

## Launch of department 'timely, vital'

Governments ignore social research at their own peril—that was the warning from noted researcher, commentator and social justice activist Emeritus Professor Lois Bryson at the recent launch of the University of Adelaide's new Department of Social Inquiry.

The new department has been forged from the former departments of Labour Studies and Women's Studies, with its combined focus for teaching and research on community concerns such as women's issues, employment, the labour movement and social justice.

"The Department of Social Inquiry is a powerful combination of Labour Studies and Women's Studies subject areas," said department head Dr Margaret Allen.

"Both of the areas which have combined to form Social Inquiry are widely recognised for the intellectual rigour of their work and for their commitment to access, which allows a wide range of people the chance to succeed with university studies.

"The new department will continue those traditions and, with increased capabilities and a fresh approach resulting from the combined pool of academic talent available, will make positive contributions to the community and the University of Adelaide," she said.

Professor Lois Bryson, from the University of Newcastle, was the guest of the department's official launch on Tuesday, 25 November.

She said the kinds of research undertaken by Social Inquiry could play a role in the active shaping of the community, and would be important to Australia's future during this time of increasing inequality.

"The formation of the Department of Social Inquiry is timely, and vital at a time when the general mood of the population has become more anxious, pessimistic and desperate," Professor Bryson said.

"It is imperative that our governments recognise the important role social researchers and analysts can make in contributing to the formation of policy.

"Governments which choose to ignore, or even refuse to undertake, social research and analysis will inevitably reap the consequences when their policies fail or are rejected by the people.

"We are already witnessing the fall-out which occurs when this is ignored, particularly in recent policy decisions in the areas of aged care, child care and education," she said.

## ARC results confirm ranking

The latest round of research grants has confirmed the University of Adelaide's status as one of Australia's best research universities.

For its size, the University is the nation's best performer in winning prestigious Australian Research Council Large Grants, attracting 40 new grants for 1998 worth \$2.3 million.

In this category, the University easily ranks first for grant earnings per full-time staff member, ahead of the University of Sydney, the University of New South Wales and the University of Melbourne.

The University and its partners won 12 new grants worth more than \$3.4 million under the ARC's

Research Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities Program. These grants will bolster the University's research infrastructure—and therefore performance—across a range of fields.

More than \$760,000 in new grants have been awarded for collaborative research projects with industry in fields ranging from public housing, to the treatment of diarrhoea, to horticulture.

The University has also attracted six new ARC Fellowships for researchers in the fields of Geology and Geophysics, Women's Studies, Genetics and Pure Mathematics.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, Professor Mary O'Kane, said: "Our performance

in winning these grants has consistently placed the University in the top one or two Australian universities for research.

"I'm particularly pleased to see grants being awarded to such a diverse range of researchers at the University of Adelaide."

The University has also been awarded more than \$1.7 million from the National Health and Medical Research Council to fund new projects in a range of medical-related fields.

The University's success rate for new Large Grants was 24.7 per cent, compared to a national success rate of 19.9 per cent.

—David Washington

## Maths study shows cause for concern

Action must be taken to improve the mathematical skills of Australian students at primary and secondary levels, senior academics have urged.

A recent major study—the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)—tested the knowledge, understanding and performance of mathematics of 500,000 students from 15,000 schools in 45 countries around the world.

The results showed that while Australian school students were better at maths than those in the US or the

UK, they were often outperformed by their counterparts in Singapore, Korea, Japan and Hong Kong.

On the whole, Australian students showed very average mathematical skills. Although in many cases they understood how to solve the problems, they could not do the calculations needed to get the right answer.

The sobering results of Australia's performance in the study were detailed by guest speaker Dr Jan Lokan at a recent meeting hosted by the University of Adelaide's Faculty of

Mathematical & Computer Sciences.

Dr Lokan, a graduate of the University of Adelaide and now Principal Research Fellow with the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), said the results were a matter of concern for educators, policy makers and parents.

"Some common areas of strength were identified among Australian students, such as in algebra, geometry and fractions," she said.

Continued Page 3

## Universities combine on rural health

A \$7.5 million contract to establish a major new Department of Rural Health in South Australia has been signed by the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia.

The Department of Rural Health will have as one of its roles the need to increase students' experience and training in rural health, potentially encouraging more students to take up practice in the country.

The Federal Government is funding six of the departments across Australia in a bid to improve rural health services.

The South Australian department will be administered from Whyalla, where teaching and research will also be carried out. A co-ordinating centre will be established in the Department of General Practice at the University of Adelaide.

Demonstration teaching practices are also likely to be set up on Yorke Peninsula, Port Augusta and Roxby Downs. These practices will not only provide educational opportunities for students, but also boost the provision of a range of health services to these areas.

The practices will be multi-disciplinary, attracting students of medicine, nursing, dentistry, physiotherapy and occupational therapy, to name a few.

The South Australian consortium includes the University of Adelaide, the University of South Australia, the South Australian Health Commission, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the Port Augusta Health Service, rural general practitioners and other significant contributors to health care in rural Australia.



Acting Vice-Chancellor of the University of South Australia, Professor Sid Morris (left) and the University of Adelaide's Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Doug McEachern, signed the contract recently. Photo: David Ellis.



## Peer Review

The ARC and NHMRC results for 1997 have been announced recently and once again the University has done well. Congratulations to all those who were awarded grants or fellowships. Commiserations to those who just missed out. Yes, despite that sinking feeling, it is worth resubmitting next year—after rewriting to include new research results and crisper explanations of the proposed research for which funding is sought. At the margins, in a system of peer review much can depend on how material is presented and the impact it has on those (peers) who are reading and assessing the application, especially if the work proposed is particularly novel or unusual.

Peer review is certainly not perfect. It probably tends to favour conservative research hypotheses (that's why it's so important to structure one's case extra carefully if setting off into what some might see as outlandish areas). An article in *Nature* earlier this year (vol 387, 22 May 1997) concluded that the Swedish medical research peer review system seems to be bedevilled by strong elements of nepotism and sexism. Certainly the way in which a system of peer review is implemented affects the quality of outcomes. The ARC has done a great deal in recent years to determine and address possible problems in its implementation of peer review—with the pleasing results that excellent younger and less known researchers are now winning more grants.

