

# Adelaidean

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News from Adelaide University

September 2001

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## New VC appointed

**PROFESSOR Cliff Blake AM** has become the 18th Vice-Chancellor in Adelaide University's 127-year history, following the resignation last month of Professor Mary O'Kane.

An international search for a permanent Vice-Chancellor has now begun, with Professor Blake filling the Vice-Chancellor's position until such an appointment is made.

Professor Blake recently retired from Charles Sturt University in Bathurst, New South Wales, where he spent 11 years as foundation Vice-Chancellor. At the time of his retirement he was the longest-serving chief executive in Australian higher education, with 31 years experience in leadership positions.

Adelaide University's Chancellor, Mr Robert Champion de Crespigny, said he was very pleased that the University had been able to make such an excellent appointment so promptly.

"Professor Blake has a wealth of experience as a Vice-Chancellor, and we are fortunate that a person of his calibre is available to take on the role until a permanent appointment is made," Mr de Crespigny said.

"He guided the growth and development of Charles Sturt University and its predecessor institutions since 1974, and his achievement is recognised throughout the Australian higher education sector.

"His experience will help to guide Adelaide University through the transition period. He will ensure that the University continues to work to its already-established agenda and he will also assist with advice on the appointment of a permanent Vice-Chancellor.

"The University will now embark on an international search for a permanent Vice-Chancellor. We expect that it will be several months before the appointment is made, and it is important that in the interim, the University continues to work towards its key goals."

Professor Blake is a former President of the Australian Higher Education Industry Association, former Convenor of the NSW Vice-Chancellors' Conference, a former Chairman of the National Conference on Open and Distance Education, and a former Board member of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee. He was awarded an AM for his contribution to Australian higher education.

He said that, as Vice-Chancellor, he intended to keep Adelaide University moving forward.

"I am flattered to have been invited to join the University at this critical stage," Professor Blake said.

"I have indicated to the Chancellor that I intend to be a hands-on Vice-Chancellor, facilitating members of staff in achieving the outcomes that they seek for the University.

"My main aim is to develop quickly a cohesive and self-confident institution that has pride in itself and has in place streamlined academic structures and administration.

*Continued Page 2*



Can you imagine giving birth to a child the size of a six-year-old? Or not being able to eat or breathe properly for the last third of pregnancy? Welcome to the bizarre world of the humble stumpy-tailed lizard! Department of Environmental Biology researcher Dr Suzy Munns (pictured) has been carrying out unique studies into the way pregnancy affects female stumpies. Her findings will certainly change the way you think about these seemingly innocuous Australian creatures. Turn to Page 11 to find out more. Photo: Ben Osborne.

## Students see harsh reality of Woomera

**FOUR Adelaide University Law students have conducted face-to-face interviews with asylum seekers at the Woomera Detention Centre as part of their exploration of human rights issues.**

The students—Eve Thomson, Hannah Clee, Catherine Hartley and Tirana Hassan—are participating in the Law School's Clinical Legal Education program under the supervision of senior lecturer and solicitor Ms Margaret Castles. The group visited Woomera with a number of legal practitioners who are offering their services voluntarily to detainees.

Ms Castles said the placement was an ideal way to expose students to the themes of the course.

"These themes include the evaluation and understanding of the operation of law in society, justice access in society, the role of lawyers, and issues of professionalism and ethics," she said.

"Working in such a politically sensitive area ensures that we discuss these issues in a rational and objective way, evaluating the different points and working out how the law can and should be used to deal with these complex issues. The issues can be addressed by the whole class, not only those who are doing the refugee placement."

About 1300 detainees, including women and children, are housed in transportable huts at the Centre. The students described conditions as "grim". In the main compound, 700 detainees share 10 showers, with hot water available only after midnight. Three times a day, families queue for an hour or more for a place in the dining room.



From left: Tirana Hassan, Solicitor Paul Boylan, Eve Thomson, Hannah Clee, Catherine Hartley, Margaret Castles, and an interpreter. Photo courtesy of the Law School.

In notes written after their visit, the students encapsulated their impressions of the Centre:

"We had been warned but nothing could prepare us for the isolation, imprisonment and degradation of the detainees" – (Eve Thomson).

"It is not even akin to a jail, convicted

criminals enjoy far better conditions than these asylum seekers. Words cannot quite capture the harsh reality that is Woomera" – (Catherine Hartley).

"The relief on the faces of the people we spoke to that there are those who care about the way they are confined, said volumes" – (Hannah Clee).

*Continued Page 14*

# Vice-Chancellor: what I want to achieve

## How long do you expect to serve as Vice-Chancellor?

Initially, until the end of February 2002. Thereafter I will serve on a week-to-week basis until a new Vice-Chancellor enters on duty or until the Chancellor determines otherwise, "whichever date is the sooner", as the terms of my contract state.

Given the timetable that I expect will be put in place for the recruitment of a new Vice-Chancellor, it is probably unlikely that an appointee will be in office much before mid-2002. Regardless of the actual duration of my appointment, I expect to give the University strong and focused leadership during the period that I serve as Vice-Chancellor.

## What are your impressions of Adelaide University so far?

My first few weeks have confirmed what I already knew: that this is a strong University with a proud research record, a range of excellent undergraduate programs, most with strong student demand, and which prepares students to meet the needs of the modern workforce. I am also immensely impressed with the strong leadership of the University and the enthusiasm and commitment so evident throughout both the academic and administrative staff. One gets an immediate sense of how proud staff are to belong to Adelaide University and of their great sense of ownership of it.

## In the wake of Professor Mary O'Kane's resignation, many media reports have speculated about staff morale at the University. How would you characterise the mood among staff?

Surprisingly, staff appear to have demonstrated great resilience during the difficult period prior to my appointment. I have been extended an exceedingly warm welcome by all whom I have met and have received universal pledges of support and encouragement. Few seem interested in dwelling on the past and all are keen to move forward in a purposeful and cohesive way. Indeed, as has been experienced in other universities, periods of acute difficulty often unify staff and focus their attention on the things that really matter.



Professor Cliff Blake, new Vice-Chancellor.

## What do you hope to achieve during your time here?

It's appropriate that I set myself a limited number of goals that can be achieved in a relatively short timeframe. I must leave it to my successor to introduce those reforms that all universities are now being required to make to adjust to the ever-changing policy environment in which the modern university must operate.

That environment includes rapid changes in the composition of the Australian workforce; the growth in adult learners; the requirement that universities generate from non-government sources an ever-increasing proportion of their total income; the need to become client-focused; the requirement of our clients to move from "just in case" to "just in time" learning; and the impact of technology on how, where and when students learn.

In terms of my specific priorities, they can be summarised as follows:

- (1) To reinforce the self-confidence of the

University by managing day-to-day in an efficient and effective manner. This will include steering the University through its first Commonwealth Quality Assurance Audit as well as the Commonwealth profiles negotiation;

- (2) To develop an explicit set of delegations of responsibilities and accountabilities for senior managers and to empower such managers to discharge their responsibilities with minimum interference;

- (3) To expedite the decision-making processes of the University, especially in relation to staff appointments and promotions;

- (4) To build a transparent, demand-driven operating budget for 2002;

- (5) To develop a strong support system for graduate students intended to address the high attrition rates or/and the excessively long periods of higher degree candidature

## What are the hallmarks of your leadership style?

That is really for others to judge, but I intend

to be a highly visible, in-residence and accessible Vice-Chancellor. Universities expect Vice-Chancellors to be decisive, informed and willing to defend a position. While I have a reputation for being decisive, equally I have a reputation for being sensitive to those affected by decisions. I am not one who works through cumbersome committee structures but rather one who takes a position, exposes that position for comment and elaboration and then makes a decision after having carefully considered reactions.

## How can Adelaide University secure its position as one of Australia's most significant universities?

I would summarise as follows:

- (1) By identifying the relatively few areas in which the University has evident competitive strengths and building upon those strengths. This will involve the University making some hard decisions about where it wants to concentrate its resources;

- (2) By having a demand-driven methodology of allocating resources to make the University sensitive to the needs of the marketplace, i.e. to enable students to vote with their feet. That may often involve significant changes over time in the course profile of the University. For example, all universities have experienced a downturn in mathematics-based courses in computer science but a rapid growth in applications of computing to, for example, business, medicine and libraries;

- (3) By reducing overhead administration costs and diverting as much of the budget as possible to carefully identified areas of undergraduate strength, research and postgraduate training;

- (4) By maintaining, and if possible building up, the resource strengths of the University so that it is the University of first choice for higher degree research students in Australia;

- (5) Finally, by building very strong links with the community. At the end of the day, the community that the University services will be its greatest support when resourcing becomes even more competitive and governments continue the inevitable process of rationalization and efficiency enhancement.

## New Vice-Chancellor appointed to Adelaide University

From Page 1

"I also intend to assist the Council to secure the services of an outstanding person, attuned to the emerging needs of the higher education sector, to lead the University in the future. I have given an undertaking to the Chancellor that I will remain at the helm until a permanent Vice-Chancellor is appointed, and that I will not be an applicant for that position."

Professor Mary O'Kane resigned on 6 August after five years as Vice-Chancellor and two years as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).

Mr de Crespigny paid tribute to Professor O'Kane, who had "faced the challenge of managing the consequences for Adelaide University of the continuing and significant financial pressure which is impacting on all

Australian universities".

He said that during Professor O' Kane's tenure as Vice-Chancellor, Adelaide University had remained one of Australia's leading research-intensive universities. She had forged close links and partnerships with industry and the community, and was instrumental in securing the \$25 million Santos sponsorship for the new School of Petroleum Engineering and Management.

Her period of leadership also saw the successful commercialisation of research within the University, including the successful floats of two new publicly listed Australian bio-technology companies based in South Australia, Bresagen Ltd and GroPep Ltd.

"Professor O' Kane has made an outstanding contribution to securing the future of one of

Australia's oldest and finest universities. Her decision to step aside to ensure that the process of development can continue is one that deserves the respect and admiration of the entire University community," Mr de Crespigny said.

Professor O'Kane said her decision to resign was "consistent with my determination... to see the University flourish and grow strongly".

"Being part of realising [the University's] potential over the past five years has been both a challenge and a privilege," Professor O'Kane said.

"The challenge has been to bring about the change necessary to position the University for growth at a time of reduced funding and consequent pressure to generate significant new sources of income. The privilege has

been the opportunity to work closely with a number of outstanding individuals within the University community, and to be part of assisting young Australians to achieve their goals and ambitions.

"I would like to thank all within the University who have supported me over the past seven and a half years at Adelaide. I also want to thank all of those in the wider community of South Australia, in Australian and international higher education, and in the Australian and international research and development networks with whom I have been associated," she said.

Mr de Crespigny said the financial disciplines that underpinned Professor O'Kane's Vice-Chancellorship remained central to the future operations of the University and would continue to guide its financial management.

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# Indigenous students feature at major festival

STUDENTS and staff from Adelaide University will share the stage with some of the biggest names in Australian music at this month's Yepernye Federation Festival in Alice Springs.

The two-day music and dance festival, to be held on September 8 and 9, will be the largest gathering of indigenous communities in Australia's history, bringing together almost 4000 performers from 40 indigenous nations as well as non-indigenous performers.

On stage with the likes of Paul Kelly, Kev Carmody and Christine Anu will be 30 students and staff from Australia's leading indigenous music school, the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM) at Adelaide University.

CASM's choir, Keriba Wakai (meaning "Our Voice"), was invited to take part in the festival, which is one of the main events in the celebrations of Australia's Centenary of Federation.

At the foot of the MacDonnell Ranges just outside of Alice Springs, the choir will raise its voice in song at the biggest event held in Australia since the opening and closing ceremonies of the Sydney Olympic Games.

"Our students are thrilled about performing at the event, which is the largest of its kind in Australia," said CASM coordinator Ms Jenny Newsome.

"What's important for the students is that



Musicians and voices join in rehearsal for the Festival. Photo: Ben Osborne.

they will be on stage with some of Australia's great indigenous and non-indigenous artists. This represents a tribute to our students' skills, and it's a significant achievement for them.

"Attending an event such as this during the course of their learning is something the

students will never forget," Ms Newsome said.

The CASM students will chime in during renditions of "My Island Home" (with Christine Anu and George Warrumbu) and "Yill Lul" (with Joe Geia). But their turn to really shine is when they share the spotlight

with renowned Australian songwriters Paul Kelly and Kev Carmody, singing "From Little Things Big Things Grow". The song has become a modern-day anthem of Aboriginal rights, and is influential on young musicians both indigenous and non-indigenous.

