European wasps a pest for all seasons

Worker wasps building a nest.

IN THEORY, European wasps are meant to be hibernating right about now. But tell that to anyone who's lit up a barbecue in Adelaide's suburbs during winter, and they could give you a different story.

"European wasps are a well-known summer pest, disrupting outdoor events such as barbecues and picnics during the warmer months. People don't expect to be bothered by wasps during the depths of winter, but it can and does happen," said Dr Andy Reeson (Department of Applied & Molecular Ecology).

Dr Reeson is part of a team of European wasp researchers at Adelaide University's Waite Campus. The team, working with other researchers from SARDI (South Australian Research & Development Institute), is hoping to find suitable biological controls for European wasp. He said the wasp's activity was normally reliant on European-style seasonal changes. "A typical European wasp nest is started in the spring by a single queen emerging from hibernation. She raises the first worker wasps herself, which then help her raise more workers, and so the nest grows through the summer. Come the autumn most workers die out while the newly born queens search for a warm, dark place to hibernate."

"This life cycle evolved in the wasps' native range of Europe and north Asia. Now introduced into Australia, our relatively mild winters have enabled some wasps to break free from an annual cycle and remain active throughout the year. While most nests still die off by around mid-June, a small proportion survive through the winter and on into the next summer," Dr Reeson said.

These nests can reach considerable sizes and contain tens of thousands of wasps; one such nest dug up in the Adelaide Hills was so large, it was too heavy for Dr Reeson to lift.

"The success of these 'overwintered' nests suggests that it is a habit that is likely to spread, which might result in wasps becoming a continual nuisance," he said.

So what can be done? The team from Adelaide University and SARDI Entomology are working to develop new ways to control problem wasps. One aspect of this work involves searching for biological control agents, naturally occurring parasites or diseases that are capable of killing wasps.

Continued Page 13

BHP Billiton's Peter Behrenbruch has been appointed Professor and Head of Adelaide University's new School of Petroleum Engineering & Management. Professor Behrenbruch officially started at the University this month. Formerly Chief Reservoir Engineer with BHP Billiton, he has extensive experience in the international petroleum business and brings to the position expertise in the areas of petroleum engineering, technology, and the management of reservoirs in geological basins throughout the world.

Australian energy company Santos has committed $25 million to assist the University establish this school. The school, which will open in March next year, aims to produce petroleum engineering graduates of world-class standing for the benefit of the entire Australian and South-East Asian petroleum industry.

Professor Behrenbruch has a keen interest in education and research. Born in West Germany, he moved to Canada at the age of 15. After completing his secondary education there, he studied at the University of British Columbia and Stanford University in the US. "I'm excited about starting this new position because I view it as a further consolidation of the links between education, research and industry," he said.

"With 27 years of experience in industry, I have a fair idea of what industry requires from the top petroleum engineering graduates and I'll be looking to ensure that graduates from the new school receive the best possible education for their future careers in industry.

"I am also keen to emphasise the management component of the school, which as its name suggests, is about more than just petroleum engineering." Vice-Chancellor Professor Mairy O'Kane welcomed Professor Behrenbruch's appointment. She said the University was pleased to have secured the services of someone of his calibre.

"To have attracted Peter Behrenbruch to the position of head of the school gives us an enormous amount of confidence," Professor O'Kane said.

"Our intention to offer programs with a strong management emphasis as well as traditional professional petroleum engineering courses has been well accepted both in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. Professor Behrenbruch has demonstrated skills in all of these areas, and his experience will be invaluable as he takes on his new role," Mr Keith Hunter, President of Petroleum Project Development and Operations with BHP Billiton, said: "We are pleased that Professor Behrenbruch has taken up his position at Adelaide, although we are obviously disappointed to lose such a prominent industry figure."

"We very much look forward to seeing the first crop of new petroleum engineering graduates from Adelaide, and to working with Professor Behrenbruch on a number of critical research topics." Professor Peter Rathjen is hoping to find suitable biological controls for European wasp. He said the wasp's activity was normally reliant on European-style seasonal changes. "A typical European wasp nest is started in the spring by a single queen emerging from hibernation. She raises the first worker wasps herself, which then help her raise more workers, and so the nest grows through the summer. Come the autumn most workers die out while the newly born queens search for a warm, dark place to hibernate."

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Continued Page 13

"The pain was incredible. I didn't believe anyone could live with that much pain," he said.

It was while lying in bed recovering that Mr Ryce saw a television program that would change his life. "The Four Corners program came on, and they were doing a story about Peter's [Professor Peter Rathjen's] research." Professor Rathjen, head of Adelaide University's Department of Molecular Biosciences, is spearheading research efforts into stem cells. One of the main areas being looked at by the team of researchers is the possible treatment of Parkinson's disease.

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Continued Page 13

Petroleum exec heads school, industry links strengthen
New degrees on offer in 2002

PETROLEUM engineering, media and more double degrees—these are just some of the new degrees and programs Adelaide University is offering for 2002.

The most noteworthy new degree is the Bachelor of Engineering (Petroleum), which will be offered through the new $25 million School of Petroleum Engineering and Management.

A degree is already regarded as having one of the best engineering programs of any Australian university, and demand for the Petroleum Engineering degree is likely to be high. Pre-requisites are Maths 1, Maths 2 and Physics, plus assumed knowledge of Chemistry.

A 150m oil well has been dug at the site of the school for use in teaching of the degree, with extensive practical field experience also being provided by petroleum producing companies.

In addition, eight Santos scholarships worth $10,000 each will be awarded to students entering the degree.

Another exciting new degree is the Bachelor of Media, which aims to attract students with drive and initiative who want to work in media and media-related fields. The Bachelor of Media gives students exposure to a range of disciplines and skills in media. It offers a strong analytical and critical component, with emphasis on developing creativity and innovative approaches. The program has a pre-requisite of one G group 1 PES/SPS subject.

The new degree of Bachelor of Environmental Studies provides an education that is focused on environmental studies beyond the social sciences. It provides students with an understanding of the environment and its significance for public policy, and develops research skills within a multidisciplinary analytical framework. It has a pre-requisite of one G group 1 PES/SPS subject.

The Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) is a four-year program which will provide students with the basic academic training required for registration as a psychologist. Entry for this degree is expected to be competitive, but students can still study Psychology as part of other degrees, such as the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Health Science, and Bachelor of Social Sciences.

Students who are interested in studying both Arts and Science will be able to do so in 2002 with the addition of the double degree in Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science. It will be a four-year program, with students able to complete at least one major, and possibly two, in Arts and Science.

It will have the pre-requisites of one G group 1 PES/SPS subject and two Science subjects: one chosen from Chemistry, Maths 1, Maths 2 or Physics, and one chosen from Agriculture and Rural Science, Biological Science, Chemistry, Geography or Physics.

The new Elder School of Music—formed from the merger of the Elder Conservatorium and the Flinders Street School of Music—begins operation in 2002, and is offering three main degrees (with auditions required for each):

- Bachelor of Music: This provides a major study in either Classical or Jazz performance.
- Bachelor of Music Studies: This provides a major Practical Study in Composition or Music Technology, or allows for a mix of Instrumental or Vocal Studies to be taken with Music Studies in Ethnomusicology and Musicology.
- Bachelor of Music Education: This combines a study of Music with a MA or Master Study in Music Teaching, with graduates being eligible to apply for registration as a secondary school 'teacher' in South Australia.

For more information about any of the new programs, contact the Student Centre on 8303 5208, Freecall 1800 062 459, or email <siop@adelaide.edu.au>.

Students shine at mid-year graduations

MORE than 1000 students will become graduates of Adelaide University at this month’s mid-year ceremonies being held in Bonython Hall (all Tuesday and Wednesday 7 and 8 August).

The ceremonies are:

- Tuesday, 7 August, 10am Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences
- Faculty of Health Sciences
- Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Guest Speaker: Professor David Williams (SA Centre for Rural and Remote Health)

- Wednesday, 8 August 2001, 10am Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences
- Faculty of Science

- Guest Speaker: Professor Chris Martin (Flinders University of South Australia)

- Wednesday, 8 August, 3pm Faculty of Performing Arts, Law, Architecture, Commerce and Economics (including Graduate School of Management)

- Guest Speaker: The Hon. Justice Dooley (Supreme Court of South Australia)

A number of firsts will feature at this month’s graduations. The University will see its first PhD graduate from East Timor cross the stage in Bonython Hall (see story on page 5).

The very first students to undertake the new Masters degree in Science and Technology Commercialisation will also graduate. There are 10 graduates from a diverse range of companies, some of whom have been with the STC program since its pilot days.