Nevertheless peer review has great advantages. To win a grant on the basis of international peer review in the current climate of very tight grant funding is a significant vote of confidence in both the research proposal and the researchers involved. Or as Gary Banks, Chair of the Industry Commission's Inquiry into Research and Development and member of the West Committee, says, the leverage potential of our peer review system is very great indeed. We don't use this leverage enough. The University of Adelaide is probably Australia's best performer in the national competitive grants when university size is taken into account. While we certainly attract a very considerable amount of industry research funding, we may not make industry aware of just how well we rate with our peers in the international community.

\* \* \* \* \*

I have been amazed by the reaction of my Vice-Chancellorial peers to the West Committee's discussion paper. Apart from my reaction, that of my colleagues here in South Australia and a small number of others, the general response has been largely favourable. I still believe that it's dangerous for Australia's future to ignore the nexus between learning and scholarship which is such a strength of our universities. I'm impressed with the gracious way in which Mr West and his colleagues have responded to criticism and look forward to considerable changes in the final report.

MARY O'KANE

## Water torture



During the recent heavy storms I went to examine an old, beautiful and rare book in the reference shelves. To my horror I found that someone had placed not one, not two, but three buckets near this book and its neighbours to collect the abundant seepage from the concrete plaza above.

The library can no longer afford all the journals we need to be a great university. If the fine collection of books which it does have is to be exposed to the risks of water torture it will no longer be a great library of books either.

Perhaps we could privatise the Plaza to pay for necessary repairs to the library's building.

John Truran  
Education



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## GUEST COMMENTARY

# Research Integrity

*This commentary has been adapted by Mr Chandler from a paper on trust and integrity in medical research which he delivered at the recent 36th National Scientific Conference of the Australian Society for Medical Research.*

by  
John Chandler  
Department of Philosophy

Misconduct in science is defined as fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism, in proposing, performing, or reporting research. Misconduct in science does not include errors of

The existence of scientific fraud and plagiarism reminds us that scientists are not always motivated by a disinterested love of truth. Misconduct in science wastes time and resources. In medicine it can endanger life. Fraud and plagiarism generate a lot of media attention and public concern, which is damaging for research as a whole. As well as the dramatic cases of outright fraud, there are many less serious practices which violate a responsible research ethic.

Regrettably, cruel or callous experiments may still be good science and yield reliable data. My question is, what is proper behaviour in the research process itself: what ethical values are inseparable from doing good science? The key point is that integrity in research—a moral virtue—grounds confidence in the reliability and objectivity of the results of research.

The term "science" can be used to refer to a body of knowledge, theories and observations which are currently accepted; or (our concern) it can refer to the process by which this knowledge is developed. The research process is a social enterprise. No individual can check all the theories and findings they assume in their own work. They have to take the findings of others on trust.

The scientific community, like any other, needs an ethic to engender trust and co-operation. The ethics of research involves honesty, willingness to submit your ideas to the agreed tests and methodologies of the field, openness about the methods used and readiness to share one's data with others, and to acknowledge one's debts to others.

Still, researchers are human beings with human emotions, not disembodied calculators. The objectivity of their findings depends on these passing rigorous tests by mutually agreed methods which can be used by any researcher. This process of testing, when properly carried out, should weed out both individual prejudices and fraud, and result in validated, trustworthy knowledge. It is embodied in peer review and refereeing and in the requirement that the work be replicable by any competent researcher to be acceptable. Science relies on this process of collaborative criticism; but as the existence of fraud and bad science shows, this process is not infallible.

It has become standard to distinguish "misconduct in science" from "questionable research practices". A panel of the National Academy of Sciences in America proposes a useful definition of misconduct:

judgement; errors in the recording, selection, or analysis of data; differences in opinions involving the interpretation of data; or misconduct unrelated to the research process. Fabrication is making up of data or results, falsification is changing data or results, and plagiarism is using the ideas or words of another person without giving appropriate credit.

Many other practices violate the ethics of research and may be detrimental to the research process, but there is less consensus on how seriously they should be viewed. Such "questionable research practices" are varied and include failing to retain significant research data for a reasonable period; inadequately supervising research subordinates; claiming authorship with little input into papers.

A failure to retain laboratory books or to adequately record data may merely show sloppy habits; but they may be a cover-up for fabrication or plagiarism. At best they make it difficult to validate or replicate findings.

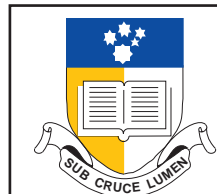
How widespread is cheating in science? How many frauds go undetected for each one that is found out? It's difficult to say. Outright fabrication is probably rare. Fudging and "improving" results are likely to be more common.

The requirement of reproducibility of results is a check on fraud. But in reality much work is never replicated, because of the cost, the absence of any particular reason, and because replication doesn't give the prestige of original work. Many of the frauds which do come to light are not turned up this way, or via peer review: rather, replication is attempted when fraud is suspected for other reasons, such as whistle-blowing by an assistant.

Questionable practices such as improving or selecting best results have a fair chance of passing undetected by the normal checking processes of science, especially if they conform to general expectations or issue from a respected institution. Broad and Wade conclude plausibly that fraud "is a small, but not insignificant, endemic feature of the scientific enterprise" (Broad and Wade, *Betrayers of The Truth* 1982, p. 219).

What then should be done to enhance the integrity of research? America is going through a debate on this right now. Government agencies are proposing a more interventionist role for themselves in investigating and regulating the conduct of scientists, by increasing the powers of the Office of Research Integrity.

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## Adelaidean

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# Union fixture to close this month

It's been serving staff and students of the North Terrace Campus since the 1970s—but on Friday, 5 December, the University of Adelaide's Pharmacy will close its doors for good.

Pharmacist Mrs Jan Teusner, who has worked in the store for the past 12 years and owned it for the past six, has decided to retire.

The Pharmacy has been one of the main fixtures of the Union Building, providing a friendly, competitive and convenient service to the university community.

Mrs Teusner said she had been considering retirement from full-time pharmacy for some years now, but she only made the final decision in the last few months. She said she planned to take up part-time work, spending more spare time with family and practising her golf swing.

"I'd like to thank the students and staff of the University of Adelaide who have been so loyal and supportive over the years. It will be sad to finally close the doors of the Pharmacy, but I believe that after 12 years as Pharmacist on campus it's time to change lifestyle," Mrs Teusner said.

"I wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year."