"From Little Things... is one of those songs that captures a time and place," Ms Newsome said, referring to the song's re-telling of a true incident involving the Gurindji Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory.

"Some of our students have really related to that song, and now they'll get the chance to sing it in front of a major audience with two of the most influential songwriters of their time."

In order to get to the Festival, the CASM choir will use money earned from student and staff performances over the last 12 months.

"We have a performance fund, the money from which goes back into teaching and learning for the students. I can't think of a better way to spend that money than to give the students the opportunity of sharing in this tremendous experience," Ms Newsome said.

The Yepernye Federation Festival is organised by the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association and the National Council for the Centenary of Federation. A 90-minute television special produced by ABC TV will go to air on September 9.

—David Ellis

## Barossa festival highlights our new music

WINE and music lovers at this year's Barossa Music Festival will be treated to some of the best of Adelaide University's student performers.

The Elder New Music Ensemble, featuring students from the University's Elder Conservatorium, has been chosen as the resident group of performers at the Barossa Festival (29 September to 7 October).

The students, under the directorship of senior lecturer Mr Grahame Dudley, will be an ongoing presence at the week-long festival in concerts, masterclasses, seminars and workshops.

This year's festival focuses on Australian composers, with some of Australia's leading composers travelling to the Barossa Valley for the event. The Adelaide ensemble will rehearse with these composers and perform a major concert of their works, with the concert also involving the Elder Conservatorium's choir, Pro Canto.

"It's fantastic for the ensemble and the choir to be asked to take part in what is a significant event on South Australia's musical calendar," Mr Dudley said.

For the main concert, Mr Dudley will bow out of his usual directing duties and hand the ensemble on to world-famous music director Lorraine Vaillancourt from Montreal.

Ms Vaillancourt and Mr Dudley have worked closely together over several years, with a number of "exchanges" between Montreal and Adelaide. Perhaps the biggest of these was last year's international composers festival, Forum 2000, part of the Adelaide Festival of Arts and held at Adelaide University. The event featured Montreal's highly regarded Nouvel Ensemble Moderne (NEM), in concert with the Adelaide ensemble.

"It's very important for our students to have exposure to people of Lorraine's calibre. The students get a lot out of it, and our work becomes recognised by some of the world's leading music figures," Mr Dudley said.

The Elder New Music Ensemble will also feature at the Barossa Festival's Spring Academy. In the past, the Spring Academy has invited young performers to take masterclasses with and learn from some of the biggest names in music. This led to the ensemble's work last year with world-



Grahame Dudley at piano with some members of the Elder New Music Ensemble.

renowned composer Sir Peter Maxwell Davies. A former teacher at Adelaide University and now a colleague of Grahame Dudley, Max Davies was so impressed with the ensemble that he composed a piece for them and extended an invitation to his annual St Magnus Festival in Orkney, Scotland.

This year, the Spring Academy has invited young composers to write for and perform with the Elder New Music Ensemble. Most of the composers are graduates or current students from Adelaide University.

"What we'll see as part of the Spring Academy is a running series of seminars, discussions and workshops all based around our students," Mr Dudley said.

"I think this festival has the potential to be one of the best Barossa Festivals ever, from a cultural, intellectual, musical point of view, and also from the students' point of view. They will be getting a tremendous sense of achievement out of it, and also broadening their skills and their profile in the community."

Mr Dudley said it was events such as the Barossa and Adelaide festivals, and the chance to work with some of the world's greats, that saw many students continue to play for the ensemble despite moving into their postgraduate studies.

"A number of the students in the ensemble

are now in their postgraduate years, and there is no obligation on them to be in the ensemble. As undergrads they get points for it, but the postgrads obviously don't. Most of them are in the group because of what they get out of it.

"The students themselves have said that what they get out of it most is the high level of professionalism, and the high profile of their performances.

"We're really keeping our overseas connections alive, and I've already had instances of students saying that when they finish their Masters degrees they want to go to Montreal to continue their studies," he said.

Grahame Dudley has also been invited to Quebec to conduct the NEM at a major festival there next year.

"What I'm trying to do goes beyond my great love of modern music—it's about creating opportunities at a high artistic level through making contacts with individuals, ensembles and festivals, through which our staff and students, composers and performers can be heard and appreciated.

"Coordinating these activities has been made easier recently with the appointment of the Elder Professor and the reunification of the Elder Conservatorium into one educational body," he said.

## We're tasting Australia



ADELAIDE University gets "hot and happening" during October.

The University is closely involved in Tasting Australia, which sees food and wine writers, chefs

and tourists travel from around Australia and the world to Adelaide.

With Adelaide University earning itself the tag of the "food and drink university", it's no wonder the uni is sponsoring and supporting some major events as part of Tasting Australia.

These include the International Food & Wine Writers' Festival from 11-13 October. One of the main events of the festival is the "Eating Into the Future" forum, with discussion on issues ranging from GMOs, organic farming, sustainability, fast food and globalisation.

The City of Adelaide "Terrace Proms" music event also features Adelaide University, in particular our musical performers. Adelaide University's Choral Society and the Elder Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra will make their presence felt at the main stage performance at Elder Park, with the orchestra again featuring at Elder Hall as part of the event program.

With events at Waite, Roseworthy and North Terrace campuses, and many academic staff from Adelaide University taking part in Tasting Australia, the public and the media will not only get a taste of Australia, but also a taste of Adelaide.

See next month's issue of the *Adelaidean* for a full wrap-up of the University's events at Tasting Australia, and for other stories about food and drink.

For more information about Tasting Australia, visit the website: [www.tasting-australia.com.au](http://www.tasting-australia.com.au)

Information about food and wine research at Adelaide: [www.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.adelaide.edu.au)

# OPEN DAY 2001

**AROUND 8000 people braved the cold and wet weather to attend Adelaide University's Open Day on Sunday 19 August.**

Potential students, their friends, families, plus interested members of the community all filed in for a look at the many displays and to listen to careers and course talks.

5UV Radio Adelaide was right there on the Goodman lawns broadcasting live, while student presenters kept the spirits up on the Barr Smith lawns. The Sciences Street Party was a big success, with many visitors commenting on its festival feel.

Sausage sizzles were in every corner of the North Terrace Campus, but the best food on campus (barring the excellent assortment provided by the Adelaide University Union) came from Wilto Yerlo on the Hughes Plaza, with kangaroo and marinated fish to make the mouth water. Their servings were generously helped along by performances from students and staff from the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music.

Other performances came from staff and students of the Elder Conservatorium, from

rehearsals and pre-prepared recitals to improvisational pieces. Inspiration for the latter came from members of the public themselves, who called out phrases such as "Question time in Parliament" and "A Jimi Hendrix concert", to which the student performers responded by providing an instant musical soundtrack!

Bonython Hall was the place to be if you wanted to learn more about study options, careers and the range of services available to students at the University. A steady stream of potential students and their families filtered through the grand hall, collecting enough reading material to keep them busy until Christmas.

At the end of the day, Adelaide University had given the people of Adelaide a chance to see their University in action, to learn more about the vibrant life on campus, and to understand the diversity of knowledge, research and scholarship that goes on not just at North Terrace but at all the University's campuses.

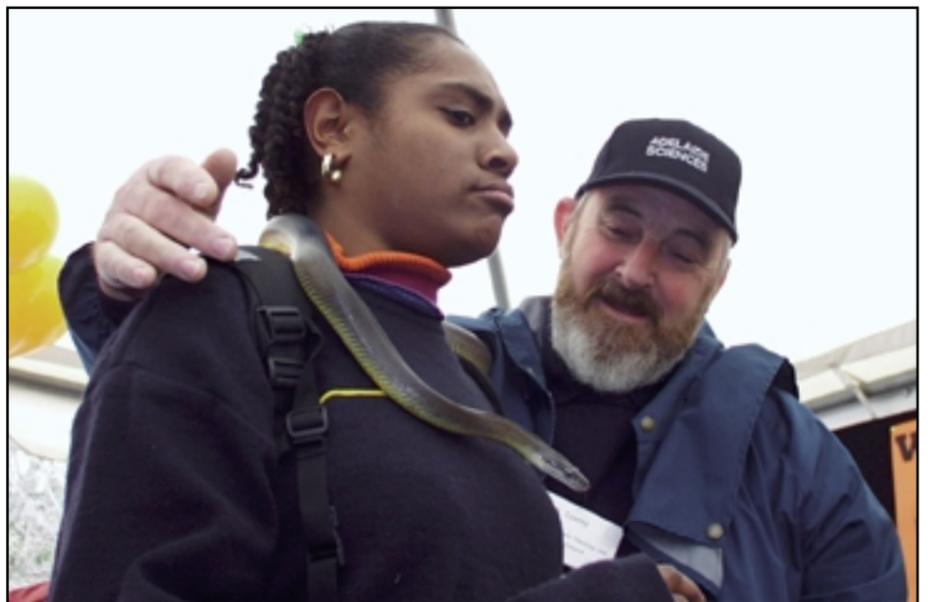
The following images are just a small taste of what Open Day had to offer...



Part of the big crowd that filtered through Bonython Hall to look at information stands of Adelaide University faculties and departments.



The Science faculty's information table in Bonython Hall was kept busy all Open Day by a steady stream of people wanting to know more about the faculty.



Ken Cowley from Adelaide University's Roseworthy Campus lets Tessa get up close and personal with a rather large – but harmless and friendly – water python.



Mike and daughter Fleur took time to visit the Museum of Classical Archaeology.



James from Crafers takes part in a lung function test, administered by the Department of Physiology's Simon Jackson.

# OPEN DAY 2001



You can learn about anything at Adelaide University's Open Day – even about skeletons.



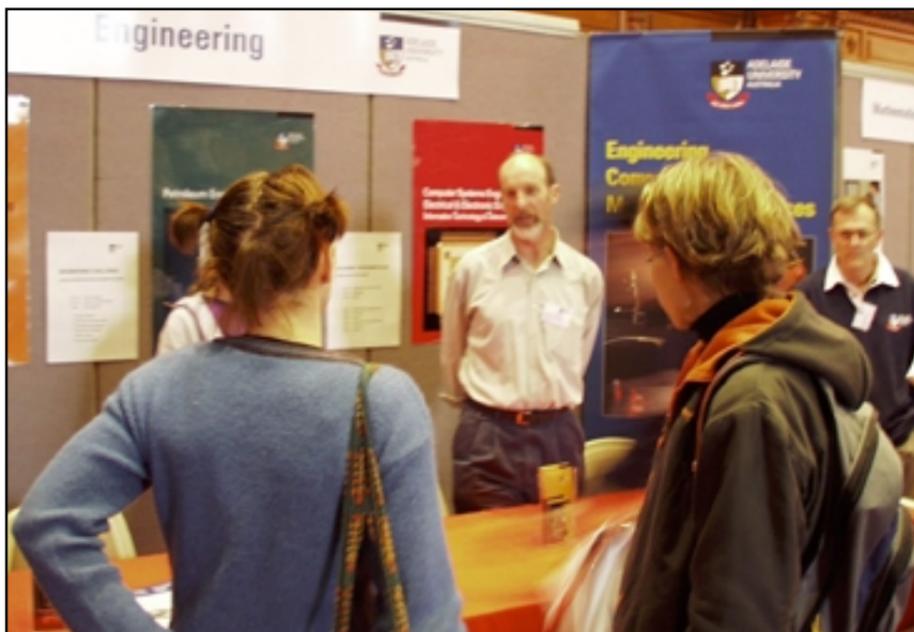
Friendly – and unusually tall – robots were on hand to help people keep dry during a somewhat wet Open Day.



Open Day gave people of all ages a chance to see chemistry in action – including the chemistry of pineapples and oranges.



Margaret and Simone speak with Brenton Schulze about careers available to graduates.



The Engineering faculty information stand was kept busy at Bonython Hall.



Bruce from Melbourne is thinking of studying wine science, and wanted to taste some of the local product.

# Hi-tech weather watchers on world stage

ATRAD, an Adelaide University spin-off company, has recently signed three contracts worth more than two million dollars that will place Australian meteorological expertise on the world stage.

Few sciences have become as complex as meteorology, or developed so fast from such humble beginnings.