Meanwhile, the mid-year ceremonies will see the very first graduate from the M aster in Comparative Laws degree, a unique law program offered jointly by Adelaide University and the University of M unich in Germany.
Restorative Treatment (ART) technique. The procedure is referred to as the Atraumatic without the need to use the dental drill or basic restorative care to East Timorese communities. Dr Von Doussa said since the worst of the East Timor crisis in September 1999, the country had been operating virtually without any form of Dental service other than that provided by non-government organisations.

"There is only one indigenous dentist presently in the country and 11 dental nurses (therapists) to provide one health care to a population of some 800,000 spread over 13 districts," he said. "Most of the country’s medical and dental facilities had also been destroyed, so they are essentially starting from scratch."

Under the Interim Dentistry Project, equipment, instruments and consumables were brought into the country prior to the commencement of an intensive one-month training program. The training program was attended by one indigenous dentist, 11 dental nurses employed by the Division of Health Services, and 10 dental nurses who volunteered to attend the program. All the dental nurses had previously qualified from training schools in Indonesia.

"During the first three weeks of the course, topics covered included restorative procedures, infection control, sterilisation and disinfection protocols, management of the medically compromised, local anaesthetic and extraction techniques. Of particular interest to participants was the method of restoring teeth without the need to use the dental drill or administer local anaesthetic. This restorative procedure is referred to as the Atraumatic Restorative Treatment (ART) technique.

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**Timor's dental reconstruction**

ADELAIDE University's Dental School is playing a major role in restoring dental facilities and services to the rebuilding nation of East Timor.

LED by the school's International Program Coordinator Dr Bob von Doussa, several staff recently spent short periods in Timor as part of a four-month Interim Dentistry Project. The project is designed to provide the necessary equipment and training to enable indigenous dental staff to provide "relief of pain" services and basic restorative care to East Timorese communities.

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**Parkinson's research sparks donation**

From Page 1

"I was amazed," said Mr Ryce. "I didn't think anyone in Australia had gone so far with any research into Parkinson's; I didn't realise that Peter's unit was doing such good work."

Mr Ryce called from his home in Sydney and spoke to Professor Rathjen about funding Parkinson's research at the University. The result of that conversation, and their subsequent meetings, was a donation of $100,000 over three years to fund the work of a PhD student, Dr Nathan Harvey, who has medical and science degrees from Adelaide University.

"The funding the government is giving to Australian research is not what it used to be. So I thought: 'bugger it, if I'm going to make any impact at all, I'll be able to do it here in Adelaide,'" Mr Ryce said.

"I believe this unit [at Adelaide University] is very close to a breakthrough on the disease. I think there will be a breakthrough in my lifetime. This unit is as close to it as anyone else in the world."

While still running the Bonds transportation company in Sydney, Mr Ryce makes the occasional visit to Adelaide University's Molecular Life Sciences laboratory. He said the story on Four Corners, and his discussions with Professor Rathjen, had given him hope.

"Before I saw that story last year, my life was planned. I knew that Parkinson's would take complete control of me and I would die. As far as I knew, that was my future."

"But now I have a future," he said.

— David Ellis

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**Open Day: your gateway to Adelaide University**

OPEN DAY (Sunday 19 August) is your chance to see Adelaide University in action.

Adelaide is one of Australia’s oldest, most respected and most innovative universities. Our quality research and educational programs play a central role in the life of South Australia and have an increasingly important impact nationally and internationally, too.

By opening our doors to you, we’re revealing an exciting world of teaching, research and community service. You can find out how Adelaide University advances, knowledge, promotes scientific and technical innovation and serves the cultural and educational needs of all South Australians.

**Why visit us at Open Day?**

You might want to study at Adelaide University, or just be an interested member of the public. Whatever your reason, Adelaide is a natural choice.

There are many other ways you can use your time during Open Day, with information sessions for prospective students and activities for the whole family.

- Visit the Career and Academic Program Expo in Bonython Hall
- Tour the campus
- Listen to individual academic program talks and talk with academic program advisors
- Talk with uni students about studying at Adelaide
- Visit the Faculties and see the latest research
- Get the answers at the ‘Question Me’ sessions in Union Hall and Elder Hall
- Learn about University life, its history, the library, student activities, sports and clubs
- Be entertained by student performances and music
- Tune in to hear what’s on! 5UV Radio Adelaide 531AM – live from Goodman Crescent Lawns 10am-12 noon.

**Career and Academic Program Expo in Bonython Hall**

The Career and Academic Program Expo will give you a ‘snapshot’ of what Adelaide University has to offer. Here you can find out about prospective academic programs and careers and discuss them with academic staff. You can also pick up information about HECS, admission procedures, Special Entry and Aboriginal Access Schemes, Scholarships, and Studying Abroad, as well as the support services we offer such as accommodation, health, counselling, and study skills.

**Campus Tours**

University students will lead general campus tours every hour from the Information Tent on Goodman Crescent Lawns adjacent to Bonython Hall.

Students will talk about studying at Adelaide, the facilities and student life. Campus tours start at 11am, 12 noon, 1pm, and 2pm.

Need more information? Just ask staff and students wearing the ASK ME badges or visit an Information Tent at one of the entrances to the grounds.

Information about Open Day is also on our website: www.adelaide.edu.au

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East Timor's only indigenous dentist, Luis da Silva, receiving training from Adelaide University's Professor Alastair Goss.

Continued Page 13
Zoophoria hits the road

THE late Dr Frank Dalziel was a strong supporter of the Adelaide Zoo. During his time in Adelaide University's Psychology Department he supervised thousands of student projects there in animal behaviour. A generous donation from his estate will now bring zoo animals to schools throughout South Australia.

His Nancy Weatherley, Dr Dalziel's sister, donated $20,000 to the zoo in his memory. It has been used to fund a program of taking the Zoo to the community. Called Zoophoria, the program includes a mobile zoo that will visit schools and other community centres, providing a structured show which includes many interesting animals, information about them, advice on handling them and relevant conservation messages.

The show features a typical backyard, which is further developed by the audience to be more wildlife friendly. From a variety of habitats, animals are then produced, providing an opportunity for the audience to see them at close quarters and handle some under supervision.

Depending on their availability, Zoophoria includes a cockatoo, python, tawny frogmouth, possum, lizards, frogs, bats and an echidna, while some feral animals are expected to be seen soon.

The mobile zoo can be booked through the Zoo's education service on 08 8267 2434.

-- Rob Orr

Public lectures by new professors

Two new professors - one in China, one in Adelaide

THE LINKS between Adelaide University and the Chinese Academy of Sciences have strengthened immesurably thanks to a new agreement which sees an "exchange" of some of these.

Under an agreement recently concluded, Professor Sally Smith from Adelaide's Dpartment of Soil and Water has been appointed an Honorary Research Professor at the Chinese Academy's Research Centre for Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES). Meanwhile, the Centre's Director, Professor Jingzhu Zao, has been made a Visiting Professor at Adelaide University.

In another move, Dr Yongquan Zhu, who is currently undertaking post-doctoral work in the University's Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, will shortly return to China to head up a new unit in RCEES and will not be able to attend the visiting research fellow, Department of Soil and Water, from 1 January, 2002.

Plans are underway to establish joint laboratories in Beijing and Adelaide for research into plant-soil interactions and environmental impacts, to hold joint conferences and to have exchanges of PhD students.

The coordinators of the programs will be Professor Jingzhu Zao and Professor Sally Smith.

Professor Z Hao and Smith.

During his visit to Adelaide, Professor Z Hao met with senior staff from Adelaide University, SA RDI (South Australian Research and Development Institute), IPE Research Industries, South Australia and CSIRO.

Originally founded in 1975, RCEES now operates under the leadership of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the State Environmental Protection Agency. Its main research areas include environmental chemistry, environmental engineering and systems ecology.

The Centre currently has more than 370 staff including 32 research professors, 84 associate professors and 103 assistant professors. It has 170 research laboratories and departments and is accredited to award MSc and PhD degrees.

A part from Australia, RCEES already has 9 offices and collaborative researchf arrangements with institutions in Germany, United States, Japan, UK, Canada, Sweden, Switzerland and the Netherlands.

"This agreement with RCEES is a coup for Adelaide University and I am excited about the prospect of mutually beneficial cooperation with such an important and well-connected Chinese research organisation," said Professor Smith.

Meanwhile, the Centre's Director, Professor Jingzhu Zao, has been made a Visiting Professor at Adelaide University.

Friday 17 August

Professor Hock Lim Tan (Paediatrics): Keyhole surgery in infants and children

Most advances have been made in the past decade which have made it possible to manage adult surgical conditions using minimally invasive or keyhole surgery. In children, however, the pathology is often different, and this can make it difficult if not impossible to employ some of these treatment modalities. This lecture serves to highlight some of these differences, and discusses some of the developments in keyhole surgical techniques that now make it possible to manage complex surgical problems in children.