—David Ellis



Jan Teusner—twelve years serving the University community. Photo: David Ellis

# Maths study shows cause for concern

From Page 1

"But there were many areas of weakness compared with students from some of our Asian neighbours, particularly Singapore."

"Looking at the Australian students' answers, often what you find is that they have a reasonable understanding of how to do the problems, but they get lost along the way—they lack the skills to implement their ideas.

"In a way these results are encouraging," Dr Lokan said. "By working out where the students have gone wrong, hopefully we can do something to improve the quality of students' education and improve their mathematical performance."

Some of the problems identified with students' performance included the amount of time they spent watching television or playing video games, time spent on homework, and the introduction of calculators to students too early.

The Dean of the University of Adelaide's Faculty of Mathematical & Computer Sciences, Professor Alan Carey, said much of the problem stemmed from the way in which maths was taught at school level.

"For many years mathematicians have been concerned with the impact of fashionable educational theory on the teaching of mathematics," Professor Carey said.

"Our contention has always been that mathematics cannot be taught in the same way as, say, history or geography. Mathematics is a bit of a cross between music and languages. It shares with music the need to practise certain skills. It shares with both a sequential structure.

"For example, it is not possible for someone to sit down at a piano and play a complicated piece without long and sometimes arduous practice; it is very difficult to be fluent in a language if one is not exposed to it at an early age, and so on.

"For many years educationists have argued that in order to make



Dr Jan Lokan: mathematical skills a "matter of concern". Photo: David Ellis

mathematics accessible we need to minimise the skill development and teach the ideas. The musical equivalent is learning about the piano rather than how to play the piano.

"Unfortunately the current educational ideology argues that skill development should not be emphasised, that things which the average

student finds harder should not be taught, and that one does not need training in the discipline of mathematics to teach it.

"If we eliminated these three mistaken views we would go a long way to fixing the problem," he said.

—David Ellis

## Sound and vibration conference

Another major international conference is heading to the University of Adelaide this month.

The Fifth International Congress on Sound and Vibration, involving more than 300 delegates from 40 countries, will be held from 15-18 December.

The congress is the first of its kind to be held in Australia, focusing on cutting-edge technology which can be applied in the real world as well as theoretical and experimental

research into vibration and noise control and their related fields.

It is also the largest congress of its kind in the world, with researchers, consultants, engineers, students and government officials all attending.

Dr Colin Hansen from Mechanical Engineering is General Chair of the conference.

For more information: Mechanical Engineering, tel (08) 8303 5460.

## The News IN BRIEF

### HUMANITIES ACADEMY

Professor Penny Boumelha, Dean of Arts and Jury Professor of English Language and Literature, has been elected to the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

Professor Boumelha is known for her work in nineteenth-century fiction and her contribution to feminist criticism. She has published books on Thomas Hardy and Charlotte Brontë and is currently working on discourses of gender and nationality in writing about Ireland at the end of the nineteenth century.

### ANTI-CANCER DIRECTOR

Dr Kerry Kirke has been appointed as the new Executive Director of the Anti-Cancer Foundation of South Australia. He will take up his appointment early next year.

Dr Kirke is currently head of the South Australian Health Commission's Public and Environmental Health Service, where he is responsible (amongst other things) for the SA Central Cancer Registry, Breastscreen SA and the SA Cervix Screening Program.

He has represented South Australia on the National Health and Medical Research Council for many years and is a member of the National Public Health Partnership management group.

Dr Kirke is a clinical senior lecturer in the University's Department of Public Health.

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Department of Anatomical Sciences will conduct its annual Memorial Service at Smithfield Memorial Park Cemetery on Monday, 15 December at 10.30am.

The service is held to pay respect to those members of the public who generously bequeathed their mortal remains to the University for the benefit of medical science.

A mini bus for those wishing to attend the service will leave at 9.30 on the Monday morning from the Medical School, Frome Road, and will return at about 11.30am. For more information contact the Department of Anatomical Sciences on (08) 8303 5192.

### ITISSAC FORUM

The strategic development of Information Technology in the University of Adelaide will be the focus of a special Academic Board Forum on Wednesday 13 December at 1.00pm in the Council Room.

The Forum will discuss the key recommendations of a draft report of the Information Technology and Information Services Strategy Advisory Committee (ITISSAC).

The committee was set up in May last year to develop a comprehensive and integrated strategic plan to manage and develop IT and Communications Technology in the University.

It has formulated seven broad strategic recommendations for consideration within the University. Its three working parties—on teaching and learning, on research, and on administrative and information services—have formulated a range of more detailed recommendations.

ITISSAC Convener Professor Peter Høj will talk to the draft report, which is available on the web at <<http://www.isb.adelaide.edu.au/itissac/itissac1.htm>>.

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# In search of Margaret Sutherland

It took detective skill, patience, and not a little frustration but the effort paid off on Thursday 20 November when the Elder Conservatorium's David Lockett launched his new CD of piano music by Margaret Sutherland.

The CD (released by ABC Classics) contains most of Sutherland's piano music from the mid 1930s to the late 1960s. It was launched before a concert in the Eugene Goossens Hall at the ABC Centre in Sydney—the CD and the concert celebrating the 100th anniversary of the composer's birth in 1887.

Margaret Sutherland (who died in 1984) is considered one of Australia's most innovative and influential composers, and her importance is now being recognised through performances, recordings, and increased scholarly attention.

Her piano music, David Lockett says, reflects a wide range of musical influences, with a power and stature which go far beyond the relative brevity of the compositions—individual works or movements rarely exceed five minutes in duration.

Mr Lockett's adventure with Sutherland's work began in 1981, with a recording of the Concerto Grosso for violin, viola, harpsichord and string orchestra.

"The music was a real eye and ear-opener—vigorous, concise, colourful and absolutely overflowing with a highly individual musical personality," he said.

Some years later, while researching Australian women composers in the Australian Music Centre, he came across a group of late unpublished piano works from 1967 and 1968.

"They contained the same qualities I remembered so well from the Concerto Grosso—rhythmic drive, harmonic bite, absolutely convincing expressive content and a natural pianistic and musical style," he said.

He decided to learn this repertoire but it proved a far from straightforward task, because the works existed only in Sutherland's untidy, sometimes unreadable manuscript, full of errors and inconsistencies.