Illiterate sailors once learned basic rhymes to help them remember what weather might follow certain cloud formations: 'Red sky at night sailors' delight, red sky at morning, sailors' warning' was almost as elaborate as it got. 'Mackerel skies and mare's tails, wise sailors furl their sails,' told of storms that were likely to follow high cirrus clouds but at that time even the term 'cirrus' would not have been recognised, for clouds had not yet been classified.

Today, meteorological equipment embraces ocean buoys and satellites, Antarctic stations and more.

One of the newer technologies is radar. Developed in World War II to detect incoming aircraft, it can now be used in the lower atmosphere to detect changes in humidity and temperature.

"These changes appear as 'targets' which move with the background wind, and effectively trace its path," said Dr Iain Reid, Associate Dean for Commercialisation in Adelaide University's Faculty of Science.

"By measuring the movement of these targets, wind speed and direction can be determined," he said.

Dr Reid, from the Department of Physics &

Mathematical Physics, is a member of the team which has developed the technology, and he is now a Director of Atrad.

"Turbulence also produces changes in temperature and humidity," said Dr Reid, "and radar can measure the strength and location of this turbulence as well. Depending on the power and frequency of the radar used, information about wind speed, direction and turbulence can be obtained from the ground up to about 100 kilometres."

At about half that height, the sun ionises the atmosphere, separating electrons from their host atoms. Radar can also detect these electrons, and use them as tracers of atmospheric movements.

Meteorological radar is generally used in weather watching—scanning horizontally to detect precipitation such as rain or snow over a large region. The kind developed at Adelaide University produces a vertical profile of the wind directly above the radar, information that has traditionally been gathered by instruments launched on balloons as often as four times each day. The information is then fed into numerical computer models and used to predict weather patterns.

Atrad has commercialised several types of radar developed by the department's Atmospheric Physics Group.

"Atrad has been providing various kinds of radars for years. It is a science-driven company, and its reputation has grown steadily," said Dr Reid.

The Japanese Aeronautical Laboratory is acquiring one radar from Adelaide to be used



Mr Rob Silva, CEO Atrad and Dr Iain Reid with a computer image of the radar poer returned from the atmosphere. Photo: Rob Morrison.

in flight trials of a model supersonic transport aircraft at Woomera. The radar will measure the vertical wind to determine the most suitable launch time. Later, it will help to verify the plane's flight performance.

Atrad will also supply a very powerful VHF radar to Wuhan University in China. Ranked among the world's top facilities in terms of capability, it will assist research of a similar calibre.

"China is investing in science and technology

in an attempt to bring themselves up to world standards in several areas," said Dr Reid.

"There are perhaps only three other radars in the world with comparable ability."

Another of the company's radars is destined for weather forecasting in the UK meteorological office. It will replace a balloon station in northern Scotland, where severe weather frequently tracks over the UK and into mainland Europe.

—Rob Morrison

## Pokie problems focus of radio series

**PROBLEM** gambling will be the focus of a 10-part series to be broadcast on 5UV Radio Adelaide from 10-21 September.

Presented by Tony Ryan, *Pokies, Blackjack and All That* will explore some of the personal and social issues associated with gambling. It will include stories of the pain suffered by many gamblers and their families as well as helpful strategies for people trying to cope with the problem.

Each 6-7 minute program will be broadcast daily on Radio Expresso at 7.35am and repeated on High Noon at 12.35pm. The programs will also be broadcast on many of South Australia's 18 community radio stations and will be available on the Internet. Funding for the series was provided through the Gamblers Rehabilitation Fund, a joint initiative of the Australian Hotels Association (SA Branch), Clubs SA, and the State Government (through the Department of Human Services).

The series is part of 5UV Radio Adelaide's lifelong learning strategy, which aims to complement the station's mix of news, arts, current affairs and cultural output with education-based programs. Other lifelong learning initiatives to be broadcast soon are The Learning Connection (a five-program series exploring lifelong learning in South Australia, starting 3 September); *Aspects of Ageing* (15-part series on ageing, starting 24 September); and *Wetlands Drylands* (30-part series on the River Murray, starting 15 October).

"There are strong links between community education and lifelong learning and what community radio is able to offer," says Tony Ryan, the station's Executive Producer, Lifelong Learning. "These links are well worth pursuing and that is what our strategy aims to do."

Full program details can be found at: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/5UV/>

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by Hannie Rayson

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STATE THEATRE COMPANY  
A Belvoir Theatre Company production in association with Origin Energy

## New tissue-imaging facility

**ZOOLOGISTS, anatomists, physiologists and more have all faced the same research dilemma. Investigation can destroy what is being examined, or change it so much that it is no longer the thing that they want to examine.**

Microscopy has been one of the most powerful tools in modern science; the scientist seated at a microscope is a symbol of modern research, but even microscopy takes a toll of its subjects.

Traditionally, tissues have been killed, then frozen or embedded in blocks of paraffin, and sliced much thinner than paper for microscopic inspection. Such treatment was necessary to allow light to pass through the tissue to reveal its cellular details, as it does through a stained glass window. Electron microscopy can be even more severe.

A new multi-photon microscope at the Waite Campus offers South Australian researchers a new, non-invasive way to examine living tissue and intact cells without having to destroy them.

"The multi-photon microscope differs from this sort of microscope because it allows you to produce images inside intact cells without having to destroy the cells themselves," said Dr Meredith Wallwork, Manager of the Confocal Facility at the Waite Campus, where the new microscope will be located.

The multi-photon microscope is a very specialised fluorescence microscope, comprising a laser and conventional fluorescence microscope all operated by computer. The laser produces rapid pulses of long wavelength red light, creating images of biological material by showing up those structures inside cells that fluoresce under light.

This fluorescence may be inherent in the material itself, due to its chemical composition, or the material may be stained with one or more fluorescent dyes to show up particular structures or compounds.

The fluorescent images give information about particular structures inside living cells,

or of reactions going on within the cells, without damaging or killing them.

"There is evidence that living cells can be observed with the multi-photon microscope for hours, as opposed to minutes, as is the case with more conventional fluorescence microscopy," said Dr Wallwork.

"In simple terms, the multi-photon can be thought of as a CAT scanner for cells. It is designed to generate a series of optical sections through a bulky sample and then with powerful computer processing, to reconstruct these sections into a complete 3D image of the sample."

"Exposure of the whole sample to the laser beam is reduced in this microscope, so there is less loss of fluorescence as well as less likelihood of photobleaching, and therefore damage to the sample," said Dr Wallwork. "Clear images are visible to greater depths."

The multi-photon microscope was purchased through a successful ARC grant application made by Adelaide University, Flinders University, University of South Australia, CSIRO and Institute of Medical and Veterinary Sciences in cooperation.

It is used by researchers from all these organisations, and has a wide range of applications in examining diverse plant and animal tissue, from individual cell cultures to intact tissues such as embryos.

"There are likely to be some very useful applications for research and development organisations in the private sector as well, especially in new technology areas," said Dr Wallwork.

"It will help researchers in South Australia, and assist cooperation between our collaborators," she said. "We are encouraging people to make use of this new and exciting technology for basic research."

The new microscope was officially opened last month by Professor Edwina Cornish, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at Adelaide University.

—Rob Morrison

# Can we straighten out Blinky Bill?

THE OLYMPIC games mascots reinforced what all tourism operators know: Australia's native animals are its ambassadors. Tourists come by the thousand to see echidnas, bilbies and koalas that are enigmatic, cuddly and... scoliotic?

Scoliosis is the medical term for curvature of the spine. Long recognised as a problem in children, it is not what you associate with koalas, but that link has been the subject of Emily Milbourne's honours project.

Emily is the winner of the Raymond Last Scholarship, offered jointly by Adelaide University and the Royal Zoological Society of South Australia for a study in comparative anatomy that is of interest to both organisations.

The scholarship is funded from Professor Last's bequest in honour of the renowned Adelaide anatomist Professor Frederick Wood Jones, who wrote the first authoritative book on the mammals of South Australia.

Emily is well placed to undertake such research. While studying in the Department of Anatomical Sciences, she is also a part-time animal keeper at the Adelaide Zoo.

"In my undergraduate degree, I majored in zoology and anatomical sciences," Emily said. "I always wanted to work with animals, so it's a nice job to have on the side."

"I am now applying to do chiropractic in Melbourne and Sydney. Then I hope to go on to do animal chiropractic which is a one-year postgraduate course the year after that. It would be exciting to see chiropractic introduced into zoos," she said.

Scoliosis in koalas sounds a fairly obscure study, so how does one begin?

"When I was looking for an honours project, Professor Maciej Henneberg, my supervisor, suggested a study of the koala spine.

"Even the normal anatomy of koalas is not fully described, as far as I can tell," said Emily. "Professor Wood Jones and others have described parts of it, especially the skull and head musculature, but the back and limb anatomy has not been so well described. I am dealing with the normal anatomy first, and then going on to describe scoliotic animals," she said.

Scoliosis in koalas and humans seems to take different forms.

"If you showed a scoliotic koala to a doctor, they would probably not describe it as scoliosis in human terms," Emily said. "The spine, instead of being straight, develops a sharp angle to one side. It's as though the animal had been snapped by bending its head down to its feet."

No koalas are being euthanased for the study. Cleland Wildlife Park, where koalas are

permanently on show, has a number of cadavers from natural deaths, dog attacks and car accidents. These bodies are being made available for the research, and they include some very old animals, in which scoliosis can be more pronounced.

"The Port Macquarie koala hospital in New South Wales has also regularly sent information on scoliotic koalas," said Emily.

"The koala I am currently studying was 10 years old when it died. It showed problems at one to two years, some difficulties with movement and pain now and then, especially when it was old. But because it was in captivity, it would not have had the difficulties of a wild koala, which would have to be agile on the ground to avoid predators and much more active in getting food.

Koalas are quadrupeds, not bipeds like humans. "But just as we sit upright, they spend at least 19 hours each day sitting upright with a spine isn't designed for that," Emily said. "A sitting koala tends to put all the pressure on its sacrum, so it uses its spine a lot, even leaning back on tree branches.

"Gravity acts very differently on horizontal and vertical spines, so when a quadruped sits upright, it is going to change the forces acting on its spine. I can imagine a lot of discomfort and even pain if the koalas are scoliotic.

Emily's project is jointly supervised by Professor Maciej Henneberg, head of the University's Anatomical Sciences Department, and Dr Greg Johnston, the Zoological Society's Senior Research Scientist and an Honorary Research Fellow in the department.

"It is very difficult to get reliable information on how many wild koalas have back problems," said Dr Johnston. "The best figures suggest that up to 5% of koalas may be afflicted. Emily's work will tell us how serious a problem the disease is and may suggest better modes of treatment for them."

If her work shows that scoliosis has an environmental origin, Emily hopes it may assist zoos in designing better habitats for koalas, but she sees other benefits, too.

"Since the koala is one of Australia's best known animals, it is good to have a description of its basic anatomy that other researchers can use, and which will help them detect abnormalities," she said.

"In terms of scoliosis, I don't think that my research will determine what causes it, but because it hasn't been researched before, it should provide a starting point for others who may find the cause, or any genetic links."

—Rob Morrison



Koalas at Adelaide Zoo. Photo: Rob Morrison.



Emily Milbourne looking at a koala skull and spine. Photo: Rob Morrison.

## Senior College established at Adelaide campus

YEAR 11 and 12 students will attend classes at Adelaide University's North Terrace campus from next year in an initiative aimed at providing low-fee education to students who aspire to university study.

Adelaide University has signed a joint venture agreement with Adelaide-based Bradford Education Pty Ltd to establish a new senior secondary school, University Senior College, at the campus.

The new college will enrol Year 11 and 12 students—both local and international—and help to prepare them for the transition to tertiary education.

As well as attending classes in tutorial rooms, students will be taught in some University

lecture theatres and will have access to the Barr Smith Library, science laboratories and other University facilities.

Adelaide University's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) and Provost, Professor Penny Boumelha, said low fees would make the college accessible to a wide group of academically oriented students.

"This initiative is about breaking down the often artificial barriers between secondary and tertiary education," Professor Boumelha said.

"University Senior College will give students a head start by offering them the opportunity to combine Year 12 and first-year University subjects.

"However, there will be no special admission considerations for students wanting to go on to study at the University. All students of University Senior College will be required to meet the same University entry criteria as everyone else."

Professor Boumelha said Adelaide University valued its long-established and positive relationships with the secondary sector in South Australia and intended to continue developing them.