Friday 31 August

Professor Valerie Linton (Mechanical Engineering): Welding and joining from the industrial to the personal age

The history of welding has been traced back several thousand years to the fabrication of forge welded artefacts. The industrial revolution saw the introduction of fusion welding and the subsequent rapid development of welding technology. Current developments in this technology and how welding impinges on our daily lives will be explored.

Friday 14 September

Professor Keith King (Chemical Engineering): Oxidation, combustion and flame: from potbelly stoves to the Olympic torch

Combustion is fundamental to our civilisation and is presently used to meet about 90% of world energy requirements (e.g. ground and air transportation systems, energy generation, heating, industrial processes). Combustion is also used in industrial processes to produce liquid fuels, chemicals and materials. Some examples of combustion research at Adelaide University will be described, including the design of the fuel and combustion system for the Sydney 2000 Olympic relay torch.

Friday 28 September

Professor M I Chael Sawyer (Paediatrics): "No more dangerous than the common cold?" The mental health of young Australians

This lecture will describe results from the Child and Adolescent Component of the National Survey of Mental Health and Well-Being. This is the first national survey of the mental health of young people conducted in Australia and is currently being used to develop clinical guidelines and to make a social and university teaching and research, will be discussed.

Friday 12 October

Professor Charles Badman Rae (Music): A sound world of contrasts

Contrast has long been a feature of how music is articulated and communicated. This lecture will explore some of the ways in which contrast can be made to operate in a multi-faceted musical language.

Advisory Centre for University Education

Volunteers wanted to support students from non-English speaking backgrounds

The Advisory Centre for University Education (ACUE) is seeking volunteers to be matched with an Australian or international student from non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB). Volunteers are wanted from all walks of life, employed or retired and are encouraged to participate in this scheme. University students and staff members are particularly invited to participate.

The ACUE has been offering this service since 1995 in a great deal of success. In this International Year of the Volunteer, we are set to raise the profile and extend the service to a broader range of both volunteers and students.

The role of volunteers is flexible: it can be to that of a mentor or ‘bouncing board’ for their NESB student, or it may simply be to provide them with opportunities for practising their English conversation.

Volunteers meet with their students on a weekly or fortnightly basis at their mutual convenience. The time commitment is around one-and-a-half hours per fortnight per student.

For volunteers this is an opportunity to broaden their experience in communicating with people from diverse cultural backgrounds, and to make a social and academic contribution in an area where it is sorely needed.

The extended service runs from July 23 and continues throughout Semester 2. There will be a three-hour induction session to cover new recruits, and a volunteers’ support group is organised which meets twice a semester.

If you would like to volunteer your service, or require further information, please ring Ursula McGowan at the ACUE – tel 8303 5731 – and the Coordinator of the project, Ms J. Josephine Sano, will contact you.

Ursula McGowan

Deputy Director, Advisory Centre for University Education

Coordinator, Language and Learning Service
G R A D U A T I O N S

ADELAIDE University’s—and quite possibly Australia’s—first PhD graduate from East Timor has returned from his homeland to Adelaide to attend his graduation ceremony.

Helder Da Costa, who studied at Adelaide’s School of Economics from 1996 to 2000, is an excellent example of an Adelaide University alumnus establishing ongoing links with the newly independent country.

On completing his PhD, Dr Da Costa returned to Dili to take up a position as head of the research portfolio at the National University of East Timor.

An excited and proud Dr Da Costa spoke to the Adelaidean prior to returning to Adelaide for his graduation ceremony on Wednesday 7 August.

What does it mean for you to come back to Adelaide University and graduate?

It means a lot to me personally, and to East Timor as the world’s newest nation. Adelaide University is well known as one of the leading universities in the world, and I am particularly proud to graduate from this prestigious university. The experience gained from my time here has given me confidence and wisdom to apply my skills in nation building in East Timor.

Why did you choose to study at Adelaide University and more generally in the city of Adelaide?

I came to Adelaide in 1996 through an AusAID Scholarship Scheme, and also because of the suitable programs offered here. I had an excellent supervisor as well—I was particularly honoured and proud to have the Director of the Centre for International Economic Studies, Professor Kym Anderson, as my supervisor.

Besides, Adelaide is one of the most beautiful and friendly cities in Australia, with magnificent landscape and the cost of living relatively cheaper than other big cities. The combination of a friendly study environment, easy access to all facilities, and the growing multicultural society in South Australia made it a thrilling place for me.

What was the experience of studying at Adelaide University like for you?

It was great fun attending lectures, seminars, workshops and doing research at an academic level. The facilities offered were superb, and one needs to make use of this opportunity to develop professional skills and knowledge in order to fulfill academic requirements. One obvious thing I learned from Adelaide University is to think critically on any subject and present it candidly. Informal interaction with professors, departmental staff and fellow postgraduate staff helped me to gradually develop my skills.

I must admit that prior to the conclusion of my thesis, I was terribly distracted by the crisis in East Timor in September 1999, and it was hard to cope with from a distance. Sitting in front of the TV watching the crisis unfolding, people being killed, and the terror and intimidation on the innocent people back home gave me a sense of disbelief, and it was a traumatic experience.

But with the support of a lot of people, things improved and massive reconstruction took place. I was also involved in the World Bank Joint Assessment Mission Team to East Timor in late 1999 to assess the extent of damage and propose areas and priorities to reconstitute East Timor. Being in East Timor at that time, my motivation to stand up and try to complete my studies grew even bigger. Thank God, I was able to complete it with a lot of sacrifice and hard work resisting all these troubles.

What has been your experience in your work since you left Adelaide University?

Upon my return in early November 2000, I have been involved in a number of missions and posts, for example, taking up the research portfolio of the newly established University, as the Director of National Research Centre, National University of East Timor, coordinating research initiatives, fellowship programs, and research cooperation with other research agencies in the region. I have also been involved in providing consultancy for the Asian Development Bank-sponsored Technical Assistance for the East Timor Transitional Administration (ETTA) in Social and Economic Strategic Policy Formulation.

Have you been able to apply knowledge and skills from your time at Adelaide to your current position?

As the country demands a lot of inputs and contribution in its reconstruction and development efforts, this is the right time for me to share knowledge and learning, and gradually contribute through various means. One of the ways I helped earlier this year was by publishing working papers on various issues through the Dili Economic Forum held in March.

How is the rebuilding of East Timor going?

The rebuilding of East Timor is gradually improving under the UNTAET administration. All the important sectors such as judicial, agriculture, police academy, and economic affairs—in particular the successful negotiation over use of the Timor Sea—have all been improved dramatically. Other things such as the recruitment of East Timorese civil servants, and the establishment of East Timor Defence Force have taken place successfully. On balance, the economic situation gradually improved, and currently there is a dual economy between UN ex-patriates and locals, which creates an “artificial” economy.

Much still depends on the political process which is underway, pending the outcome of the August 30 election for 88-member Constituent Assembly to draft the constitution.

Once the election is over and the new government is formed in mid-September 2001, the East Timorese people can look forward to experiencing an era of development challenges. This means there will be macro-economic policies in place coupled with sectoral policies introduced by the ruling party.

The political process is expected to be finalised some time in 2002 before the UN officially lowers its flag and hands the country to the East Timorese.

Open Day: Street Party showcases Science

WHAT do wine, dinosaurs, chillies and photons have in common?

They’re all part of the many fascinating fields of science that are bright and studied at Adelaide University.

Science is not only about inventing the future in which we will all live, it’s also fun, creative and exciting. You can have fun with science and discover its many opportunities at the Sciences Street Party being held at Adelaide University on Open Day (Sunday, August 19).

• Experience: hands-on displays and fun for the whole family
• See amazing science in action
• Meet our dynamic young scientists
• Taste some science on a plate and see how science rules the air.

Where? On the lower north-east corner of North Terrace, between Union Hall and the Benham Building.

The Sciences Street Party is jointly hosted by the Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and the Faculty of Science.

THE FUTURE OF SCIENCE

Next year, both faculties are combining into the one major Faculty of Sciences, making science at Adelaide University stronger than ever.

The new Faculty of Sciences will further build on Adelaide’s role as an Australian leader in the sciences and will reinforce its already strong international reputation.

The Faculty will be a powerhouse of education and research in a wide range of basic science disciplines, as well as providing pathways to advanced study in exciting areas such as biotechnology, entomology, marine science, viticulture and oenology, photonics and nano-technology.