"One sensed that the creative



David Lockett (right) with colleagues Lucinda Collins and Stefan Ammer in Elder Hall. Photo courtesy of Elder Conservatorium.

juices flowed quite freely and fast, and there was a real feeling of haste about her musical script," David Lockett said.

"Some passages were little more than vague spots on the page—one had to interpret them within the context of what was going on round about them."

There were many textual problems which he had to face. It was often difficult to see whether a note was on a line or in a space. Sharp signs and natural signs were sometimes alarmingly similar while clef changes often seemed to have been overlooked. There were even times when the rhythmic notation was unclear and the intended alignment of the hands uncertain.

"Despite such uncertainties, the music always had an internal logic and consistency and this made it possible to make artistic decisions which were quite a bit more than arbitrary guess work."

The finished CD brings together

some 65 minutes of music covering virtually the gamut of Sutherland's piano music—ranging from late romantic miniatures to her most highly individual and innovative compositions.

"Even in the shortest and simplest movements there is some twist of harmony or some sophisticated musical touch which lifts them above the ordinary," David Lockett said.

What he would now like to see is Sutherland's late works properly edited and published, and the previously published compositions revised and reissued.

"The material would be of great value for performers, students and teachers, as well as providing a suitable historical document of an important body of Australian piano music.

"I am pleased to say that that project does appear to be in the pipeline and if all goes well should appear early in 1999."

—John Edge

## Science Alive a valuable link to schools

NASA astronaut Dr Scott Parazynski was one of the main attractions at last month's *Science Alive* festival for school students.

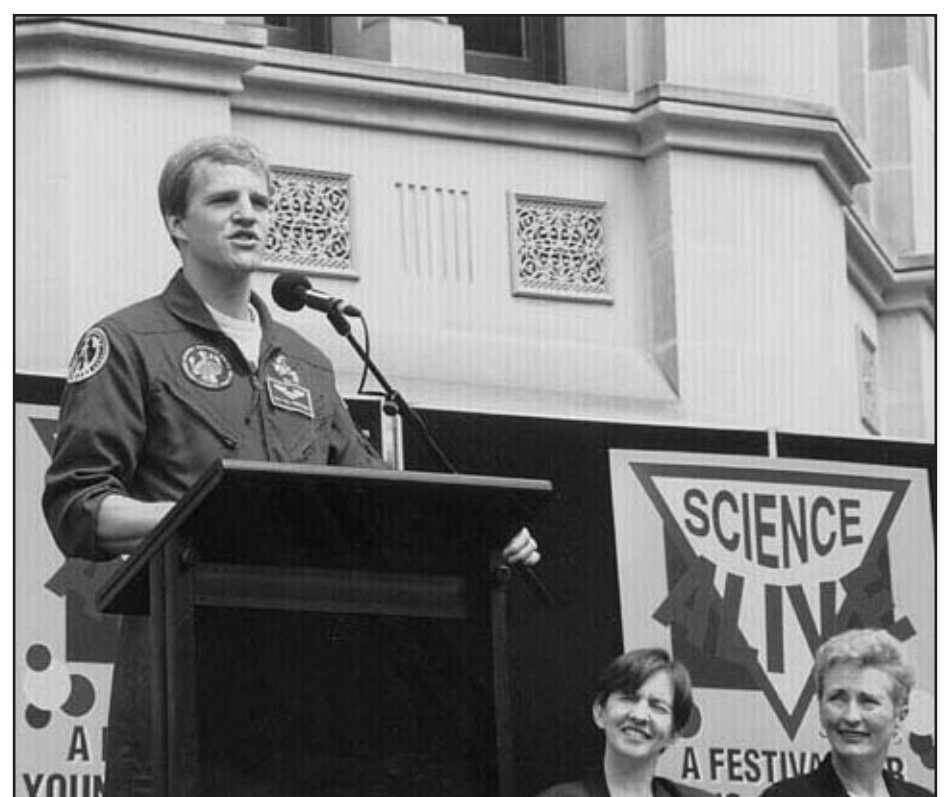
The two-day festival, hosted by the University of Adelaide, was a celebration of science, showcasing the many exciting achievements that are happening right here in South Australia, and giving school kids hands-on experience of science.

About 2400 primary and high school students from across South Australia, plus their teachers and parents, attended the event. Dr Parazynski spoke to the students about his experiences as an astronaut, such as training, space travel and living in space.

Science Communications Officer Mr Donald Bramwell said *Science Alive* was a huge hit with the kids and provided an all-important link between the University and South Australian schools.

—David Ellis

Astronaut Scott Parazynski addressing students at the opening of *Science Alive*. Photo: Don Bramwell



## Adelaide academic on international coastal committee

Associate Professor Nick Harvey (Director of Environmental Studies) has been appointed Vice-Chair of the LOICZ International Scientific Steering Committee.

LOICZ (Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone) is part of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme run under the auspices of the International Union of Scientific Unions, and has its central office on the island of Texel in The Netherlands.

Dr Harvey is the only Australian representative on the 16-member committee, which has representatives from 13 different countries.

The main aim of LOICZ is to assess global change in material fluxes across the terrestrial/coastal-ocean interface. The project is particularly concerned with fluxes of carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment in the coastal zone.

Dr Harvey said that this year LOICZ has held scientific meetings in Mexico and The Netherlands and also conducted workshops in Malaysia and The Philippines focusing on Southeast Asian coastal scientific studies run in conjunction with the Dutch Tropical Research Agency (WOTRO) and the Southeast Asian regional centre of the System for Analysis, Research and Training (START).

He has extended an invitation for the LOICZ committee to hold a southern hemisphere scientific meeting at the University of Adelaide next year, as well as an associated coastal workshop either in Queensland or South Australia.

"We hope such a meeting may produce new international linkages with Australian researchers in cognate fields," he said.

# Computer modelling to shape future of our built environment

A recent workshop held at the University of Adelaide highlighted just how important computers are to the shape and structure of our present and future worlds.

The three-day workshop, called Computational Modelling, Simulation & Visualisation of the Built Environment, enabled University researchers to showcase their unique skills in computer modelling technology.

On display were research projects from many University groups and departments which utilise computer modelling and which have direct applications to the built environment.

These included the 3D computer model of the city of Adelaide, a 3D model of Adelaide's new Garden East housing development, computer simulations used in vibration and noise control, and in the optimisation of water resources.