The Principal of University Senior College, Ms Jane Danvers, said that Year 12 students were often undecided about their future. By mixing with faculty members and students at Adelaide University they would be in a much better position to make informed decisions

about their future careers.

Students with clear goals found self-motivation easier, she said.

University Senior College aims to enrol 200 local and 50 international students in its first year, and aims to increase that number to 400 local and 200 international students within two years.

Ms Danvers said no University staff would be involved in teaching at the new college.

—John Drislane

For more information about University Senior College, phone 8303 4988.

## MONDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

**12noon Plant Science Seminar:** Genetic transformation of barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.) with a thermostable (1,3;1,4)- $\beta$ -glucanase gene by Mr Rohan Singh (Plant Science). Charles Hawker Conference Centre, Waite Campus.

**1.00pm Clinical & Experimental Pharmacology Seminar:** Vascular COX-2: Implications for use of COX-2 inhibitors by Dr M James (Rheumatology Unit, RAH). Seminar Room, 6th Floor, Medical School, North Wing.

**1.00pm Microbiology & Immunology Seminar:** Studies of the pathogenesis of Epstein-Barr virus, a human tumorigenic virus by Dr P Speck. Rm 102, Molecular Life Sciences Building.

## TUESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

**3.15pm Anthropology Seminar:** Repair or Despair? When apology-making falls short of national imaginary by Heidi Nietz (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Support Group, UniSA). Room 722, Napier Building.

## WEDNESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

**10.10am Electrical & Electronic Engineering/CTIN Seminar:** Overview of mNet: Advanced Wireless Telecommunication Network by Prof Coutts. Seminar Room, Level 5, 10 Pulteney St.

**12.30pm Clinical Nursing Seminar:** The impact of additional precautions on the emotional and physical care delivered to patients by Chris McDonald). Rm 36, Eleanor Harrald Bldg, RAH.

**1.00pm Environmental Biology Seminar:** Molecular Systematics of the Pythons by Dr Steven Donnellan (SA Museum). Benham Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, Benham Building.

**1.00pm Friends of the State Library Talk:** John Bannon will speak on Books on the Federation. Admission \$6.60, Concession \$5.50, Friends \$4.40. The Armoury (rear SA Museum).

## THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

**12noon Hanson Centre for Cancer Research Seminar:** Identification of low penetrance breast and ovarian cancer susceptibility alleles by Assoc Prof Ian Campbell (Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute). Robson Lecture Theatre, Lev 1, Eleanor Harrald Bldg, RAH.

**12.10pm Psychology Seminar:** Forensic Uses of the PAI and the NEO by Dr Jack White. Room 526, Level 5, Hughes Building.

**1.00pm Chemical Pathology Seminar:** Hazard Audit by Mr Robert Cocciolone & Mr Graham Ratcliff (Chemical Pathology). Seminar Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, RAH.

## FRIDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

**10.00am Social Inquiry – Labour Studies Seminar:** Work and subjectivity: the relationship of 'temps' and labour hire firms by Dandy Laing. Seminar Room, Level 3, 10 Pulteney Street.

**11.30am Social Inquiry – Gender Studies Seminar:** Reconfiguring spaces of relatedness by Megan Warin. Semin Rm, Lev 3, 10 Pulteney St.

**1.00pm Centre for the Molecular Genetics of Development Seminar:** Mammalian embryogenesis: from cDNA libraries to gene function by Sally Dunwoodie (Victor Chang Institute, Uni of NSW). Room 102, Molecular Life Sciences Bldg.

## COMING EVENTS

6th August – 28th August

**1.10pm Elder Conservatorium Lunch Hour Concert:** Australian String Quartet. Quartet Op.127 by Beethoven. \$3 at the door. Elder Hall.

## MONDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

**12noon Plant Science Seminar:** The influence of malt quality on the colloidal (haze) stability of beer during storage and transport by Ms L Robinson. Isolation and characterisation of  $\beta$ -D-glucan endohydrolase from barley specific for cleavage of contiguous (1-4)- $\beta$ -D-glucan linkages by Mr M Sohani. Charles Hawker Conference Centre, Waite Campus.

**4.00pm The Crawford Fund Lecture:** The Human Right to Food and Livelihoods and the Role of Global Wheat Research by Dr S Rajaram (Director, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center Wheat Program). SARDI Auditorium, Waite Campus.

## TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

**4.00pm Electrical & Electronic Engineering/IEEE Communications & Signal Processing Seminar:** New Developments in Joint Source and Channel Coding by Profesor Joachim Hagenauer (Munich University of Technology). Chapman Lecture Theatre, Level 1, Engineering Nth. Refreshments in Room EM324.

## WEDNESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

**10.10am Electrical & Electronic Engineering/CSSIP Seminar:** Performance Bounds On Some Simple Classifiers by Dr T Cooke (CSSIP). Room S112, Engineering South.

**1.00pm Environmental Biology Seminar:** Angiosperm Megagametophytes – a change of perspective by Ms Angela Renfrey. Benham Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, Benham Building.

**4.00pm Physiology Seminar:** Fish oils, omega-3 fatty acids and cardiac arrhythmia studied in isolated heart cells by Ms Anisa Jahangiri (PhD student). Numico Seminar Room, Level 5, Medial School South.

**5.30pm Centre for Biomedical Engineering Seminar:** Getting the Biggest Bang for your Buck: Building Efficient and Compact Systems by Dr E O'Neill (ANU). Hone Lecture Theatre, Ground Flr, Medical School Sth.

## THURSDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

**12noon Hanson Centre for Cancer Research Seminar:** The role of SOCS proteins in immunity by Dr Manuel Baca (The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research). Robson Lecture Theatre, Eleanor Harrald Building, RAH.

**12.10pm Psychology Seminar:** The Social Construction of ADHD by Victoria Dennington. Social-Historical Analysis of the Notion of Self-esteem by Dorota Pomagalska. Room 526, Level 5, Hughes Building.

**1.00pm Chemical Pathology Seminar:** Pre-implantation diagnosis – options in South Australia by Dr Jan Liebelt (Clinical Geneticist, Clinical Genetics Service, WCH). Seminar Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, WCH.

**7.00pm Field Geology Club of SA/Royal Society SA Lecture:** The first Australians by Prof J Bowler. Mawson Lecture Theatre, Mawson Laboratories.

## FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

**11.30am Social Inquiry – Gender Studies Seminar:** A post structural feminist analysis of construction of self, the body and society in mental health practice: a discourse analytic study of eating disorder by Nicole Moulding. Seminar Room, Level 3, 10 Pulteney Street.

**1.00pm Inaugural Lecture Series:** Oxidation, combustion and flames: from petrochemicals to the Olympic torch by Prof Keith King (Chemical Engineering). Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Bldg.

**1.00pm Molecular Biosciences Seminar:** Mechanisms and regulation of human vascular calcification by Dr Catherine Shanahan (Cambridge University, UK). Room 102, 1st Floor, Molecular Life Sciences Building.

**1.10pm Elder Conservatorium Lunch Concert:** Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra, Keith Crellin – conductor. Symphony No 5 Op 67 by Beethoven. \$3 at the door. Elder Hall.

## MONDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

**1.00pm Microbiology & Immunology Seminar:** Susceptibility of *Vibrio cholerae* 0139 to complement, in the presence or absence of antibody by Dr S Attridge (Molecular Biosciences). Rm 102, Molecular Life Sciences Bldg.

**6.00pm CISME Seminar:** Education in the European Union: A Comparative Analysis by Prof W Mitter (German Institute for International Educational Research). Council Room, Wills Bldg.

## TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

**12noon Clinical Studies Seminar:** Where do we go from here? Assessment of young professionals in training by Dr Lambert Schuwirth (Medical Education, Maastricht University, Netherlands). Robson Lecture Theatre, Eleanor Harrald Building, RAH.

## WEDNESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

**12noon Clinical Studies Seminar:** Applying modern assessment approaches to the evaluation and examination of medical students during their clerkships by Dr Lambert Schuwirth (Medical Education, Maastricht University, Netherlands). Queen Victoria Lecture Theatre (video-conferenced to Modbury Hospital), WCH.

**12.30pm Clinical Nursing Seminar:** Patient injury and physical restraint: a systematic review by Mr David Evans (Joanna Briggs Institute for Evidence Based Nursing & Midwifery). Room 36, Level 3, Eleanor Harrald Building, RAH.

**4.00pm CSIRO Land and Water Seminar:** A first look into the life and times of the ASR'd water molecule by Paul Pavelic. Plant Research Centre Auditorium, Waite Campus.

## THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

**10.00am Hanson Centre for Cancer Research Seminar:** Statistical analysis of microarray experiments by Professor Terry Speed (Statistics & Program in Biostatistics, University of California and Genetics & Bioinformatics, The Walter & Eliza Hall Institute). Robson Lecture Theatre, Level 1, Eleanor Harrald Building, RAH.

**12noon Hanson Centre for Cancer Research Seminar:** The soluble GM-CSF receptor as an effective GM-CSF antagonist by Dr Chris Brown. Robson Lecture Theatre, Level 1, Eleanor Harrald Building, RAH.

**1.00pm Chemical Pathology Seminar:** What's the Future of Molecular Genetics by Dr Sui Yu (Molecular Pathology, IMVS). Seminar Room 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Building, RAH.

## FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

**1.10pm Elder Conservatorium Lunch Hour Concert:** Kristian Chong – piano. Works by Haydn, Chopin and Schumann. Admission \$3 at the door. Elder Hall.

## MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

**12noon Clinical Studies Seminar:** Standard setting: Progress testing: a novel approach to assessment by Dr Lambert Schuwirth (Medical Education, Maastricht University, Netherlands). Florey Lecture Theatre, Medical School North.

## WEDNESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

**12noon Clinical Studies Seminar:** Standard setting: How to come to a rational and reasonable standard for examinations by Dr L Schuwirth (Medical Education, Maastricht University, Netherlands). Main Lecture Theatre, Level 2, TOEH (video-conference to LMHS).

## THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

**12noon Hanson Centre for Cancer Research Seminar:** Arachidonic acid, protein kinase C, protein tyrosine kinases, MAP kinases, phospholipase A2 and PI3-kinase – a few twists and turns by Dr Charles Hii (Immunopathology, WCH). Robson Lecture Theatre, Level 1, Eleanor Harrald Building, RAH.

**1.00pm Chemical Pathology Seminar:** Health Informatics Developments in Australia by Dr Peter Schloeffel (Clinical Director, Betterhealth Global). Sem Rm 1, 4th Floor, Reiger Bldg, WCH.

## FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

**1.00pm Inaugural Lecture Series:** "No worries?" The mental health of young Australians by Professor Michael Sawyer (Paediatrics). Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Building.

**1.10pm Elder Conservatorium Lunch Hour Concert:** Margi Pinczel – soprano, Renate Turrini – piano. Arias by Bellini, Donizetti, Lehár, J Strauss & Gershwin. \$3 at the door. Elder Hall.

**2.00pm Molecular Biosciences Seminar:** Generation of antigenic diversity in Gram-negative bacteria: the genetics and biosynthesis of lipopolysaccharides in the Enterobacteriaceae by Prof C Whitfield (University of Guelph, Canada). Room 102, 1st Flr, Molecular Life Sciences Bldg.

## WHAT'S ON AT

## Urrbrae House Historic Precinct

**GUIDED TOURS:** 2 September, Waite Arboretum - 11.00am. 8 September, Urrbrae House - 11.00am - 3.00pm. Waite Arboretum - 1.30pm.

**EXHIBITIONS:** Wood Group SA and the Friends of Urrbrae House present: Federation: **Wood Art Revisited II**, Wed - Sun 11.00am - 4.00pm, September 15 - 1 October.

Enquiries: 8303 7497 email: <peggy.rowe@adelaide.edu.au>.

## Making an Impact: Early Career Researchers at Adelaide University

The spotlight is on early career researchers: the last week alone has seen the launch of the Research Staff Association (RSA), a new website specifically for early career researchers and, hosted through it, a new survey for... early career researchers.

The web site and survey are the work of the 'Professional Development for Early Career Researchers (PDECR) Working Party created by the DVC(R) to canvass and address the needs and issues faced by early career researchers at Adelaide University.

If you are an early career researcher, PDECR is keen to hear from you. Have your say by visiting the "What's New" section of the Early Career Researchers website at <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/HR/ecr/>> and completing the on-line survey>.