It brings together the University’s strengths in biological, physical, environmental and agricultural sciences, exposing students to the excitement of “living science” and providing them with greater study opportunities.

Links with federal and state government agencies and commercial companies means our students will be exposed to education and research opportunities at the forefront of current science practices.

The Faculty of Sciences will operate across three of the University’s campuses: North Terrace, Roseworthy and the Waite. It will come into operation on January 1, 2002.

The Sciences Street Party at Open Day is your chance to see the coming together of these two great science faculties.
We arrived at the base of Olgon Tenger—source of the Yenisey in central Mongolia—after a four-day journey from Ulan Batar in a Russian van with a devout Buddhist as our driver. We were not particularly concerned about safety if we went ahead and climbed the 4000-metre mountain, and actually threatened to jump out of the van, kayak first, everything, if we chose to ignore his warnings.

Consequently, we lied about our plans and tried to make the ascent and return to base camp in one day, passing our time away from camp as a photography shoot. But the terrain was too severe and our estimates proved to be very optimistic. We were forced to bivouac (make very rough camp) at 3000 metres, eat whatever we could scrounge, and the probability of the bag ripping open was high; the contrast between Mongolia and the bureaucratic nightmare I had expected did not happen. The contrast between Mongolia and the sheer immensity of the river, the number of bird life, the number of spectacular gorge. Here we got our fix of

Having swept along through broad grassy plains for the first few hundred kilometres, the river gradually funneled into a narrow, spectacular gorge. Here too we got our fix of

Ascent successfully next day, sustained only by a third of a can of sardines each.

On 18 May, after following the first trickles and streams for 50 kilometres, we put in the raft and kayaks on the Ider River, farthest tributary of the Yenisey. The whitewater rapids here proved to be smaller and more readily navigable than expected, but our interaction with the local people far more interesting and delightful than anything we could have imagined.

I am convinced that we were the first westerners to have explored the valley. It felt like we were bringing the circus to town. Kids, adults, men on horseback, the occasional 4X4 would follow us on the riverbank out of fascination. When we stopped to camp, Mongolians would gather to stare at the weird and wonderful array of equipment and simply our ways. I am certain that the prevailing herder lifestyle in rural Mongolia is as far removed from life in urban Australia as imaginable.

Happening along through broad grassy plains for the first few hundred kilometres, the Ider abruptly funneled into a narrow, spectacular gorge. Here we got our fix of

Given that there was no other suitable boats, and that very likely the above circumstances suggested that there was now no owner (or no one who cared) we decided to appropriate her for our purposes.

We transported the boat to the city of Irkutsk, on the back of a truck, set up base in the backyard of a typically helpful and accommodating Russian family, then set to making her seaworthy.

Two weeks of labouring, reinforcing rotten timbers, caulking, tarring and whiz-bang carpentry gave us a six-metre vessel with a water-tight hull, and a plywood cabin complete with boat's holes and room to sleep three men relatively comfortably while the fourth rowed at the stern using a pair of three-metre-long home-made wooden oars. The inclusion of a sliding rowing seat, as used by Olympic and university rowing crews on their streamlined craft, means that our legs are propelling the boat as much as our arms. Despite the boat's hefty weight, we are able to generate up to six high speeds on water without the aid of a current.

From Irkutsk, there are three dams we must negotiate. The first is behind us, having again loaded the boat on the back of a truck. The remaining two dams, including the one at Bratsk (world's largest), will be tackled in a sliding rowing seat, as used by Olympic and university rowing crews on their streamlined craft, means that our legs are propelling the boat as much as our arms. Despite the boat's hefty weight, we are able to generate up to six high speeds on water without the aid of a current.

The journey is expected to end in September when the team reaches the Arctic Ocean. Ben and his teammates are planning a documentary presentation in Adelaide at the Scott Theatre, Adelaide University, later this year.
BUFFY might be dead in Sunnydale, but she’s alive and kicking at Adelaide University.

While the titular heroine of the TV show Buffy the Vampire Slayer took a fatal dive in this year’s season finale, the show itself has been elevated to “teaching status” at Adelaide’s Department of English. Buffy has now replaced The X-Files as the TV component of studies into Gothic literature.

Dr Catherine Driscoll, lecturer in the English Department and head of the Adelaide Research Centre for the Humanities & Social Sciences, has been looking at Buffy as an example of feminine adolescence in popular culture. Dr Driscoll has a new book coming out on this topic, a chapter of which is devoted to girls and horror, and discusses Buffy.

For the uninstructed, Buffy is an average, yet glamorous, American student who discovers she has the power to defeat vampires, demons and other evil creatures. Her town just happens to be located on top of the “Hellmouth”, a zone of never-ending evil.

The TV show uses these ideas to explore the ongoing difficulties of growing up, the “horror of being adolescent”. Every battle with evil beasts is made more complex by personal struggles, coping with school, friends, family, cultural and personal identity, and boyfriends, one of whom is also a vampire.

Using Buffy the Vampire Slayer in classes about Gothic literature helped to give relevance and meaning to students’ learning, Dr Driscoll said.

“I’m an absolute believer in the importance of teaching contemporary popular culture to students. You’re giving them an example that they already find relevant and you can talk to them about things which they wouldn’t otherwise listen to,” she said.

“If I wanted to give a lecture on the ‘post-modern critique of foundational ethics,’ that wouldn’t go down so well, but I can talk about how good and evil are the centre of, and yet don’t really work, in Buffy, and students are likely to find that interesting.

“The popular culture texts that we choose, in and of themselves, are also significant cultural events. Buffy is a significant cultural event—it’s an important commentary on gender and adolescence, for example. At the same time, it’s very clearly historically placed, specific to the end of the 20th century but drawing on texts over at least the last three centuries. The show is well aware of its place within different genres and histories.”

While this combination of genres is new, Gothic literature has always used characters like Buffy, Dr Driscoll said. “She seems benevolent but isn’t, she’s both innocent and powerful, the victim but also the key to undoing evil.

“No aspect of Buffy that intrigues Dr Driscoll is its blurring of the lines between good and evil, and the way it uses those ideas to explore “the ambiguities and ambivalence of both adolescence and femininity.”

“The whole premise of the show rests on the fact that there is evil— in the form of vampires and demons—and that there is also goodness. And yet almost every episode is about how you can slip between those things. Evil things become good and good things become evil, sometimes in their effects and sometimes in narratives about personal transformation.”

The series abounds with examples of this, such as Buffy’s former boyfriend, a vampire-made good because he is cursed with a soul. A mother vampire, and Buffy’s nemesis, has been fitted with a microwip that prevents him from harming humans. Now vulnerable, he has joined Buffy’s gang and has even fallen in love with her.

“There isn’t one character who at one stage wasn’t a demon or a hyena or a werewolf, or an ex-lover of a werewolf who’s now a vampire, or who used to think she was a demon—nobody is just human, and that’s really important to the show. It’s part of its reflection of adolescence, because in a typical high school narrative, or in the dramas of everyday life, nobody is just ‘normal’,” Dr Driscoll said.

The ethical boundaries between good and evil actions are also blurred. “Almost none of the characters in the show actually conform to the idea that this is good, that’s evil—not even vampires are always evil. It’s not always right for Buffy to kill vampires; sometimes it’s clearly wrong. There are no absolute ethical positions here, and even self-sacrifice, which seems to be strongly approved by the show, can have very negative effects,” she said.

Millions of fans around the world tune in to watch Buffy the Vampire Slayer, but does that make Buffy herself a role model? “I think the concept of ‘role model’ is actually quite flawed; I don’t think people consume popular culture in that way,” she said.

“Buffy herself is actually quite flawed, but that doesn’t mean people imitate that person. Instead, Buffy represents a number of things about modern-day life for young women; she’s symptomatic of some of the things girls are or can be now, some of the pressures and choices they’re faced with. It’s not that she’s a role model, but she’s an image of some of the things that girls are today.”


— David Ellis
MONDAY 27 AUGUST

1.10pm Environmental & Geographical Studies Seminar: Biodiversity and conservation: an overview of extinction rates of dingoes by Dr Sarah Goodall (PhD candidate). Room 104, Medical School North.

12noon Hanson Centre for Cancer Research Seminar: Title to be advised. By Emeritus Professor Robert Schütz. Admission $3 at the door. Elder Hall.

1.10pm Psychological Studies Seminar: The devil’s in the detail - Bryozoa of the Late Eocene (Selby Bank) by Mr Wetjens Dimmlich (PhD candidate). Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, WCH.

12.10pm Psychology Seminar: Current Advances in M/CBD by Dr Richard M Adam. Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, WCH.

1.00pm Mathematical Pathology Seminar: Seduction by Mr J Robinson. Seminar Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, WCH.