The workshop drew speakers and other participants from a wide range of fields, such as architecture, engineering, geography, planning, multimedia, real estate, construction, and local and State governments. Academic participants included the universities of Adelaide, Melbourne, Deakin, Curtin, UniSA, and the CSIRO.

"The workshop had several concrete outcomes—such as decisions to collaborate on new projects and proposals—but most significant of all was the development of a sense of a national team in the area of computational modelling of the built environment," said Dr Rob Woodbury, from the University's Department of Architecture.

"The industry day, held on the last day of the workshop, provided us with a good opportunity to demonstrate to industry and government the breadth of the various research work being conducted in this area.

"Hopefully, by informing them of the present and potential University capabilities in computational modelling, we can reap some important benefits in the future."

Dr Woodbury, who co-directs a consulting group known as Urban Implications, said the ability of state-of-the-art computer models to simulate and visualise changes in our urban environment was becoming increasingly vital to planning and development.



L to R: Professor Antony Radford and Dr Rob Woodbury. Photo: David Ellis.

Below: a 3D model of Garden East (image courtesy of Urban Implications).



"Computational modelling, simulation and visualisation of the built environment is an area which has assumed a high profile overseas, especially the United States, Japan and Europe, but has not yet become well established professionally in Australia," he said.

"These advanced computing capabilities are essential to future national and international competitiveness in architecture, building services, engineering and urban and transport plan-

ning. There's a strong body of university-based research in this area in Australia, much of which is now finding industrial application."

The workshop, held in November, was organised as part of a successful collaborative proposal (led by Dr Woodbury and Dr Bharat Dave, University of Melbourne) to the ARC Special Research Initiatives Program.

—David Ellis

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## FREE PUBLIC LECTURE

*How can quantum theory be used to boost the speed of computers? What implications does this have for fields such as cryptography? And how can a cat be both dead and alive at the same time?*

Find out at a free public lecture to be given by Dr David Wineland from NIST (National Institute of Science & Technology) in the United States.

The lecture, called "Trapped ions, Schroedinger's cat, and quantum computation", will look at a new (and still largely theoretical) form of computing based on quantum theory.

Dr Wineland is one of the few researchers to have actually demonstrated quantum logic in the lab.

**WHERE?** Flentje Lecture Theatre  
University of Adelaide

**WHEN?** 7.30pm Tuesday, 9 December

This event is part of the Quantum Coherence & Information Processing Workshop (8-9 December) and the XI Australian Optical Society Conference (10-12 December) at the University of Adelaide.

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## Put yourself in the spotlight HOST A CONFERENCE

Hosting a conference in Adelaide can promote your research capabilities and expertise to industry, government and the community. At the same time, staging a seminar can build your professional profile in national and international circles. However if you have no experience the Adelaide Convention and Tourism Authority can help with free assistance to identify, bid for, secure and organise an academic conference in Adelaide. ACTA can assist with:

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- Access to financial assistance schemes
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- Brochure for delegates satchels
- Advice on conference facilities, venues and catering

So if you are involved in a specialised field of research or study and wish to grab the attention of the world, contact Anne-Marie Quinn at ACTA on 8212 4794.



# Urrbrae's winning rose arbour



A view of Urrbrae House through the award-winning rose arbour. Photo: ETU Photography, Waite Campus.

The Twentieth Century Rose Garden at Urrbrae House has won a City of Mitcham Landscaping Award as an outstanding example of a community/collaborative garden project. The award will be presented at a Mayoral Reception on 3 December.

The rose garden was the concept of Deane Ross, the "father" of heritage roses in Australia. Its two hundred varieties include roses which had disappeared from commercial nurseries. Budwood was obtained from England and New Zealand, while other varieties thought to be extinct were sourced from members of Heritage Roses Australia.

The first stage of the garden—opened in 1993—has a formal layout, while the second is more contemporary in design. It was opened in February 1996.

The third stage, which won the Landscaping Award, is a reconstruction of the original Peter Waite rose arbour. Like the original, it is made of timber and metal pipe and is of comparable scale.

The Waite Arboretum's Dr Jennifer Gardner said the Twentieth Century Rose Garden would have a special place amongst the world's historic gardens because of its unique theme and its sensitive marriage of contemporary design ideas within

a heritage setting.

"It is exceptional in its synthesis of historic, scientific, educational, cultural and social components," she said.

Dr Gardner said the rose garden was a model for collaboration between educational institutions, the nursery industry, landscape planners, architects, artists, community groups and local residents.

Southcorp Holdings Ltd is the major sponsor of the garden, with many other small businesses, community organisations and volunteers involved. These include Ross Roses, Heritage Roses Australia, the Herb Society of South Australia, Cielens and Partners, Buddle Design, Martin Signs, Smarts Nursery and ArtsSA through its Art for Public Places scheme.

"It is a tribute to the many people who have given freely and generously of their expertise, goods, services and ongoing help with maintenance," Dr Gardner said.

The garden is open to the public every day from dawn till dusk. It is also used as an educational resource by local secondary schools and TAFE schools of Horticulture.

## GUEST COMMENTARY CONTINUED

### Research Integrity

From Page 2

Researchers strongly oppose these moves. They believe that institutions and the profession itself are best able to deal with scientific misconduct, and that only where an institution is clearly failing to do so is there a case for external intervention.

What's at issue here is whether science can be trusted to regulate itself in the way professions do. Without a great deal of autonomy, science cannot achieve what society asks of it. Close government regulation is justifiable only on the assumption that science itself does a poor job of regulating scientific misconduct. Certainly particular institutions can fail to deal fairly with allegations.

Australian cases of plagiarism and fraud in the last decade have revealed shortcomings in institutional mechanisms for dealing with allegations of misconduct and have resulted in the NHMRC and other bodies issuing tighter guidelines for institutions.

It's not realistic to aim to eliminate fraud

and questionable research practices entirely. It's also not clear that the benefits of much stricter peer-reviews and more systematic replication would outweigh the costs at a time when research funds are already tight. Over regulation by non-scientists predisposed to suspect professionals could do more damage to science than misconduct by scientists themselves. But more needs to be done by the profession, particularly in inculcating the ethics of responsible research in new recruits.

Ethics instruction can't make bad people virtuous. What it can do is to show the well-intentioned where their responsibilities lie, and bring to their attention ethical requirements they may not have previously considered.