You can help to prioritise new initiatives for Early Career Researchers at Adelaide and if that's not enough reason, you could be one of the lucky two to win six bottles of wine!

Call for applications

## The Alice Davey Award

The Alice Davey Award has been established for the purpose of fostering the development of research in the field of **Sudden Infant Death Syndrome** in memory of Alice Grave Davey who died in 1994.

Please forward applications and supporting documentation to: Mrs Stella Richards, Committee Secretary (Medicine), Medical School Office, Adelaide University, Australia 5005 by 28 September 2001. A copy of the rules is available upon request, telephone 8303 5274 or email: <[stella.richards@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:stella.richards@adelaide.edu.au)>.

# GENERAL NOTICES

## Special Studies Program

### Special Studies commencing in the period July - December 2002.

Applications are now invited for Special Studies commencing in the second half of 2002. Application forms may be obtained from the Human Resources web page at <[http://www.adelaide.edu.au/HR/services/f\\_sspapp2.doc](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/HR/services/f_sspapp2.doc)> and should be returned direct to the Faculty SSP Co-ordinator through the Head of the Department no later than 30 September 2001.

The Faculty contacts for SSP are as follows and hard copies of the Application Form and SSP Policy and Guidelines may also be obtained from them:

- Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences: Kath Muir (ext 37201)
- Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences: Janine Channon (ext 35030)
- Health Sciences: Stella Richards (ext 35274)
- Humanities and Social Sciences: Robyn Williams (ext 35133)
- PALACE: Beverley Aikman (ext 33986)
- Science: Eirean James (ext 34006)

Details of the SSP scheme are contained in the Special Studies Program Policy which may be found on the following web site: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/HR/policies/staffdev/ssp.htm>>. Procedural guidelines which should be read in conjunction with the policy may be found at: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/HR/policies/staffdev/sspguide.htm>>

Staff members are invited to discuss any questions they have about their eligibility for leave or the operation of the Special Studies Program with their Faculty contact in Human Resources (ext 35666). Please note that in the Faculties of Humanities and PALACE it is intended that only one round of applications will be called in 2002 for SSP to be taken in 2003. Please contact the relevant SSP Co-ordinator for details.

**STEVE DAYSH**  
General Manager,  
Human Resources

## Changes to payroll deadlines

As the Human Resources/Payroll Business System and the Student Administration Business System share the database, early payroll deadlines are required to assist with planning processes required with the implementation of the Student Records and Student Financials modules in mid September 2001.

Accordingly, there will be an early payroll deadline for all CASUAL PAYMENT forms for the pay of 21st September 2001.

All casual payment forms for work up to Friday 7 September 2001 must be received in the Payroll Services section by 10 am on Monday 10 September 2001 to ensure payment on 21st September 2001. Casual Payment forms received after 10 am on Monday 10 September will be paid in the pay of 5 October.

There will also be an earlier than normal deadline for other payroll matters relating to contractual arrangements such as change to hours of duty, cessation of employment etc. All paperwork relating to such other payroll functions must also reach Human Resources by close of business on Monday 10 September 2001.

**STEVE DAYSH**  
General Manager  
Human Resources

## Representatives needed

In March this year the University introduced its Policy and Procedures for the Prevention, Handling and Resolution of Student Complaints. Under this Policy students may complain about the delivery of academic and administrative services offered by the University.

Complaints are handled by the area responsible for the service or process about which the complaint is being made. If students are dissatisfied with the local resolution, they may request that it be reviewed by the Student Appeals Committee.

A new committee is formed for every appeal. Each committee is composed of one student member and at least two staff members. All undergraduate and postgraduate students, and all general and academic staff members are eligible to be representatives. A Head of Department or Branch, Dean or Associate Dean will usually act as convenor. All committee members must be from outside the area involved in the complaint and appeal.

Representatives attend one 3-hour meeting and read the appeal papers in advance. Any students or staff members interested in serving as a representative should contact Kellie Toole ext 33341 or at <[kellie.toole@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:kellie.toole@adelaide.edu.au)> or Peter Backhouse ext 37503 or at <[peter.backhouse@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:peter.backhouse@adelaide.edu.au)>.

The Policy and Procedures for the Prevention, Handling and Resolution of Student Complaints has been in place for 6 months and its progress is now being monitored. Invitations to comment on its effectiveness and make suggestions for improvement have been sent to departments, faculties, student associations and branch managers.

## Postgraduate Travelling Fellowships for Health Science Research 2001

To provide financial support for eligible applicants in order to further their research by: attending international conferences to present papers; and visiting leading academic institutions for the purpose of establishing collaborations, determining possible post-doctoral opportunities and engaging in academic dialogue.

Further details from Mrs Stella Richards, Committee Secretary (Medicine), tel 8303 5274 or email: <[stella.richards@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:stella.richards@adelaide.edu.au)>.

## Invitation

**The YWCA of Adelaide and the National Foundation for Australian Women invite you to a dinner to celebrate the achievements of Emeritus Professor Fay Gale.**

7.00pm for 7.30pm, 12 October 2001, Henry Ayers Room, Ayers House, 288 North Terrace. Limited tickets available: \$71.50 (incl GST) includes a 3-course meal and pre dinner drink. RSVP by 28 September, tel 8227 0155 or email: [ywca@doover.net.au](mailto:ywca@doover.net.au).

Australia's Open Garden Scheme presents

## St Mark's College

**10.00am - 4.30pm, Saturday 6 October, \$5 admission**

Teas, light lunches and a selection of wines will be available on the day. There will be an archival displays of the colleges history as well as a Federation display details the part of Downer House in the drafting of the Australian Constitution.

## Research Branch: special notices

### AUSTRALIAN-GERMAN JOINT RESEARCH COOPERATION SCHEME

Following the success of Rounds 1 & 2, applications are now being sought for Round 3 of the Australian-German Joint Research Co-operation 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 exchanges will be funded during the course of the pilot scheme. Early career researchers are particularly encouraged to apply.

Guidelines and application forms are available on the Research Branch website (see below). Contact Lynette Kell, ext 35175 if you need any further information. Applications close on 25 September 2001.

### AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CONFIDENTIALISED UNIT RECORD FILES

The ABS has entered into an agreement with the Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee to provide public use Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) to participating universities for research and teaching purposes. CURFs contain unidentifiable unit record data from most of the key ABS social and labour household surveys. Applications must be submitted on a booklet available from the Research Branch and must be signed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research). Further information, including a list of available CURFs and application booklets is available on the ABS website at <[www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3110129.NSF/ABS-AVCC](http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3110129.NSF/ABS-AVCC)> or from Cyril Brown, ext 33534.

### RELOCATION REMINDER

The Research Branch has relocated to the 11th Floor of 10 Pulteney St.

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Remember to check the Research Branch website <[www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/fund.html](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/fund.html)> about current research funding opportunities.

### RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS

Mr D Adcock & Dr A McNeil (Agronomy & Farming Systems): *Travel to attend the 11th nitrogen workshop, Reims, France*: \$3,000 (AW Howard Memorial Trust).

Dr S Koblar (Medicine - QEH): *Discovering new genes guiding peripheral nervous system segmentation*: \$10,000 (Ian Potter Foundation - Sunderland Award).

Professor D Howie, Dr O Holubowycz, Ms M McGee (Orthopaedics & Trauma): *Literatures review of outcomes for primary total hip replacements*: \$30,500 (Zimmer Australia Grant).

Professor D Howie, Dr O Holubowycz, Ms M McGee, Ms S Pannach (Orthopaedics & Trauma): *Establishment of a Radiosterometric Analysis Facility (RSA) in the Department of Orthopaedics & Trauma*: \$18,500 (Zimmer Australia Grant).

## Safety awareness

### FREE WOMEN'S SELF DEFENCE COURSE

Women are encouraged to undertake a Self Defence course offered through Security Services, 35990. The courses consist of 2x2 hour sessions run over 2 weeks. They are informative, great fun & really teach you how to look after yourself!

### PERSONAL SAFETY

Everyone has the right to be safe and live without fear. The practical information contained within this brochure provides the basis for you to be safe and encourages you and your friends to think about your own "Personal Safety Plan".

There are no hard and fast rules to protect yourself—use commonsense and don't get into a position where you could be attacked. Your plan should be about simple practical steps that can prevent a threat to your safety or at least help you prepare if your safety is threatened. It is about taking simple safety steps that should become habits.

### OUT WALKING

- Keep alert, walk confidently. If you feel unsafe, head for the nearest well-lit or populated area.
- Always walk against the flow of traffic. This will allow you to see cars approaching.
- If possible, walk with other friends.
- If you are concerned about people following you or approaching you, don't stop to have a conversation with them. Try to keep moving and remain confident even if you feel nervous.
- At night, avoid walking in areas where the lighting is poor, such as parks and laneways.
- Handbags should be carried either in front of you or under your arm with the strap secured. Never let the bag or strap hang loosely.
- If you carry a mobile, you should dial 112 in case of an emergency. This works if your keypad is locked.
- Avoid wearing headphones so that you can hear what is happening around you.
- If you do walk alone, consider varying your route and carry a personal duress alarm.

OWEN GODFREY  
Manager, Security Services

## 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 sponsorship 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/s 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, Hawksburn, VIC 3142. fax (03) 9824 2611, email: <[science@control.com.au](mailto:science@control.com.au)>.

# Mathematics graduate comes full circle

**IF YOU sew the end of one trouser leg to the end of the other is it possible to then turn your trousers inside out?**

How many ways can you slice a donut so that the result is two perfect circles?

Pondering questions such as these can lead to unexpected insights in mathematics, according to Dr James Tanton, an Adelaide University graduate who directs an experimental maths teaching program in Boston, USA.

The program, The Math Circle, is designed for schoolchildren (aged 5-17) who enjoy mathematics and want more than the standard school curriculum offers. Founded by Bob Kaplan (author of *The Nothing That Is*) and his wife Ellen in a church basement six years ago, it is a non-profit venture that now has 200 students.

Dr Tanton, who recently returned home to Adelaide on his first visit in five years, said the program had a relaxed philosophy of education.

"I delight in telling kids that I don't know the answer to a particular question," he said.

"My role is not to instruct but rather to guide. The Math Circle program is a relaxed, organic experience that encourages collaborative exploration. Basically, we want kids to discover mathematics themselves and thereby have a sense of owning it."

Younger pupils attend classes for one hour a week over a 10-week semester, while older ones (12-17) attend a three-hour class every Sunday.

"They come from many different backgrounds," said Dr Tanton. "We accept any student who enjoys maths, and we avoid any sense of competition in our classes. We believe in using the word passionate rather than gifted or talented about our pupils. They're all motivated; they need to be to attend for three hours on a Sunday morning."

Dr Tanton, who has taken two years leave from Merrimack College to run The Math Circle, said the program was attracting growing attention among teachers in the United States. A textbook of Math Circle puzzles and exercises is due out soon from Oxford University Press.

Dr Tanton published his own mathematics textbook in the United States earlier this year. A graduate from Adelaide University with a B.Sc. Mathematical Physics in 1987 and a B.Sc (Hons) Mathematics in 1988, he was awarded a George Murray Scholarship which enabled him to undertake postgraduate study at Princeton University, where he obtained an MA in 1990 and PhD in 1994.

He taught at colleges in Florida and Maryland before being appointed Associate Professor at Merrimack College in 1999.



Dr James Tanton during his return visit to Adelaide University. Photo: John Drislane.

Of his students days in Adelaide he said:

"I really value the education I received at Adelaide University—it's the best mathematics education you can get. When I moved to the United States a lot of the stuff I'd done in Adelaide was considered postgraduate material. Princeton was tough but Adelaide

University helped me to get through, so I want to say a big thank you to the people who developed the curriculum here."

—John Drislane

For more information on The Math Circle, visit: [www.themathcircle.org](http://www.themathcircle.org)

# Space-age welding leaves the sparks behind

**VALERIE Linton chooses not to live in a world of stereotypes.**

For starters, the new Professor of Welded Structures at Adelaide University is a woman doing very well in an area traditionally dominated by males.

But she also leads a team of researchers working at the cutting edge of welding technology, about as far away from the stereotypical sparks-flying welding as one could possibly get.

Professor Linton started at Adelaide University in March this year, and is in charge of the Cooperative Research Centre for Welded Structures, which is based at Adelaide University's Department of Mechanical Engineering.