2.00pm Social Inquiry Workshop: The discourse of multicentrism in Australia by Tsvia Nicolaipoulos (Postdoctoral Scholar). Seminar Room, Level 3, 10 Pulteney Street.

4.00pm Applied & Molecular Ecology Research Seminar: TANSI and MCEP: an ecological and evolutionary approach by Mr Peter McBurney by Mr Glenys March - harpsichord, Graham Strahle - organ, Ben Bawden & Dr Patricia Vazquez. Seminar Room, 6th Floor, Medical School North.

11.30am Social Inquiry (Gender Studies) Seminar: Tiptoeing through the trapdoor: situating subjectivities: a reading of corporeal, food and cross cultural relations by Lara Pakembo. Seminar Room, Level 3, 10 Pulteney Street.

11.30am Social Inquiry (Gender Studies) Seminar: Title to be advised. By Dexter Whitfield (UK). Seminar Room, Level 3, 10 Pulteney Street.

11.00am Elder Conservatorium Lunch Hour Concert: Naturalistic: Implications for the human pathogenicity of plant pathogen by Dr Michael Bawden & Dr Patricia Vazquez. Seminar Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, WCH.

10.30am Soical Inquiry (Labour Studies) Seminar: Public services or corporate welfare? by Dr Peter McBurney. Seminar Room, Level 3, 10 Pulteney Street.
### Call for Nominations: Australasian Science Prize 2001

Australasian Science magazine is proud to announce the launch of the 2001 Australasian Science Prize for outstanding achievement by an Australasian scientist. The award recognises world class science by Australasia’s most inspiring minds. Australasian Science has not sought nominations for the Prize, preferring that it be seen as priceless recognition.

The nomination should comprise a single page abstract summarising work conducted by the nominee in Australasia and its relevance to the public. This should be signed by a proposer, a seconder and the nominee with full contact details, including e-mail addresses. An independent referee should be named.

Nominations may be for an individual or a pair/small group provided they have been contributing equally to a single, clearly identified project. Evidence of the work cited should be included. This may be a peer-reviewed paper or set of papers published between 1 September 2000 and 30 August 2001 along with copies of other communications of the work, such as media stories, radio and TV broadcasts.

The Editor and senior writers of Australasian Science will comprise the judging panel, and reserve the right to make their own nominations. The winner will be announced in the November/December 2001 issue of Australasian Science.

Send nominations by Friday 14 September 2001 to: The Editor, Australasian Science, Control Publications Pty Ltd, PO Box 1052, Hawksworth, VIC 3142. Fax (03) 9824 2611, email: <science@control.com.au>.

### Student Evaluation of Teaching

The Advisory Centre for University Education (ACUE) provides a service to all University teaching staff who wish to evaluate their teaching. This service is known as Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET). Staff who wish to use SET for the first time should consult the Evaluation Service Office, ext 34982 or set@acue.adelaide.edu.au for a copy of the package.

The package contains a User Manual, appropriate evaluation request forms, and some information concerning applications for promotion and tenure.

The service is generally free of charge and is available to all teaching staff of the University. However, it is ACUE policy that all requests are placed in a queue determined strictly by date of receipt. Requests which do not allow sufficient lead time may not be processed. The minimum required number of students to be surveyed prior to the planned evaluation. We recognise that occasionally there will be particular circumstances where a staff member will need to request an evaluation service but cannot give the required minimum notice. In these cases a service will be provided within five working days and a priority fee of $75 charged.

### Celebration of the Federation in real style!

Following the success of the 1990s “Blast” of the past grand ball held at Ulriane House last year, we have been sworn helmed with demands for another event this year. We will plan a glitzy evening with the opportunity to dress in long flowing evening gowns and celebrate in the style of Peter Watle and his family in 1901. The band will be “Tamirruse” and the dancing will be organised by Maureen Morts. A meal will arrange a rehearsal evening before the ball.

Saturday 18 August. Tickets $36 (drinks not included). Numbers will be limited so book your tickets now on 8303 7497.

### General Notices

#### Situations Vacant

For details about vacant positions in the University, please refer to the University’s Human Resources web page at: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/hr/newpos/advpos.htm>.

#### Annual HR/IR Conference for the group of eight universities

The annual conference for the Group of Eight Universities will be held in Adelaide from 22 August to 24 August 2001 at the Adelaide Festival Centre. Participation is open to all universities in Australia. The theme for this year’s conference is HR Strategies for Innovation and Research.

Registration forms can be obtained from the Conference website at: <www.adelaide.edu.au/HR/newpos/advpos.htm>, including details of the program and speakers.

#### Conference workshop

The Key Points to Hosting a Successful Event, 2-3pm, Tuesday 28 August

The Adelaide Convention & Tourism Authority will be showcasing an overview of key tools, processes and relevant information, covering key considerations for hosting a complimentary workshop. Sessions will provide accurate, up-to-date information about this program and how to make it available to as many staff as possible. Going online extends our reach and flexibility.

Staff who have missed their user name and pin numbers and any members of the University community wanting more information about this program are encouraged to email <equity@adelaide.edu.au>.

### Research Branch: special notices

#### Innovation Action Plan initiatives

Information about the two following initiatives recently announced as part of the Commonwealth Government’s Innovation Action Plan Backing Australia’s Future has been forwarded to all academic departments. This information is also available through the Research Branch website (address at the bottom of this page) under ‘Major External Funding Schemes’. Queries: Cyril Brown in the Research Branch on ext 33354 or by email.

Centres of Excellence: A total of $176 million is available over five years to establish Centres of Excellence in Information and Communications Technology and in Biotechnology. The Centre for ICT will be established as a single stand-alone research institute, while the Biotechnology Centre or Centres will be independent institutes established to develop and apply existing and new biotechnology platforms such as functional genomics, bioinformatics and proteomics. Expressions of interest in participating in bids for either of these Centres have been requested and are due in the Research Branch by 10 August. Following this the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) proposes to bring together the various groups to discuss possible approaches to the University’s involvement in participating in any bids.

#### Systemic Infrastructure Initiative

Under this initiative $246 million has been made available over five years to upgrade the basic infrastructure supporting research and teaching in Australian universities such as scientific and research equipment, libraries, computing centres, animal houses, herbaria etc. Funding will be provided for core or key infrastructure such as link or expand access to shared facilities or high priority investments that will bring sector-wide strategic benefits. Universities can submit only one proposal not involving other institutions but an unlimited number of collaborative proposals. Notifications of intent to submit a proposal should be forwarded as soon as possible and completed applications, together with an internal Certification Form, should reach the Research Branch by 24 August.

#### The Australian Research Grants Register

The 2001 edition of The Australian Research Grants Register has now been received in the Research Branch and can be consulted there. It lists and describes over 2300 grants. The Research Branch maintains a library of research related publications from various universities, funding bodies and other organisations which are available for consultation by interested staff members of the University. In addition there is a number of web-based search engines, in particular SPIN and COS, can be accessed through the Research Branch website. Details: contact Linda Kresten on extension 34722.

Would you like to pursue international networking?

Ever thought about doing research in Germany?

Following the success of Round 3, Expressions of interest are now being sought for Round 3 of the Australian-German Joint Research Cooperation Scheme. This initiative is a two year pilot scheme which is jointly funded and managed by Adelaide University, the Australian National University, AusIndustry, and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). It aims to foster international scholarly and scientific cooperation through funding of researchers who participate in co-operative research projects between Australia and the Federal Republic of Germany. It is envisaged that up to 100 staff exchange will be facilitated via workshop or as part of the pilot scheme. Early career researchers are particularly encouraged to apply. If you do not have a German research partner or willing to help find one, assistance in identifying one, contact Lynette Kelly on ext 35175.

#### Relocation Reminder

The Research Branch has relocated to the 11th Floor of Pulteney Street.

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:** Remember to check the Research Branch website at: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/prk/> or <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/acue/> for up-to-date information about current research funding opportunities.
Core values exposed by oil well operations

EVERY day, science and technology produce complex marvels, a bizarre example being a giant test tube 150 metres through the heart of Adelaide University.

It began a month ago with the drilling of an oil well in the university grounds, only metres away from the new building that will house the recently established School of Petroleum Engineering and Management.

“The purpose was as a training exercise for petroleum engineering students,” explained Professor John Kaldi, Director of the National Centre for Petroleum Geology and Geophysics (NCPGG). “The opportunity for our students to go through the same steps as they would with a real petroleum well was one we didn’t want to miss.”

In fact, the well was seeking neither oil nor gas. It was planned all along as a simulation, to allow future students to study various technical data recorded from inside a well and relate their readings to actual samples of the strata that produce them.

