 041 632 492.

* TOYOTA HI-ACE CAMPERS-VAN: 1995, low kms, Safari conversion, has full top and new canvas. Excellent condition, fully equipped with extras. UHL 443. Ph Neil or Louise on 8363 2662 or 041 632 492.

* TENDER: Holden commodore, automatic wagen, V5Z 316, 1995, white, 31000 km, air conditioned, automatic, air conditioned, cloth, top 1200 kg, inspection Wednesday 30 July 2-4pm, Ph T Fetter 8303 7261. Tenders in a sealed envelope marked Tender No W234 to the Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus by 6 August 1997.

* TENDER: Holden commodore, automatic wagen, V5Z 312, 1995, white, 31000 km, auto, air conditioned, automatic, cloth top 1200 kg, inspection Wednesday 30 July 2-4pm, Ph T Fetter 8303 7261. Tenders in a sealed envelope marked Tender No W231 to the Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus, by Tuesday 5 August.