The CRC is a world leader in the development and application of friction stir welding, a relatively new type of welding. The process is strong enough for it to be used in spacecraft and aircraft, and could prove particularly useful for lightweight metals such as aluminium and possibly magnesium.

"Friction stir welding is a very exciting new type of welding, and it is quite different from the type of images most people have about welding," Professor Linton said.

"With friction stir welding, it is done in laboratories by people in white lab coats and there's no sparks, fumes or other by-products.

"The basic principle behind it is that the welding is done by a turning screw, which spins at a high speed and uses tremendous pressure to 'knit' the two pieces of metal together."

Professor Linton is originally from Northern Ireland, and received her tertiary education in England, including a PhD in metallurgy from Cambridge University.

She subsequently worked in industry in England and New Zealand before winning the position at Adelaide University.

She has a vast appreciation of the history of welding, with which comes an acknowledgement that it has traditionally been a male-dominated sphere.

"That's never been an issue with me, I don't see the fact that I'm a woman in a man's world as a big deal," she said. "I just get on with being a metallurgist and doing the best job I can here."

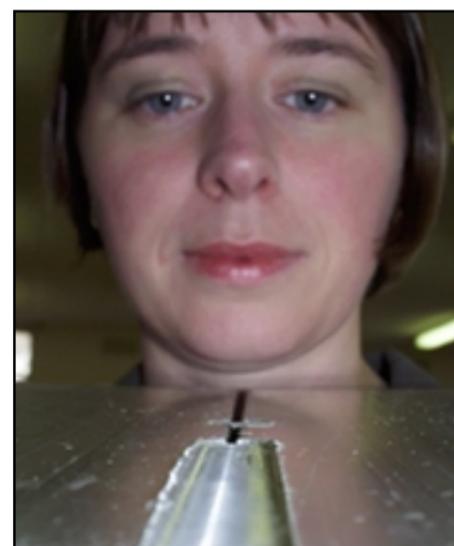
Professor Linton is among the new professors to present a free public lecture at Adelaide University this semester.

Her lecture on Friday 31 August, entitled *Welding and Joining: from the industrial to the space age*, examined the history of welding and where welding technology is heading.

Forthcoming lectures include Professor Keith King (Chemical Engineering) on Friday 14 September; Professor Michael Sawyer (Paediatrics) on Friday 28 September; and Professor Charles Bodman Rae (Music) on Friday 12 October.

All lectures, which are given by recently appointed professors of Adelaide University, are held in Lecture Theatre 102 of the Napier Building, and begin at 1pm.

—Ben Osborne



For more information about the series of free lectures, visit the Barr Smith Library website: [www.library.adelaide.edu.au/](http://www.library.adelaide.edu.au/)

# Obituary: Dr Verna Kay Daniels 1941-2001



**KAY Daniels enjoyed a national reputation for her contributions to the feminist movement, as an advocate of Australian studies, as a social historian, and as a senior federal public servant shaping contemporary cultural policy.**

Dr Daniels graduated with an Honours degree in History from Adelaide University in 1963. There she received the prestigious George Murray Scholarship, which she took up at the University of Sussex. Under the supervision of

Asa Briggs (now Lord Briggs) and Professor of Literature David Daiches, she completed a Doctorate in Philosophy in 1966.

As a historian, Kay Daniels edited a number of books on feminist social history including *Uphill all the Way* (1980) and *So Much Hard Work* (1984). These are regarded as important pioneering works in that field. She also wrote the well-regarded history *Convict Women* (1988). In fact, Kay Daniels made a crucial contribution to the rewriting of Australian history, first, in bringing insights of the New British Social History to bear on the process of incorporating women's experiences into accounts of the Australian past; and second, in a practical way, by initiating the International Woman's Year Archives Project. The latter was published as *Woman in Australia: an annotated guide to the records* (1977) containing the groundbreaking historiographical essay. This publication has formed the basis of countless new research theses throughout Australia. She also published many articles and gave many addresses, of particular importance being an

article on Port Arthur entitled "Cults of Nature, Cults of History" published by *Island Magazine* in 1983.

Dr Daniels's national prominence in Australian studies was recognised with her appointment in 1985 as Chairperson of the Committee to Review Australian Studies in Tertiary Education, the outcome of which, the report *Windows onto Worlds*, was central to the Commonwealth Government's policies to refocus attention on Australian content within tertiary education in Australia.

In her time with the Commonwealth Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Kay Daniels has made an outstanding creative contribution to the work of the Department. She was the principal intellectual force behind the then federal Government's 1993 cultural policy statement, *Distinctly Australian*; she undertook groundbreaking work in the area of intellectual Property and Copyright, Moral rights, Indigenous rights and Digital rights as well as pioneering work on parallel imports, CDs and books. Most

significantly, she inspired and drew together bright, young, and committed colleagues to work with her on these interests.

Dr Daniels was an accomplished scholar who though it important to make the insights of scholarship accessible to those outside academia; she was an inspirational university teacher and, later in her public service career, an inspirational leader. Kay had a multitude of interests, especially fine food, good restaurants, opera, tennis and Australian Rules Football.

She was highly creative and characteristically found a new way to shed light on old problems and concerns. She was remarkably free of the manacles of received wisdom, prejudice and stereotypes; the exception being an aversion to ideological rigidity of any kind. She had a great generosity of spirit and when told of her terminal illness she displayed no bitterness, rancour or denial but tried to leave the world in a gentle, calm and peaceful way.

Shortly before her death Dr Daniels was awarded the rarely conferred degree of Doctor of Letters Honoris Causa by the University of Tasmania.

# Mysteries of the stumpy lizard revealed

**THE HUMBLE and unassuming stumpy lizard—a staple ingredient in Australian backyards and open spaces—appears to lead a fairly nondescript and uncomplicated life.**

But new research from Adelaide University shows that the female of the species sure does it tough, particularly during pregnancy.

The process of creating life for the female stumpy forces such stresses on its body that its own life may be in jeopardy by the end of the pregnancy.

And the stresses are significant: for the last four weeks of pregnancy they eat almost nothing, are unable to breath properly and move very little, which means they may find it hard to exercise, forage for food or escape predators.

Department of Environmental Biology researcher Dr Suzy Munns, who has been studying stumpies and other reptiles for the last five years, says the sheer size of baby stumpies by the time of birth is the main reason for the mother stumpy's problems.

"The first thing to realise is not all reptiles lay eggs, and that many lizards, including the stumpy, give birth to live young," she said.

"Baby stumpies are very large, relatively-speaking—they are approximately 35% of the mother's body weight, which is very high in the animal world."

This is compared to mammals such as humans, where young are about 15% of the mother's body weight, and to marsupials, where young can weigh as little as 0.1% of mother's body weight.

Or in other words: if a human female was to give birth to a baby that was 35% of her body weight, it would mean giving birth to a child the size of an average six-year-old!

This unpleasant situation for the mother stumpy is not helped by the fact her body, unlike humans and other animals, does not expand in size during pregnancy as her baby gets bigger. The average gestation period for a stumpy is between five and six months, and they give birth to one to four young.

"This means the young are occupying an increasingly large portion of the mother's body cavity, which decreases the space available for the lungs and digestive tract," Dr Munns said.

"The main area of my research has been investigating the breathing of pregnant stumpies to see whether their ventilation is compromised during pregnancy due to the fact their lungs are becoming

increasingly squashed.

"What I found was that their ability to breathe properly became less the further they went into their pregnancy, and in the last six to eight weeks before birth both breathing frequency and the volume of breath are reduced quite significantly.

"Another thing I found was that the metabolic rate of pregnant stumpies was reduced, and this corresponds with a marked decrease in the amount of food they consume.

"Over the last three months of the pregnancy, females progressively reduce the amount of food they eat and for the last four weeks they hardly eat anything.

"Once the baby is born it's quite amazing, they'll eat anything that's put in front of them and they'll keep eating and eating."

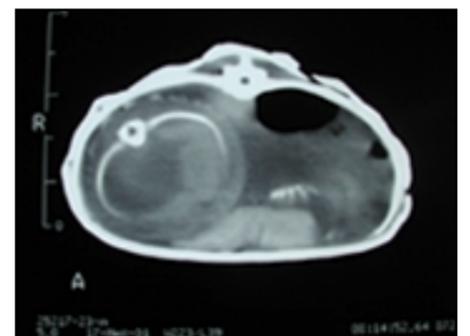
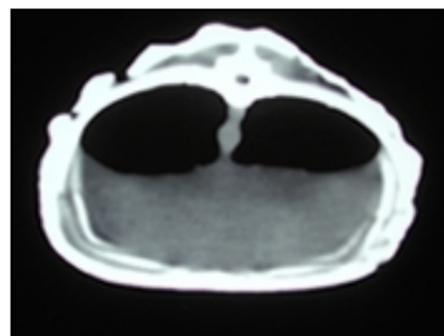
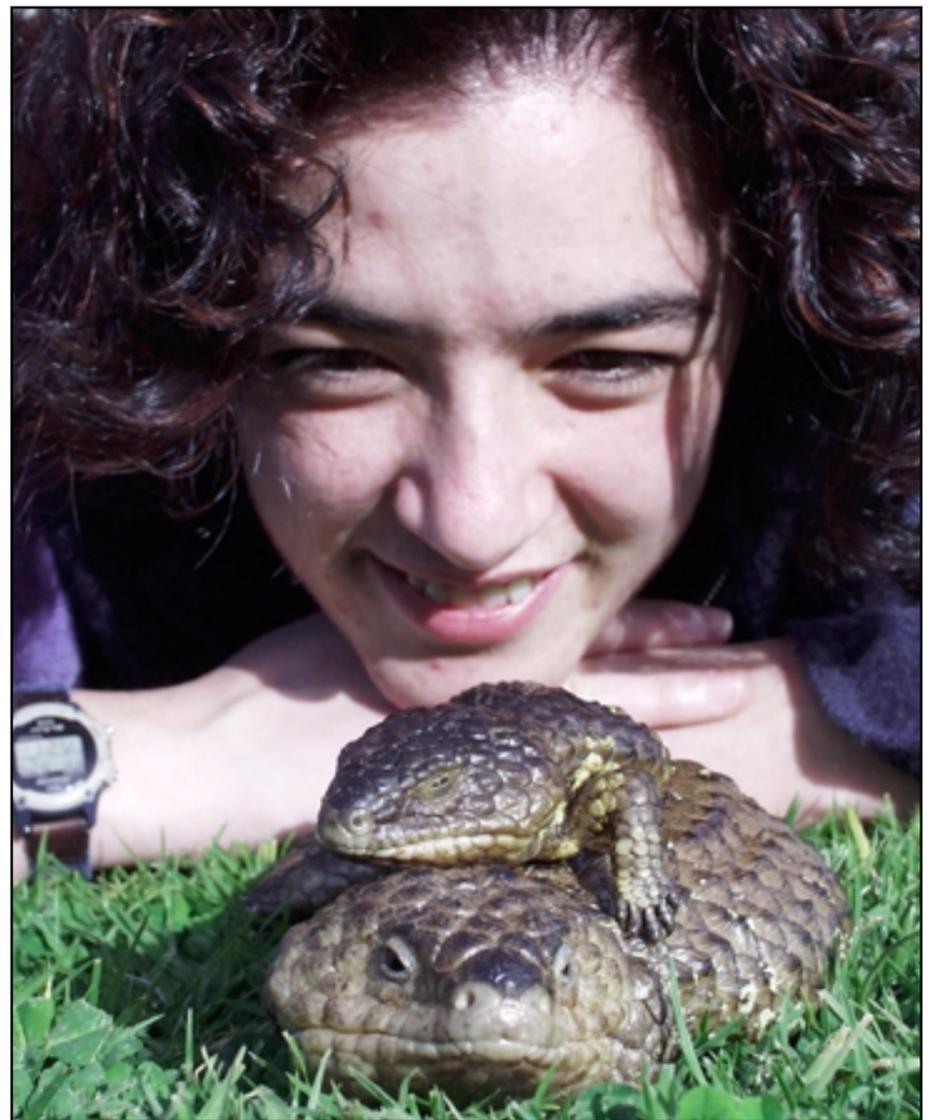
Dr Munns' next phase of research will concentrate on the inner workings of pregnant stumpies' lungs themselves as they become increasingly compressed.