It meant taking a core from the surface down to about 150 metres, then removing the hole on a ladder and keeping the rock cuttings for future study. The well was then ‘logged’, a process which involves lowering geophysical tools down the hole to record readings such as electrical signals, natural gamma radiation, rock density and other properties along its length.

The operation has provided scientists with both a physical core of the well and a corresponding log of the strata through which it was cut. A is normal practice, the experimental well has now been lined with steel tubing so that, while future readings can still be taken inside it, any further sampling of the rock strata will be impossible.

“If the well is encased in steel, there is little you can learn about the rocks surrounding it,” said Professor Kaldi. “Any tests we do inside it will access information from behind the steel casing. Here we have the ability to relate those signatures to the actual rock that we have collected.”

Oil and gas may not have been expected, but the core itself produced some surprises. “We hit a seven-metre-thick coal seam,” said NCPGG Senior Lecturer Dr Nick Lemon. “It wasn’t a surprise in itself. When they put in the initial design, with input from our own new petroleum engineering students, Austin, which has a similar well, did the sinking of the well drew on the expertise of people we don’t have here.”

Because of its many uses, the design and construction of the logging process which involves lowering geophysical tools down the hole to record readings such as electrical signals, natural gamma radiation, rock density and other properties along its length. The oil well drilling in progress. The well has yielded some unique results.

“We can work on them in the laboratory, and fluids would be.”

Sedimentary studies will show how rises and falls in sea level form a suite of rocks, palaeontologists and geologists will study the fossils and coal, and isotope studies will be used to work out previous climates,” said Mr Ric Daniel.

“Once the formations we cut through are present along the local coast, you can see them in the cliffs at M adins Beach,” he said. “But they are very weathered there. With this core we can work on them in the unweathered stage, and we may get some more interesting and accurate information, especially with carbon and oxygen isotopes.”

Before it dries and crumbles, the core will be digitally photographed to provide a permanent record, and finally embedded in epoxy resin for exhibition. As this is the most continuous core from the formations that underlie the Adelaide Plains, both the South Australian coal seams were underground, but we weren’t expecting such a thickness of it.

“The other surprise was that, as we cut into the 560-million-year-old Tapley’s Hill formation, we found copious quantities of rice, fresh Australian water,” said Dr Lemon. “We could in fact we wanted, to bottle and sell it as Adelaide University Spring Water.”

“We hit a well that was sunk for teaching and student research, and it will be only the fourth such one in the world and the first in the southern hemisphere,” said Mr R Daniel. Research Fellow with the NCPGG.

“This is an enormous sealed test tube in which you can create the conditions you want and then study them,” said Mr R Daniel. “The well’s construction will give students the opportunity to run pipes down inside it, and introduce various kinds of fluids such as oil, water and gas to simulate what happens when you try to lift gas up from a gas-oil-bearing formation,” he said. “You can create different temperatures or pressures down the hole and see what the resultant behaviour of the gases and fluids would be.”

While the core is a spinoff from the teaching well, it will have its own scientific uses, according to Mr R Daniel, as experts in several fields can now work on the samples.

“Our own staff and students did a great deal of analysis,” said Professor Kaldi. “Santos gave us their drilling engineering expertise for the logging and Schlumberger, while Wolfgang Press from PIRSA predicted the geological sub-

surface properties, he said. “Our own staff and students did a great deal of the work and collected and bagged the samples.”

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“Our own staff and students did a great deal of the work and collected and bagged the samples.”

“It was a really effective multidisciplinary team, said Professor Kaldi. “The whole idea of the new School means the marriage of petroleum and industrial engineering, and this well falls right in line with that.”

— Rob Morrison

Open Day: Engineering, Computer Science & Maths

Adelaide University is known nationally and internationally for the high standard of its engineering programs. It is also a national leader in mathematics and computer science, including the application of mathematics to the telecommunications industry.

The University’s new School of Petroleum Engineering and Management is the latest addition to these areas of study. Opening in 2002, the new school is supported by a $25m donation by major Australian oil and gas company Santos. The school aims to produce world-class petroleum engineering graduates to benefit the Australian and South-East Asian petroleum industries.

Where can you find out more about studying in Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences? Where else but Open Day (Sunday, August 19).

Engineering Bonython Hall

• Talk to our staff about study and career opportunities

Engineering Maths Building, Room EM205

• Talk to our staff

• Visit our interactive displays

Between 11:30am & 3:00pm take a tour of Chemical Engineering, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Electrical & Electronic Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. See the large scale laboratories that are used for research, consulting or student teaching. Talk to our guides about their experiences as engineering students.

Take part in the Family Engineering Challenge at 12 noon.

Horace Lamb Lecture Theatre

• Hear about our degrees at 11:00am, 1:30pm or 3:00pm

Family Engineering Challenge near the Engineering Maths Building

Take part in the Family Engineering Challenge at 12noon. Teams of up to four members are invited to compete for an attractive prize. Places are limited so sign up in EM205 or Bonython Hall. The Challenge will be judged at 12:45pm, come and see the results.

Mathematical & Computer Sciences

Bonython Hall

• Talk to our Mathematics and Computer Science staff

Engineering Maths Building, Room EM205

• Talk to our Mathematics and Computer Science staff

• Visit our Mathematics and Computer Science displays

Tour Computer Science between 11:30am and 3:00pm to see the facilities that are used for research, consulting and student teaching.

Horace Lamb Lecture Theatre

• Learn about our Computer Science and Mathematical & Computer Sciences degrees at 10:30am, 1:00pm or 2:30pm
Dr Amanda LeCouteur has been teaching at Adelaide University for the past three years. A graduate of Monash and the University of Western Australia, her background spans a range of different adult learning environments, such as teaching students with disabilities and language problems.

As a lecturer in Adelaide’s Department of English, she has quickly made her mark with colleagues and students alike. She currently lectures in American Gothic and English for Professional Purposes, which includes English as a Second Language.

Whether it’s discussing the nature of theoretical concepts interesting and friendly way of communicating and participating, and is clearly interested to hear our opinions.

Dr McEntee said she owed a lot to her concentration of really great teachers—some, like Susan McKeown, have been absolutely crucial to any success my students have experienced with me. It’s also important that funding was provided—by far sighted people who understood the importance and the need to help me develop particular strands of my teaching, like the ESL option.

Dr McEntee has used her prize money to buy a new computer “so I can keep up with the expansion of online teaching”.

“It’s great to have my teaching recognised in this way,” Dr LeCouteur said of her Stephen Cole the Elder Prize.

“There’s a lot of emphasis on research at this University, and rightly so, but the teaching that I’m doing is obviously very important. I get a lot of pleasure out of it, and I’m genuinely interested in the work that I’m doing. I try to convey that interest to students and encourage them to think critically about the information I’m discussing with them, in particular, how they might apply it to their own lives and the society they live in.”

That approach is having an effect. As one student wrote “Dr LeCouteur’s passion for the material she teaches is obvious to her students... She is able to relate complicated subject matter to a television program she watched last night, or a figure of speech used by her daughter. One gets the feeling that teaching is not simply a job for Dr LeCouteur, but a way of life: her every day experiences are informed by the relationship of science and psychology, with an emphasis on their real-world applications.”

“It’s great to have this individual recognition of the fact that I’ve been working hard, and thinking hard, about my teaching practice,” she said.

“I’ve brought much of what I’ve learned from my other teaching roles to the University. I like learning. Ancient in the classroom as staff is as practicable, and I’m always prepared to have fun while at the same time maintaining a high degree of rigor. Learning does not have to be tedious.”

Dr McEntee said she was genuinely interested in them”) and the Department’s former staff members as her students—they have a lot to offer.”

Another student wrote “Her ability to grab students’ attention is remarkable. She has the talent of making the lecture material both interesting and informative. She is always encouraging student participation, and is clearly interested to hear our opinions.”

Dr McEntee has a strong understanding of teaching at Adelaide University, having experienced it first as a student, both undergraduate and postgraduate, and now as an academic staff member.

A senior lecturer in the Department of Psychology Dr LeCouteur teaches classes in Research Methods, Gender & Psychology and Meta-analytic looking at the inter-relationship of science and psychology, with an emphasis on their real-world applications.

“It’s great to have my teaching recognised in this way,” Dr LeCouteur said of her Stephen Cole the Elder Prize.

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Dr LeCouteur’s teaching is also informed by her research, which primarily deals with issues of gender, language and discourse, and how they link into current, contemporary social issues, such as politics. Her own research, and that of her colleagues at Adelaide and other universities, invariably finds its way into the classroom for discussion.

“Teaching can be a lot of hard work. Just as you would write multiple drafts of an academic paper, I also write multiple drafts of lectures, honing, polishing and constantly changing them to keep the work up-to-date,” she said.