These things won't eliminate all unethical practices in research: nothing will. But they will enhance its integrity, and a clear commitment to them will strengthen public trust and demonstrate that scientists are capable of responsibly regulating themselves.

# The Old Blacks set their sights on 1999



The University of Adelaide has a new Rugby team—"The Old Blacks", a group of over-35 year old, ex-university players who will compete in the Golden Oldies World Rugby Festival to be held in Adelaide in October 1999.

A Foundation Day for the new club was held at the Waite Campus last month, when prospective members played against the first South Australian XV, "The Crippled Crows".

Team manager Tom Henderson reports that "no score was registered and no injuries of note recorded".

The friendly match was followed by a BBQ lunch.

"This was the first of many social events to be organised in the lead up to the 1999 Festival," Tom Henderson said.

The Golden Oldies World Rugby Festival is being staged with sup-

port from the South Australian Government, and has already attracted over 70 teams from seven countries.

All games will be played on the South Parklands, where local clubs entering the Festival will be able to set up food, drink and entertainment facilities.

Tom Henderson said The Old Blacks had already obtained its first sponsor, with all kit for the team being supplied courtesy of Boral Energy.

Anyone requiring further information on club membership should contact Tom Henderson on 8298 6541(h).

—John Edge



The Old Blacks gearing up for 1999. Back Row: M Hardi, S Appleyard, J Klepper, R Laing, R Leeson, R Cooke, T Belcher, M Allan and Tom Henderson (manager). Front row: B O'Neill, S Stark, C Peady, J Cape.

Photo courtesy of Tom Henderson.

## Young South Australian of the year: our alumni shine

Past and present students of the University of Adelaide have distinguished themselves at this year's Young South Australian of the Year awards.

Six out of the seven young people awarded the prestigious prizes in different categories have been or are currently students with the University.

The recipients and their awards include:

**Mr Jacob Bugden**—*Unilever Environment Award*. Mr Bugden graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering in 1994 and now works for Mineral Control Instrumentation. In conjunction with the Environment Protection Authority he established a network of air pollution monitors

throughout Adelaide.

**Mr Greg Follett**—*Tubemakers Regional Development Award*. A graduate of Roseworthy Agricultural College, Mr Follett went on to study in Europe before returning to South Australia to manage his family's winery, Lake Breeze. His red wines have won 24 gold medals, 21 silver and 37 bronze.

**Mr Nick Hillier**—*Minister for Youth Affairs Career Achievement Award*. Mr Hillier, who graduated with a Bachelor of Agricultural Science in 1993, owns and manages a consulting business for farmers. His consultancy uses a "whole farm" approach and aims to increase farmers' awareness of business management.

**Mr Brenton Prosser**—*Mitre 10 Community Service Award*. Mr Prosser received his Graduate Diploma in Education at the University in 1996. He has given more than 3000 hours of voluntary community service to a wide range of organisations and also instigated the South Australian Youth Forum.

**Ms Kate Slatter**—*SGIC Sports Award*. Ms Slatter has been a member of the Adelaide University Boat Club since 1989 when she began a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematical & Computer Sciences. She made her international rowing debut in 1991 and won a gold medal at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

**Ms Emma Southcott**—*Bardavcol*

*Science & Technology Award*. Ms Southcott, a postgraduate student with the Department of Physiology, is studying the beneficial effects of yoghurt on the intestinal function of children. Her research was the focus of a story in the *Adelaidean* on 8 September this year.

The seventh Young South Australian of the Year award went to Mr Darren Burgess. He received the Medibank Private Arts Award for his work in the field of animation.

The winners of the South Australian awards are automatically nominated to the Young Australian of the Year awards, with the national finalists announced on 3 January next year.

—David Ellis

## Anorexia focus for Spence scholar

University of Adelaide Anthropology graduate Megan Warin (BAHons 1994) has won the Catherine Helen Spence Scholarship for a proposed research program on recovery from eating disorders.

Ms Warin, who comes from a background in medical anthropology, plans to combine her scholarship with PhD studies in the University's Anthropology Department.

The scholarship will enable her to travel to Scotland, Canada and the UK to explore a range of treatment options available to people with anorexia, and their understanding of the term "recovery".

Megan Warin said that as well as focusing on what recovery means to those with anorexia, she is also concerned with what it is like to live with anorexia on a daily basis, "how it affects relationships with friends and family, how it impacts on social activities, the changing attitudes that people with anorexia may have about the ritual practices surrounding food, and the way in which they experience their bodies, sexuality and identity."

The South Australian Government-funded scholarship acknowledges the work of pioneering social reformer Catherine Helen Spence, and has the particular aim of creating a deeper interest in sociology among the people of the State.

## Dental therapists in Tasmanian celebration

The Faculty of Dentistry held a Certificate Ceremony in Launceston on Saturday 15 November to mark the achievement of recent graduates of the Diploma in Dental Therapy.

This year 57 Tasmanian dental therapists were awarded their degrees *in absentia* at April and October Commemoration Ceremonies for study undertaken in 1996.

Each student simultaneously worked full time and studied full time in external mode.

With support from the Commonwealth Industry Places Scheme, the Faculty of Dentistry developed and delivered a one year course which upgraded the skills of the Tasmanian dental therapy workforce.

As none of the students were able to attend the

Adelaide ceremonies, it was thought fitting to have an occasion in Tasmania.

"The Faculty is proud of the achievement of students who successfully juggled work, family and study commitments to be here today," said the Dean of Dentistry, Dr Viv Burgess, in his address.

The Dean noted the contribution made by the families of the dental therapists who had offered a great deal of support.

Ms Maureen Joyce, Affiliate Lecturer in Dentistry and project leader plus Faculty Registrar, Mr Michael Koorndyk attended the ceremony.

Mr Koorndyk said the event received coverage on the evening news, with the academic dress supplied by AFUW(SA) being particularly eye catching.

## Western Sydney V-C appointed

University of Adelaide science graduate Professor Jan Reid has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Western Sydney.

Professor Reid, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at Queensland University of Technology and Chair of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, will take up her new position from Easter 1998.

She holds a Bachelor of Science

from the University of Adelaide, an MA from the University of Hawaii and an MA and PhD from Stanford.