—Ben Osborne

## STUMPY FACTS

Stumpy-tailed lizards are one of the most distinctive and abundant Australian lizards, and are common throughout many areas of South Australia, Western Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Among their characteristics, they:

- Have an average length of 41cm, and a diet of insects, snails, carrion, flowers and fruits;
- Are daytime creatures, and spend mornings basking in the sun to raise their body temperature;
- Shelter under fallen timber, in leaf litter and in grasses (so beware when mowing the lawn!);
- Are closely related to the blue-tongue lizards, with both having broad blue tongues;
- Are long-lived, with captive animals able to reach up to 20 years old;
- Mate around October/November, and are monogamous within a season (and the same pair may reform in the mating season in subsequent years);
- Produce young which are able to care for themselves immediately after birth.



These two scans—taken looking down through the body—dramatically show the way lungs are compressed in female stumpy lizards. In both images the lungs of the stumpy are represented by the black, oval-shaped patches towards the top of the body cavity. The first image is of a non-pregnant stumpy with normal lungs, while the second is of a heavily-pregnant stumpy with quite compressed lungs.

# New machinery puts money where its mouth is

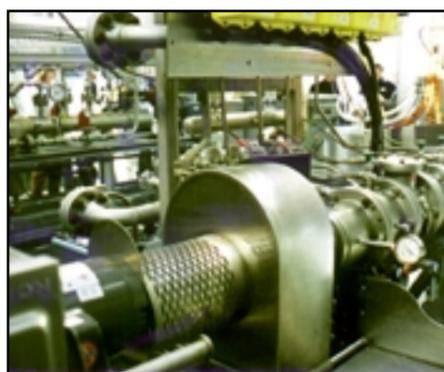
**A SOPHISTICATED piece of machinery which fills a large a shed at Adelaide University's Roseworthy Campus may have cost around \$750,000—but it's worth hundreds of millions of dollars to South Australia's economy.**

Known as a "feed extruder", the new equipment is designed to produce feed pellets for fish and livestock.

Look on the shelves of your local supermarket and you'll find an array of products made with similar devices: cereal products such as Nutri-Grain, snacks like Twisties, and many ranges of pet foods, like Meaty-Bites and Schmackos.

At an industry level, the development of new extruded livestock and aquaculture products is time-consuming, expensive and produces a large amount of waste.

At Roseworthy Campus, the new extruder will allow researchers and other staff to develop products specifically for the aquaculture and livestock industries. Using the scaled-down extruder as a working "laboratory", animal diets produced and



From this...

perfected through the equipment can then be reproduced at larger scale industrial facilities. Not only will this save industry millions of dollars, it will also improve the testing, health, production level, operating margins and product quality of aquaculture and livestock industry feed.

The Stockfeed Extrusion Centre at Roseworthy is being hailed as the future of South Australia's aquaculture and livestock



To this.

industries, so it's no wonder the centre has been established by one of Adelaide University's key partners, the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI).

The centre, a unique facility in the Southern Hemisphere, also involves the Aquaculture CRC Ltd, Wenger Manufacturing Inc, Allied Industries Pty Ltd, UAS Industries and Adelaide University.

The centre was officially launched last month by Deputy Premier Mr Rob Kerin. Mr Kerin said it was important to see major production by industry underpinned by research and development, of the kind that would be conducted at the stockfeed extrusion centre.

He also praised Adelaide University for what he described as a "resurgence" at Roseworthy Campus.

"This is the third major facility opening at Roseworthy in the past nine months," Mr Kerin said.

"The University has shown a real commitment to Roseworthy, and it's doing a terrific job of re-establishing the campus as a major educational and research centre of national significance."

Professor Edwina Cornish, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at Adelaide University, said the new centre would have many benefits for pure and applied research, and would also benefit students.

She said the centre was yet another example of the great partnerships established between the University, government and industry.

—David Ellis



# GRADUATIONS

## AUGUST CEREMONIES

### Graduates see commercial value by degrees

TEN students have become the first in Australia to graduate from the highly successful Masters degree in Science & Technology Commercialisation offered at Adelaide University.

The degree, developed in collaboration with the University of Texas, Austin, is aimed at improving Australians' skills in innovation and commercialisation.

Among the first graduates last month were (from left) Darren Cundy from the CSIRO (on secondment to e-Fund at Rothschild), Stan Shepherd from Commercialise and Andrew Cecil, formerly from Adelaide University and now at UniQuest, University of Queensland.

Darren said he selected the Masters program to address the gap the CSIRO sees between its capacity to generate world-class Intellectual Property (IP) and the translation of those innovations to the marketplace. CSIRO believes that there is real long-term value in expanding the skill base of some of its scientists so they have a better understanding of the commercialisation process, and Darren's participation in this program has been one way to achieve this.

The approach appears to be working, as Darren's involvement in the new degree was an important factor in Rothschild's decision to take him on for a one-year secondment

position in their newest venture capital fund, e-Fund. In this role, Darren will look at the CSIRO IP portfolio for investment opportunities for Rothschild.

"CSIRO needs to know more about how to engage with the external capital markets, and Rothschild is looking for the sorts of high-quality deal flow that such an R&D organisation is likely to provide, so it's a win-win situation from both perspectives and a great career development opportunity for me," Darren said.

As a Manager of Intellectual Property and Commercial Development within the Australian University sector, Andrew Cecil was seeking "a degree that would provide the scaffold that allows innovation to make the paradigm shift from purely an idea into a commercial reality".

"Looking for such a course, I found the Masters of Science & Technology Commercialisation was the only degree available that could provide such a scaffold," he said.

"Unlike traditional MBAs that focus on the management of existing companies with existing product and intellectual capital, the Masters of Science & Technology Commercialisation is tailored towards early start up businesses, the management of limited resources, the identification of new intellectual capital and the bringing to market of new and often



'discontinuous' innovations and processes.

"This degree and its approach fitted perfectly with my chosen career path and has already proven its benefit through a significant career advancement to my current position of Manager Innovation and Commercial Development, UniQuest, Faculty of Natural

Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science, University of Queensland.

"I would recommend the Master of Science & Technology Commercialisation to anyone who manages research commercialisation within an institutional framework," he said.

### Chief Justice Doyle speaks



CHIEF JUSTICE of South Australia the Honourable John Doyle gave the Occasional Address for the PALACE faculty graduation ceremony, held on Wednesday 8 August.

In his address, Chief Justice Doyle asked graduates to consider the expectations of the community as well as their own expectations as they move on into the next significant stage of their lives.

"I know that our expectations of you can be fulfilled while you achieve your own expectations," he said. "I also know that if you fulfil our expectations of you, your own career will be more satisfying and rewarding for it. Not only that, but if you fulfil our expectations you will reap the benefits with us, because you will be returning to the community, of which you are a member, the benefits of the education that you have received."



A pretty flower was matched by this graduate's smile: Wee Peng (Adeline) Ong, pictured here with her mother, graduated with a Bachelor degree in Commerce.



Milinda Wijesuriya (second from right) of Sri Lanka graduated with a Bachelor of Computer Systems Engineering (Honours) during the August graduation ceremonies. He is pictured with family members (from left) Ashani Lecamwasam, Palitha Wijesuriya and Kumudini Wijesuriya.

# GRADUATIONS

## AUGUST CEREMONIES



## Ngarrindjeri research an Honour



**DANA Thomsen graduated with a First Class Honours degree in Natural Resource Management.**

Her thesis was "Care or Control – Ngarrindjeri participation in natural resource planning". One external examiner commented that it was "one of the best honours theses I can recall examining, and makes a substantive contribution to the literature".

Dana moved from interstate to Roseworthy Campus last July for her Honours year to work with supervisors Dr Jocelyn Davies and Dr Trish Murray. She hopes to commence PhD studies in the Department of Agronomy and Farming Systems next year, and is currently working as a research officer for the Native Title Unit of the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement, assisting with the development of negotiations about native title claims in South Australia.

"My Honours year at Roseworthy campus was the most exciting and rewarding time of my life," Dana said.

"I feel honoured to have had the opportunity to research with Ngarrindjeri people. Support and enthusiasm for this project from Ngarrindjeri was overwhelming and this was matched by my supervisors. It is these people who share the academic result of First-class Honours awarded to me," she said.



Laura Law graduated with a degree in—what else?—Law at Adelaide University's August Graduation Ceremonies.

## MBA's join Governor's league of future South Australian leaders

THESE two graduates were both awarded their MBAs (Master of Business Administration) from Adelaide University, but they also share something else in common.

Mark Gare (left) and Brendon Green were both chosen to become part of the Governor's Leadership Foundation, a unique group which recognises and fosters the development of leadership qualities in individuals.

Those chosen for the Leadership Foundation hail from a range of backgrounds and have a range of skills. But they each share a love for South Australia and are committed to their State and the community.

The Governor's Leadership Foundation is an initiative of SA Business Vision 2010, and so far has involved past and current students and staff from Adelaide University. The staff involved are Barbara Gare from the Teletraffic Research Centre and Dr Pat Buckley from the Department of Physiology.

Brendon Green is a commercial lender for Adelaide Bank and became a member of the Foundation this year. Mark Gare runs his own IT company and is currently contracted to ADI Ltd working in defence-oriented IT systems. Mark was a member of the Foundation last year. So what do they get from joining the Governor's Leadership Foundation?

"It's very broad in the issues it deals with, and the people involved come from a diverse range of backgrounds," Mark said. "It's very easy to get caught up in your own loop, so it's good to break out of that and develop different friends and contacts."



"The work we do is outside of your normal comfort zone," said Brendon. "Just recently we spent an evening visiting homeless people. It makes sure you're dealing with a real cross-section of the community and gets you to think about their concerns and their needs."

The Foundation is "unashamedly cultivating leaders for the future of South Australia", Mark said, noting that no members of the Foundation have moved or shown any interest in moving from the State. "It keeps

you anchored here."

Both men said that the combination of their work with the Foundation and their studies for the MBA at Adelaide University had been very rewarding.

"You develop very strong networks and deal with a broad range of issues, both in the MBA and with the GLF," Mark said. "The knowledge you gain from both stays with you, and you know you can apply that knowledge in a range of different ways."

## Alumni Medallist awarded for academic excellence



THE Alumni University Medallist for 2001, Mr Farmer Salamander Schlutzenberg, is pictured with the Hon Greg Crafter, Chair of the Alumni Association, and Ms Rachael Oliphant, Director of Alumni, Community Relations and Development.

The Alumni Medal was created through a desire of the University's Alumni to recognise and reward the outstanding achievements and extraordinary efforts of some of the University's newest graduates. The nominees for the Medal are Honours students of outstanding academic merit from each of the faculties, and

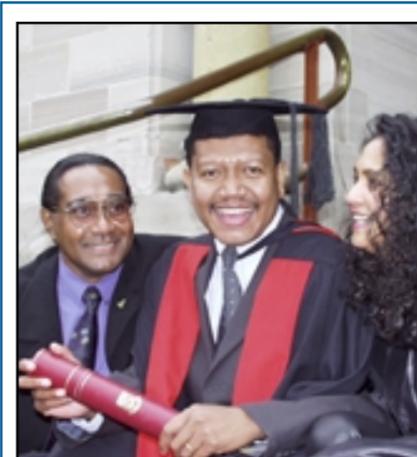
the winner of the medal is the student who is the most outstanding among them.

Farmer graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Mathematics and Computer Science). His outstanding academic record, in which he achieved straight distinctions at Level III including scores of 100%, also earned him the Abdi Prize for the best student in Honours Pure or Applied Mathematics.

Farmer will continue his academic pursuits at UCLA Berkeley where he has been awarded a scholarship to study Logic and Set Theory.



Malaysian student Dr Norhayati Bt Luddin, pictured here with her husband, received a Graduate Diploma in Clinical Dentistry from Adelaide University's Dental School.



Adelaide University's first East Timor PhD graduate, Helder Da Costa, celebrates receiving his Economics doctorate with East Timorese friends Agostinho Moniz (left) and Beatriz Joaquim.

# Medical entry validated by assessment body

**THE NEW** entry process at Adelaide University's Medical School has been given a ringing endorsement by Australia's peak medical standards body.

The Australian Medical Council recently accredited the medical program at Adelaide University, awarding six years accreditation to the school—the maximum period available.

Among its many comments of praise for the school, the council commended its admissions process, which takes into account more than just students' performance at high school.

Changes to medical entry at Adelaide University have caused some controversy over the last few years, with admissions now taking into account a test which assesses such qualities as logical reasoning, problem solving and critical thinking, and a structured oral assessment, as well as students' matriculation scores.