Dr LeCouteur counts two of the Department’s former staff members as her role models in teaching: the late Frank D’Azizli (“I was one of his students, and then a friend. He treated students as people and was genuinely interested in them”) and the late Inara Prosko (“a great mentor”).

“Both Frank and Inara showed that the human interaction with students could be both rewarding and worthwhile. It’s a lesson I learnt as a student and I’ve carried it with me into teaching. You get a lot back from students that have a lot to offer.”
Obituary: Irvine Noel Baker 1932-2001

Mathematicians are rarely famous. If they achieve fame it is because of the consequences of their mathematics rather than the mathematics itself.

Noel Baker, raised at Virginia, South Australia, was an Adelaide-educated pure mathematician whose work achieved international status and was highly influential among his peers.

His most enduring research, about which he wrote more than 70 papers, concerned the subject of complex dynamics, in which simple functions, or processes, are applied repeatedly to obtain sequences of points in a plane. Such sequences may behave in a stable, or in a chaotic manner, and often give rise to complicated “fractal” sets.

The subject originated with work of the French mathematicians Pierre Fatou and Gaston Julia in the 1920s, but lay largely dormant for half a century after that. Noel Baker, almost alone, kept the subject alive, extending many of the results of Fatou and Julia from rational functions to transcendental entire functions, and proving important new results that laid the foundation for later developments. Much of his work dealt with “wandering domains”, and some are named in his honour as “Baker domains”.

Noel’s dual interests in music and mathematics encouraged him to take up the study of the German language (previously he had studied French and Latin). That enabled him to apply for, and win, a German government scholarship, achieved with his usual modesty. In 1955 that took him to the University of Tübingen south of Stuttgart, where he obtained his doctorate.

In Tübingen Baker met Gillian Hawkins, a language student from London, whom he married in 1958. The marriage was an enduring and happy one. Apart from mathematics, all their interests ran in common, especially a love of music (inherited by both their sons), rambling through countryside, visiting and studying historic places.

From 1957–59 Noel Baker taught maths at the University of Edmonton, Alberta, before being drawn to Imperial College in London’s South Kensington, whose attraction was a group of mathematicians led by Professor Walter H. Hayman. He played an active part in the life of the Mathematics Department, retiring as Emeritus Professor in 1997; he was still active as a Senior Research Fellow until the day of his death by sudden heart attack. He was aged 68.

By the 1980s, interest in complex dynamics had revived and the subject has experienced explosive growth worldwide since then. Noel Baker was at the centre of many of the new developments, but retained the quiet and unassuming manner of one who considered himself “a small fish in a big pond”. He once said, “I used to think that, as one scaled the heights of knowledge in a particular field, one would reach a plateau where all fellows there would be equal. Having scaled one very long ladder, I now see further ladders and plateaus reaching skywards to infinity.”

His work will continue through his many research students who are active in academic life around the world in countries such as India, Nigeria and M. esico. His passion for music was further manifest in his active participation in organising a series of Lunch Hour Chamber Music Concerts for Imperial College, with performers including the pianist, Martino Tirmo, and the Australian String Quartet.

His last published paper is dedicated to George Szekeres on his 90th birthday. Noel is survived by his wife Gillian and two sons, Stephen and Michael.

— Philip Fargher

Dr Irvine Baker.

Open Day: Waite & Roseworthy campuses

The university’s Roseworthy and Waite campuses are hi-tech hubs of science and technology which greatly benefit agricultural science, the environment and industry.

Roseworthy Campus is holding an information day on Friday 17 August (10am-3.30pm). This is your chance to get a taste of the cutting-edge work being done at Roseworthy campus in the field of Animal Science.

Highlights of the day include information talks and tours of teaching and residential facilities. For bookings phone 8303 7854.

Academic programs talks at Roseworthy include sessions on Natural Resource Management and Horse Husbandry and Management, as well as the Agricultural Science programs offered by Adelaide University.

For more information, visit our website: www.adelaide.edu.au

Waite Campus is available for tours only (Sunday 19 August). Bookings are essential; phone 8303 7228.

Meanwhile, Roseworthy will have its major Open Day on Sunday October 7. Members of the community, prospective, current and past students, and the media are invited to visit the campus and learn about the programs and facilities in an informal and fun atmosphere.

More details will be provided in coming issues of the Adelaidian.
Jones to speak at H R conference

**DR BARRY JONES**, one of the key architects of the Australian Labor Party's "Knowledge Nation" report, will be the guest speaker at the launch of a national conference on university human resources.

The annual HR conference for the Group of Eight Universities (Go8) will be held in Adelaide over two days, 23 and 24 August, at the Adelaide Festival Centre.

The theme of this year's conference is "HR: Strategies for Innovation and Research". Dr Jones is a former ALP president and is currently chairperson of the Knowledge Nation Task Force. He will speak at the dinner on 22 August, which is the official launch of the conference.

Guest speakers at the conference include many from Adelaide University: Professor Edwin Comish, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research); Professor Mark Cocks, President of the Australian Academy of the Humanities; Pro Vice-Chancellor (Commercialisation) and Executive Dean of Humanities & Social Sciences and PALACE; Professor Derek Frewin, Executive Dean of Health Sciences; and Professor Peter Ratcliffe, Head of Molecular Biosciences.

Their topics span a range of issues in university human resources, particularly those that affect Australia's major research universities. Topics include "Culturability: Myths and Realities", "The War for Research Talent", "Working for a Name", and "Creating a Culture of Intellectual Property Recognition".

Other speakers include Professor Don McKinnon, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania, Professor Peter Coaldrake, Deputy Vice-Chancellor with Queensland University of Technology, and Professor Ian Chubb, Vice-Chancellor of the Australian National University.

For more information, visit the HR website: www.adelaide.edu.au/hr/new/Go8conf/ from Page 3

"In the last week the oral health care workers had the opportunity to put what they had learnt into practice. The course participants examined and treated 114 patients in the Dili Dental Clinic and extracted some 144 teeth."

Other Dental School staff that assisted at various stages of the training program included Infection Control Practitioner Mrs Judy Ball RN, Clinical Senior Lecturer Dr Simon Mcore, and Head of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Unit Professor Alistair Goss.

"With dental services currently at a bare minimum in East Timor, Dental School staff could have filled the role as service providers—but in the long term that wouldn't have achieved a great deal. The key to a sustainable dental service in East Timor is the education and training of indigenous oral health workers with the essential focus being on the prevention of oral disease," Dr Von Dousse said.

"The Interim Dentistry Project has played a very important role in the mobilisation of oral health works as service providers and is the forerunner to a significantly bigger program which will provide the basis for an East Timor National Oral Health Program."

The Project, which is part of the East Timor National Oral Health Program, was funded by the Australian Government through the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and managed with assistance from SAGRIC International.

— Ben Osborne

E European wasps a pest for all seasons

From Page 1

"Entomopathogenic nematodes (microscopic worms that kill insects) have been demonstrated to kill wasps in the laboratory. The search is now on for a strain of nematode (worms that kill insects) have been demonstrated to kill wasps in the laboratory."

Dr Reeson said: "Another approach may be to target the bacteria associated with wasps rather than the wasps themselves. Certain bacteria appear to be closely associated with wasp guts, and may prove to play an important role in the digestive system. So by knocking out these bacteria it may be possible to disrupt the entire nest," Dr Reeson said.

For more information about wasps and wasp research in South Australia, visit the Adelaide University European wasp website: www.waite.adelaide.edu.au/europeanwasp/This huge nest uncovered at Stirling in the Adelaide Hills is one example of "overwintering."
**UK alumni launched in London**

An international group from the University of Adelaide has been established, this time in the United Kingdom.

About 100 people enjoyed an inaugural function for UK-based alumni of Adelaide University at the Australian High Commission in London in July. Those in attendance ranged from 19-year-old recent graduates to those who had left University in 1946. Also present was Vice-Chancellor Professor Mary O’Kane, who outlined the University’s vision and provided an update on recent achievements.

Professor O’Kane praised the efforts of the UK-based alumni, which will “play a valuable role in assisting with networking and raising the University’s profile internationally.” She said, “I commend the organising committee for their enthusiasm and energy in making this event happen.”

The evening was an excellent opportunity for UK alumni to catch up with people they had not seen for years. Special guests included representatives from the UK alumni of Sydney, Melbourne and Hong Kong, who were most impressed with the success of the inaugural event.

The organising committee looks forward to another event at Oxford or Cambridge later this year, possibly including visiting Adelaide University academics. It is envisaged that the UK group will hold around two events each year for UK-based alumni.