Four University of Adelaide graduates are now Vice-Chancellors of Australian universities including Professor Deane Terrell (Australian National University), Professor Fay Gale (University of Western Australia) and Professor Don McNicol (University of Tasmania).

## Mars a drawcard

The Alumni Association's recent presentation, "Mars, Meteorites and the meaning of life" proved a very stimulating event.

Upwards of 900 people made their way to the Adelaide Convention Centre on 12 November to hear physicist Professor Paul Davies, geologist Dr Vic Gostin and philosopher Dr Chris Mortensen talk of recent discoveries about the planet Mars and their implications for us all.

## Reading galore

If you're looking for some reading over summer, don't forget the University of Adelaide's Barr Smith Library, or the libraries at Flinders and the University of South Australia.

With the new Community Reciprocal Borrower's Card, you can borrow a book from any of the three universities' libraries. Membership costs \$175 a year—so anyone looking for a Christmas gift with a difference can buy their loved ones (or themselves) a joint library membership.

It's also a well-kept secret that the Barr Smith Library contains possibly the best collection of whodunnit novels in the whole of South Australia.

For more information call the Barr Smith Library membership desk on (08) 8303 5124 during office hours.

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# A 'great character' says farewell

The outgoing Chancellor, Mr Bill Scammell, has been farewelled by the University of Adelaide, with tribute paid to his accessibility to the University community.

At a morning tea open to all staff to farewell Mr Scammell, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane, said Mr Scammell had given great service to the University.

"There is no Chancellor in Australia who has given so much time to his University," she said.

"Bill has always been there to give advice and help. He is quietly watching the whole time, often coming forward with a helpful comment or a constructive criticism."

Mr Scammell will maintain a relationship with the University—particularly the Sports Association—and plans to study history next year.

He said the University was in a better position than when he was appointed Chancellor in 1991.

"I think that there's a slightly better reconciliation between administration and academia, although it's got a long way to go," he said.

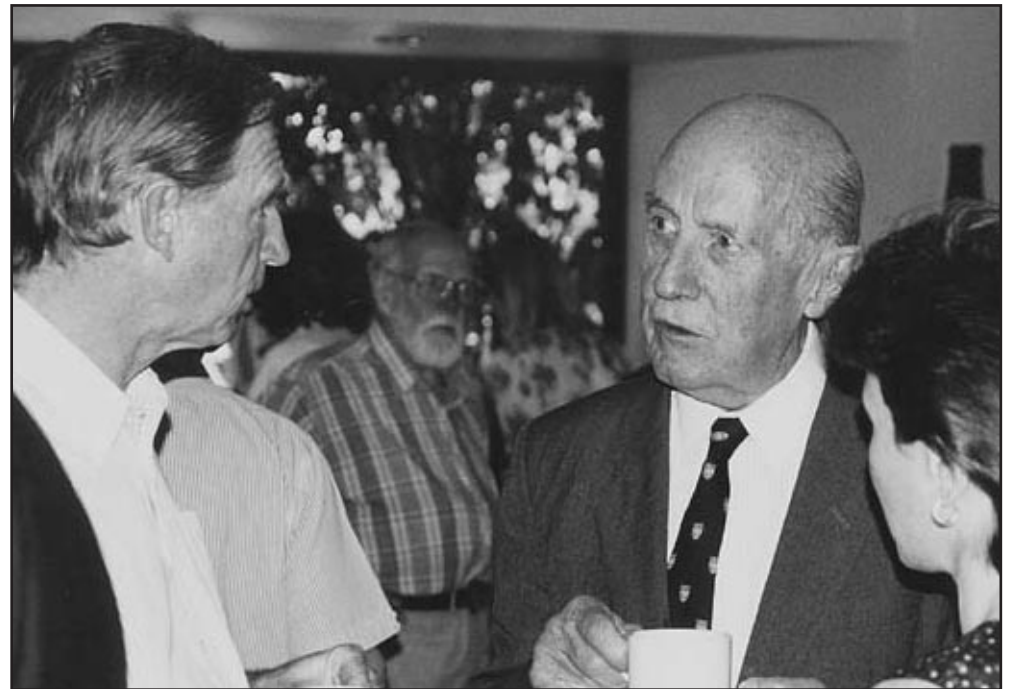
Mr Scammell said that he had always enjoyed "having a yarn" with people from all levels of the University, and thought this helped everyone to feel a little more part of the institution.

"I hope so because I think that everyone is in the team," he said.

Mr Scammell said the University needed to improve and expand its relationship with alumni, among other challenges.

"One of the main challenges is to get a better reconciliation between learning and research," he said.

"We've also got to publicise ourselves a lot better to the world on the other side of the North Terrace fence. I know a lot of steps have been taken to bring



The Chancellor (centre) chats to guests at the morning tea. Photo: David Ellis

that about, but there's a long way to go and the alumni can be of enormous help in that both in Australia and out of Australia.

"With the alumni heading towards about 80,000 potential members, it should be a source of great publicity for the University and considerable income."

Seventy-seven year-old Mr Scammell—described by Professor O'Kane as one of the State's great characters—will maintain an active involvement in business.

He is Chairman of five proprietary limited companies, and is a guiding light with the Anti-Cancer Foundation and Wheelchair Sports.

"I've spoken to (History Professor) Wilf Prest and next year I'm enrolling for a history course," he said. "That's something I'm very interested in."

"I've read an enormous amount

about socialism, fascism, and the wars from the Boer War on. I'd like to hear some informed person talking about it—and I'd like to argue with them.

"I will try to maintain an association with University sport. One of the things I said right at the start was that I thought the connection was too 'iffy' between the University and the sports association and Union.

"Sport ties all the people in the University together—admin and academia—because it provides a common interest. Many of the interests are not disparate, but they're separate from each other.

"I think there's a tendency to forget that the University is the University as a unit and everyone should be working for the benefit of the University as well as for the section in which they're engaged."

—David Washington

### ACCOMMODATION

**BEACHFRONT HOLIDAY ACCOMM:** Carrackalinga - available all year round. 3 br, 2 bathrooms, fully equipped kitchen, sleeps 6, fully furn, sea views. Ph (08) 8558 3050 or 8278 5046 (ah).

**BELAIR:** Modern house, avail from 17 Jan - 15 Mar 98 for house sitter. 2 indoor cats and garden care. Period could be extended by arrangement. Ph Richard Batt 8370 3200 or email: <rbatt@arts.adelaide.edu.au>.