The group is expected to become a formal chapter of the Alumni Association later this year, joining the ranks of other alumnae chapters in Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Anyone interested in helping the UK members of the Adelaide University’s alumni, or in receiving information on future events, should email: adelaide.alumni@adelaide.edu.au

The function was generously supported by a number of South Australian companies, including Coopers, Perths, Lindemans and Two D ogs, as well as the office of the Agent General for South Australia.

**MUTUAL COMMUNITY POSTGRADUATE TRAVEL GRANTS**

Applications are now available for the September round of the Mutual Community Postgraduate Travel Grants. Up to three grants, each worth $2,500, are available to assist doctoral candidates in travel to a conference at which the student will present his or her work, or (b) to travel to another institution to learn a particular method essential to his or her own work (which cannot be learned at Adelaide). Such travel may be undertaken within the state, within Australia, or overseas.

One of the recipients of the Apri round of these grants, Yvette Tan, travelled to Germany to attend the Association for the Study of New Literatures in English Conference held at the prestigious University of Freiburg. Yvette’s paper entitled “Imperial Pretensions and The Pleasures of Conquest” was presented on the second day of the conference and was extremely well received.

Applications for the September round can be downloaded from the Alumni Relations and Development website at www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni or sent to you via a mobile email, or from our office at Level 1, 230 North Terrace. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than 5:00pm on Friday, 14 September 2001. Please contact Joan Soon at (08) 8303 3317 for further information.

**Q ueen's Birthday honours**

Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect. Due to a technical fault, the Honours list printed in last issue was partially incorrect.

**CAMPUS TOURS**

If you are interested in a change of direction in or furthering your existing qualifications the University offers a wide range of postgraduate coursework programs in all faculties that can build on your knowledge, introduce you to further studies in a new area or even provide a professional qualification. With the Federal Government currently considering a student loans scheme for postgraduate coursework studies similar to HECS, postgraduate study may be more affordable than you think. The University also offers research-based M and PhD programs for those who wish to enter upon a specific program of supervised research, and to further develop their research skills. Come and hear about opportunities at 10am or 1pm in Lecture Theatre 2, Level 3, Lindenau Building, or visit the Postgraduate Information booth in Burnley Hall.

Checks: Kim McBride tel (08) 8303 3200

**NEW MERCHANDISE RANGE**

Come and view our new merchandise range available from the Alumni, Community Relations and Development office, Level 1, 230 North Terrace. The new range includes champagne stoppers in matt silver, luggage locks and pens engraved with the Adelaide University logo, redwood paper weights and bowls and much more!
FIFTY years ago, students from Malaysia and other Commonwealth nations traveled to Australian universities to study, thanks to a major scholarship program that lasted until the 1980s—the Colombo Plan.

The Plan was aimed at economic development in South-East Asia, and was a widely acclaimed example of Australia's support to the region.

Today, many former Colombo Plan scholars occupy senior positions in the Malaysian and Singaporean Governments, academia and the corporate world. Colombo Plan graduates are prominent in other countries as well.

Last month, two major events were held in Kuala Lumpur to mark the 50th anniversary of the Colombo Plan. The Harry Medlin Testimonial Dinner celebrated the achievements of Adelaide University’s Colombo Plan graduates, and paid tribute to the efforts of Dr Harry Medlin, Alumni Envoy to East and South-East Asia.

Medlin, Alumni Envoy to East and South-East Asia, paid tribute to the efforts of Dr Harry Medlin. The Adelaide University “Colombo Plan Class” with other staff and graduates.

The following day, the Australian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur held the official celebration of the Colombo Plan’s 50th anniversary, which was attended by hundreds of graduates.

Today, many former Colombo Plan scholars are prominent in other countries as well.Colombo Plan’s 50th celebrations

There's plenty to see, do and experience at Open Day (Sunday 19 August).

F I N A L  C O N S E R V A T O R I U M  S Y M P H O N Y
• Orchestra rehearsal - 2-4pm
• Concert - 7-10pm

Bonython Hall

Eating Places
• International food on Goodman Crescent Lawns and Barr Smith Lawns
• Bush BBQ with Wilto Yerlo on Hughes Plaza
• BBQ at the front of the Medical School
• Science Street Party - Sausage Sizzle
• Napier Building - Tea and Coffee
• Napier Building - Sausage Sizzle

Entertainment
• Indigenous music on Hughes Plaza
• Knee High Puppeteers on Goodman Crescent Lawns.
• Percussion performance - 10.15-11.15am
• Jazz performance - 11.30am-12.30pm
• Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra rehearsal - 2-4pm

Alumni, Community Relations and Development
Did you know that the University’s alumni and friends are an active and valuable part of the University community? Learn more about how you can be involved in the Alumni Association’s events and programs and how this vibrant group contributes to both University and community life. Visit the Alumni, Community Relations and Development display in Bonython Hall and in the marque on Goodman Crescent Lawns.

Professional and Continuing Education
Win a Professional Development Course!
Come along to our display in Bonython Hall and enter the draw to win a Professional Development course valued at $275! Choose from our wide range of Business and Management Development, Leadership and Supervisory Development, Professional Communication or Personal Development courses.

S4V Radio Adelaide
S4V Radio Adelaide offers community access to state of the art broadcasting and production facilities. The station has over 500 volunteers supported by a small core staff. Student Radio from 9pm each night is managed and run by students from Adelaide, UniSA and Flinders University.

A national leader in broadcast training, S4V Radio Adelaide offers nationally accredited training in a real-life broadcasting environment. If you’d like to find out about our training courses or becoming a volunteer, call the station during business hours on 8303 5000 or email: s4vradio@adelaide.edu.au.

Open Day: Food, friends and entertainment

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Residential Colleges
Staff from St Ann’s College, St Mark’s College and Lincoln College are available in Bonython Hall to answer your questions about living and studying in a residential college. All colleges offer academic and personal support to their students.

Barr Smith Library
The University’s major library complex will be open too. Come in to see the beautiful heritage-listed Reading Room. We also have an information booth in Bonython Hall.
Prized pianist to perform

A GALAXY OF WINDS BREEZES INTO ADELIADE

**Special Entry classes and Year 12 Revision**

Tertiary Education - Special Entry

If you are a mature age student seeking special entry to university you will be required to take either the CTAT (Common Tertiary Admissions Test) and may need to provide a Personal Competency Statement. Professional and Continuing Education at Adelaide University offers a series of 3 x 3 hour workshops to assist you in preparing your own personal competency statement and to provide guidance and practice in completing the Special Tertiary Admissions Test. Wednesday 6pm - 9pm

**Year 12 Revision**

A Adelaide University offers intensive revision courses during the Term 3 break. Plan for exam success by taking advantage of the opportunity to attend revision courses that will consolidate your year's learning and assist you to achieve your best possible result. Adelaide University Year 12 courses will help you to one focus, develop revision strategies and prepare effectively for the exams.

Courses offered on Monday and Tuesday - 12 O’clock include Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Accounting, Economics, Legal Studies, Mathematics 1 & 2, Economics (Theory), Exam Preparation And Techniques, Essay Writing Study Skills for Year 11 & 12, and Year 12 General Studies (French, Italian, German, Japanese).

The Elder Conservatorium Wind Ensemble, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, the Australian National Orchestra, the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and the Russian Philharmonic Orchestra. For her recital in Elder Hall, Ayako will perform works by Haydn, Debussy and Ravel. As this concert is part of the Elder Hall Lunch Hour Concert Series, tickets are only $3. Doors open at 12.30 pm and patrons are advised to arrive early to avoid disappointment.

Other highlights in this popular series include a return to Elder Hall in September by the Australian String Quartet with an all Beethoven program. In October a recital by William Henry (violin) with pianist Lucinda Collins and later that month a mixed program featuring two outstanding young Australian musicians, Raphael Chadwick (violin) and his sister Sarah Chadwick (harp). They will perform with Keith Crellin (viola) and Linda Pirie (viola). The final concert is on 16 November and will feature four of the Elder Conservatorium’s most talented students who will compete for a total of $1500 in prize money.

Detailed concert brochures are available from the Elder Conservatorium office or the foyer of Elder Hall. For more information contact the Concert Manager on 8303 9295.

**LUNCH HOUR CONCERT SERIES**

The Elder Conservatorium Lunch Hour Concert Series is proudly supported by the Doris West Bequest and S.U.Radio Adelaide.

— Adrienne Bear

**NEWSMAKERS**

Leaving Parliament to one side, some of Australia’s best comedians have law degrees. Dr John Williams pointed out in *The Age* (25 July): “In an article about why people study law, he noted the variety of career opportunities available beyond the traditional legal setting. As for the passion is food for *The Age* (25 July).”

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