**CAMBRIDGE (UK):** Retired couple wish to swap 3 br house in village 12 km from Cambridge for house in Eden Hills/Blackwood area for approx 2-3 months from around Mar 98. No smokers, children neg, reciprocal use of car possible. Ph/fax 8370 3764.

**GOING AWAY?** We will look after your house, pets and garden for you. Ph 8351 8461.

**HAZELWOOD PARK:** Self contained, studio type granny flat plus study. Fully furn & equipped including linen. Garden outlook, own entrance, near bus stop, quiet surroundings. Non smoker. \$120 pw (incl

electricity). Ph/fax Mary Ann Sabine 8379 2715.

**HOLIDAY BEACH HOUSES:** Kangaroo Island - beautiful beach, bush, wildlife. Goolwa - backs onto ocean, beach. Ph 8388 6404.

**HOLIDAY HOME - SECOND VALLEY:** Superb views, 5 mins walk to beach and jetty, sleeps 9 (2 queen beds), mod cons, fans. Ph 8327 0761.

**HOUSE SITTER:** Mature English lady avail now until Feb to care for your home and pets while you are away. Previous experience, no charge. Ph Jenny Nairn 8204 6257.

**HOUSE SITTER:** PhD, academic, tidy & reliable. Ph 8339 2986.

**KENSINGTON PK:** 1 br, fully furn flat, garden setting, air cond, avail short term (1 day - 6 weeks). Ph 8431 1120.

**NORWOOD:** Fully furn room, in share house (2 female professionals), brand new architecturally designed house close to Parade. Short term (Dec - Jan). Rent negotiable. Ph Vera 8331 3861.

**OFFICE:** 36sqm at 175 St Vincent St, Port Adelaide in former art deco style post office building (b.1927). Ph

## Adelaidean

### CLASSIFIED

8447 8809.

**SECOND VALLEY:** Fleurieu Peninsula. Modern, 3 br, holiday house avail for weekly rental during school holidays. Views to sea, hills, close to beach. Ph 8379 6510.

**SUMMERTOWN / CRAFTERS:** 4 br, part furn, house on secluded property of 5 acres, avail from Jan - July 98. Carport for 2 cars, 2 phone lines, PO box avail. \$250 pw (no water rates). Ph 8399 7271, fax 8399 7270, email: <Billmus97@bigpond.com>.

**WANTED:** British academic couple with 12 year old daughter require accomm in catchment area for Norwood-Morialta or Unley High Schools. Non smokers. Require 2 br house/apartment from mid Mar for 4 months. Refs avail. Ph Dr K Tod +44 1865 249 673, email: <tod@maths.ox.ac.uk> or ph 8303 3035 or 8339 1827 (ah).

**WANTED:** 4 br furn house required from Jan - July 98. Prefer close to Uni. Ph Paul 8362 0505 or email: <lenpaul@senet.com.au>.

**WANTED:** Family from Albuquerque, USA seeks furn, 3 br house from 23 Jan - 30 May 98. Will care for pets and garden. Areas in south & east Adelaide, close to Uni and schools. Under \$300 pw preferable. email: <kek1@unm.edu>.

### FOR SALE

**BILLIARD TABLE:** 7' x 4' slate with turned legs, all accessories - pool, snooker & billiard balls. Top quality. \$1200 ono. Ph 8264 4473 or 8260 3836.

**CAMIRA:** SLJE, 87 sedan, 5 spd, injected, air, towbar, rust protection, exc cond, reg until mid 98. VNB 070. \$4,950. Ph 8266 5570 (after 7pm).

**HI-FI:** Challenge MKIVA am/fm receiver 50 W RMS, TEAC A103 cassette deck, 70W WIGO acoustic speakers, superb sound. \$1,000 ono. Ph 8332 2815 (after 5pm).

**HOLDEN:** HX sedan, 6 cyl, auto, perfect mech cond, new radiator, shocks, brakes, water pump, body average (some rust).

Reliable transport. SHJ 535. \$1,300 ono. Ph Mike 8303 8433.

**HOUSE:** Salisbury - Well established home in secluded leafy setting. Rambling rose & cottage gardens. Ph Garry or Athena 8266 7726.

**MISC:** 2 outdoor canvas blinds, green with vertical stripe, 185cm x 140cm, \$75 each ono. Stainless sink, one bowl only, 112cm x 46cm, \$20 ono. Ph Hilde or Peter 8369 3164.

**MOVING SALE:** GE frost free, 290 ltr fridge, good cond, \$150. Queen size ensemble base, clean, \$50. Colour TV, older 51cm with remote and VCR, \$100. Hard wood bar, 150cm high x 150cm long x 50cm deep, \$50. Other small items. Ph Jay 8303 4297 or 8277 2905 (ah).

**MOVING SALE:** Wardrobe, \$55 ono. Food processor, \$30 ono. Pedestal fan, \$45. Low boy, \$40 ono. Kenwood cordless kettle, \$45. Sunbeam kettle, \$35. Food warming tray, \$30 ono. TV, \$125. Other items. All items mint cond. Ph 8266 5570 (after 7pm).

**TOYOTA CORONA:** Liftback, 5 spd, exc cond, new tyres, 6 mths reg, many extras. SJW 381.

\$3,400 ono. Ph Glenn 8222 3605.

### DEPARTMENTAL

**TENDER:** Toyota Hilux Dual Cab 4WD utility, 1995, white, manual, air cond, floor mats, mudflaps, tonneau cover, tow pack, 40,000km, VST 148. Inspection Wednesday 3 Dec, 9am - 11am, ph John Davey 8303 7306. Tenders in a sealed envelope marked "Tender No W256" to the Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus by Monday 8 Dec 97.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**BOOKSWAP:** Sell your old text books, buy cheap text books. At AUSCA's bookswap 98. Collection 9-13 & 16-20 Feb, Union Building. Selling: O'week 23-27 Feb. Ph Caroline 8332 6518 or Clubs Association 8303 3410. Web site: <http://www.student.adelaide.edu.au/~ausca>

**ROSEWORTHY TURKEYS:** Sizes range from 6 - 8 kg @ \$6 per kilo. Delivery to both North Tce and Waite Campuses - date and time to be advised. Hurry as numbers and sizes are limited. Order by fax 8303 7968.