The Medical School maintains that this process is a more effective means of determining which students will make good doctors, as well as weeding out the students who are simply applying for medicine because they have received good results or been pressured into it by their parents.

The Australian Medical Council is the national standards body responsible for accreditation of medical schools in Australia and New Zealand. It accredits medical schools to ensure they maintain an acceptable standard of education.

The council's accreditation team commented favourably on a number of features of the Medical School's new programs. These included: the integration of curriculum material across disciplines and years; the shift to community-based teaching; the early introduction of clinical skills training; the popular "Beyond Me" communications skills program; and a comprehensive database developed by staff which underpins curriculum development.

The team also congratulated the school on its



Professor Derek Frewin and Dr Anne Tonkin discuss the Medical School's successful accreditation. Photo: David Ellis.

"explicit and enlightened assessment policy" and its student support arrangements, including special support for indigenous students.

Other strengths identified by the Australian Medical Council included: the commitment of clinical staff from the teaching hospitals; the high standard of facilities available to students; the development of rural training for students in a wide variety of locations, including the involvement of the SA Centre for Rural and Remote Health, and the newly established Rural Clinical School in Whyalla; and the introduction of indigenous health issues into students' training.

Medical students told the accreditation team that they were enjoying the problem-based learning approach and appreciated many aspects of their medical education. In particular, students were very positive about

their clinical teaching, and especially appreciated the community-based placements that had been developed for the Medical School's new curriculum.

"The school is now reaping the benefits of more than a decade of planning to align its medical course with modern developments in medical education," said the chair of the accreditation team, Professor Laurie Geffen.

The Executive Dean of Health Sciences at Adelaide University, Professor Derek Frewin, said the accreditation had given further weight to the Medical School's changes in recent years.

"It's very pleasing to see the principle accreditation body in Australia providing validation not only of the medical entry process itself, but also the wider curriculum and its outcomes," Professor Frewin said.

"We are very pleased to have a number of our developments in education specifically highlighted by the accreditation team as being both innovative and worthwhile."

Professor Frewin said the hallmark of Adelaide University's medical training was that it provided students with a "real-world view" of medical education.

"We provide experiences to students that are much more meaningful to them. This is why we get students to deal with real patients right from the very start, in first year, and it is also why we help students to develop their communications skills.

"We want to make sure that students are receiving a quality medical education that is applicable to the real world, and that they become the best doctors they possibly can be. The accreditation process has given validation to those emphases."

The Medical School's accreditation is the result of a range of contributions by academic, general and clinical staff in the Faculty of Health Sciences, the teaching hospitals, and also from other faculties such as Science.

Professor Frewin praised the many staff involved in supporting the accreditation process, and those who contributed to the design of the Medical School's curriculum.

"Many staff and clinicians worked very hard and very long hours to achieve the results we see today," he said.

"Although there are too many people to mention, I particularly wish to thank Dr Ted Cleary and Dr Anne Tonkin, who coordinated much of the work that formed the basis of the school's accreditation, as well as the staff of the Medical Education Unit.

"Thanks to their work, and the efforts of the clinicians and academic staff, the Medical School will continue to provide an excellent medical education for future generations."

—David Ellis

## Harsh reality of Woomera

From Page 1

Professor Malcolm Gillies, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Performing Arts, Law, Architecture, Commerce and Economics, said the University was concerned to train students for the real world and for the needs of today.

"The current refugee crisis calls for graduates in areas such as law, politics, sociology and anthropology who are skilled in the theory and practice which needs to inform our handling of asylum seekers," Professor Gillies said. "The work in clinical legal education at Adelaide University is an excellent example of how students gain direct experience in dealing

with the hard issues such as Australia's management of detainees in our community."

An information session entitled "Woomera Detainees - the Legal Issues" will be hosted by the Law Society of South Australia on Thursday 30 August (5.15pm-7pm) at its offices at 124 Waymouth Street, Adelaide. The session is aimed at the legal profession, migration agents and law students.

On Tuesday 4 September, the Australian Refugee Association will hold a forum on refugee and asylum seeker issues at the Adelaide Congress Hall, 277 Pirie Street, Adelaide (9am-1pm).

## Adelaide Uni takes a stand (or two) at the Royal Show

**THIS** month's Royal Adelaide Show will again feature stands from two of Adelaide University's academic faculties.

Information about the Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences can be found in the Jubilee Pavilion.

The Faculty's display will showcase the various departments across engineering, computer sciences and mathematics, and give visitors to the Show the chance to see why these areas are important to South Australia and the nation.

There is much for families to see and do, with interactive displays helping to illustrate key ideas behind engineering problems. This provides a level of fun and learning to anyone visiting the faculty's stand.

It's also the year of celebrating the Centenary of Federation, which means it's time to celebrate 100 years of food and fibre innovation and excellence at the Royal Show.

That's one celebration that will be shared by the University's Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, the birthplace of much of the innovation across that century.

This year the Ridley Pavilion will feature a new display commemorating the last 100 hundred years in the grains industry and, in turn, commemorating Adelaide University's continuing role in the forefront of that industry's development.

The majority of Australia's wheat and barley crops owe their improved productivity and disease resistance to research programs at Waite and Roseworthy campuses and much of that innovation has been driven by



graduates of the education programs within the Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

The Faculty is also sponsoring a section of the display aimed at raising the profile of the wide range of careers and excellent job prospects for new graduates in these programs.

Over in the Show Dairy, the Roseworthy Dairy Team will be working with top breeders for the duration of the Show, and students will also be helping out with career information at the Roseworthy Information Centre/Primary Industries stand.

### Advertisement

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National and international recognition in any area of expertise can attract many opportunities for those who are able to present and promote their work with style and professionalism. And what better backdrop is there than the attractions of Adelaide's internationally renowned entertainment, food and wine regions?

Which is why the Adelaide Convention & Tourism Authority (ACTA) provides free assistance through its University Project to attract and stage outstanding conferences. Our services include:

- Preparation of proposals to attract regional, national and international conferences to South Australia;
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- Conference budgeting, organisation and planning advice;

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# Adelaide graduate receives Harvard prize

IT MAY seem like a long way from Adelaide University's Law School to the Harvard Law School, but one of Adelaide's most brilliant recent Law graduates believes the two aren't that far apart.

Nicholas Owens, who graduated from Adelaide with a Law degree in 1998, has just completed his Masters degree in Law at Harvard and says the Adelaide undergraduate degree was a more than useful stepping stone.

He spoke to the *Adelaidean* during a brief visit home, before returning to the US to take up a position as Associate in the New York office of international law firm Sullivan and Cromwell.

"I really valued my time at Adelaide—I have two degrees from Adelaide (Law and Arts) and I think you can mix it with the best in the world with degrees from here," he said.

In between his studies at Adelaide and Harvard, Mr Owens also worked in two of the highest offices of the land.

From January 1999 to 2000 he worked at the High Court as Associate to Chief Justice of Australia Murray Gleeson—the first South Australia law graduate to be appointed to the position of Associate to the Chief Justice.

Mr Owens then worked from February to August 2000 as speechwriter for the Governor-General Sir William Deane.

"My time at the High Court was a great experience, I was able to see things from the judges' perspective which I think will help with my career," he said. "And the cases were always interesting and different, so you were continually learning about different aspects of law which I found to be invaluable.

"I really enjoyed my time with Sir William as well, he had been a bit of a hero of mine from his time as a judge at the High Court and I never imagined I would have the opportunity to work for him.

"After working for him it's easy to see why he is held in such high regard, he's a fantastic man and I really respect him."

Mr Owens studied for his Masters at Harvard for the 12 months from August 2000 to August 2001 as one of only five Australians to be accepted into the prestigious course for that year. He was awarded the Joseph H. Beale Prize for the student who achieved the highest grade on the Conflict of Laws course, and also the Addison Brown Prize for his dissertation entitled "Putting an End to Conflicts".

—Ben Osborne Nicholas Owens. Photo: Ben Osborne.



## OSA president honoured in 2001 Malaysian business council awards

FINAL YEAR Science student and current President of the Overseas Students Association, Ms Syn Yee Tan, has been awarded the 2001 Australia Malaysia Business Council Merdeka Award for most outstanding final-year Malaysian student at Adelaide University.

The award recognises high academic achievement as well as contribution to academic and community life and to the strengthening of Australia/Malaysia relations. These sentiments were echoed by guest speaker HE Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia and Mr Wee Keat Chan, President, Australia Malaysia Business Council and Adelaide University graduate (B.Ec) during the evening's proceedings at the Adelaide Convention Centre last month.

Ms Tan was presented with her award by His Excellency Sir Eric Neal, AC, CVO Governor of South Australia and Patron of the Australia Malaysia Business Council (SA) before an audience of representatives from some of South Australia's leading businesses.

Merdeka Awards are presented annually by the Australia Malaysia Business Council (SA) to an outstanding student at each of the Adelaide's three universities and TAFE institutions.



Staff members Ms Rosslyn Cox and Ms Kim McBride with award recipient Ms Syn Yee Tan (second from left) and Alumni Board member, Dr Verna Blewett.

## Postgraduate travel grants now on offer from Mutual Community

A REMINDER to all postgraduate students that applications are now available for the September round of the Mutual Community Postgraduate Travel Grants.

Up to three grants, each worth \$2500, are available to assist doctoral candidates:

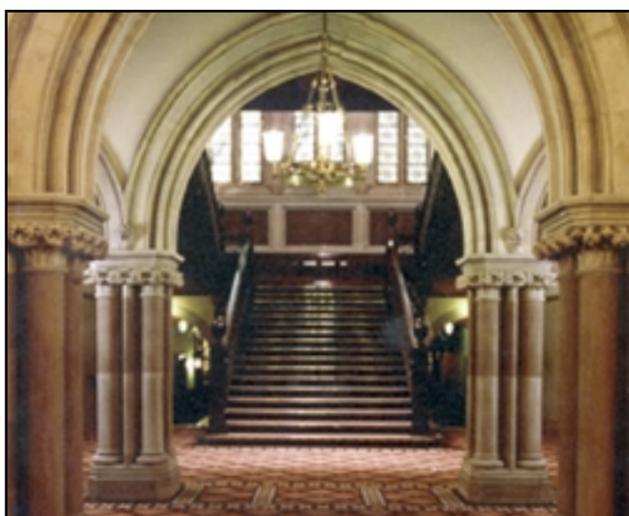
(a) to travel to a conference at which the student will present his or her work, or

(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.

Applications for the September round can be downloaded from the Alumni, Community Relations and Development website at [www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni) or requested from the Alumni, Community Relations and Development office.

The deadline for submission of applications is no later than 5:00pm on Friday, 14 September 2001.

For further information contact Joan Soon on (08) 8303 3317.



## CAMPUS TOURS

Learn about the history and heritage of Adelaide University on a free tour conducted by trained guides from the University's Alumni Association. Tours depart each Tuesday morning at 10.30am from University Gate 20, next to the Art Gallery of South Australia on North Terrace. Groups may make arrangements for tours at other times by calling the Alumni, Community Relations and Development office on (08) 8303 3234.

## ALUMNI NEWS

### 2001 ROCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER

The 2001 Roseworthy Old Collegians Association (ROCA) Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 26 October at the Glenelg Golf Club. A feature for the annual reunion is the recognition of groups who graduated 25 (1976), 40 (1961) and 50 (1951) years ago.

Convenor of the 25 Year Group is Bill Close, while the convenor of the 40 Year Group is Harry Nash of Forreston.

### MEDICAL VIGNERONS LUNCHEON

The Florey Medical Chapter will be holding its annual Medical Vignerons Luncheon and brief Annual General Meeting on Sunday 28 October at the Glenelg Golf Club. Wine tasting, with wines provided by Hillstowe Wines, Fox Creek Wines and Hamilton Group Wines, will commence at noon with a luncheon to follow. Guest speaker at the event Mr Christopher Thomas will speak about "The joys and woes of establishing a vineyard and boutique winery".

Glenelg Golf Club, James Melrose Road, Novar Gardens SA 5040, 12 noon. For details and tickets call Joan Soon 8303 3317.

### BSL - DISCOUNTED ALUMNI BORROWING!

Did you know that if you are registered with the Alumni, Community Relations and Development office you can now enjoy borrowing rights at the Barr Smith Library for a \$55 annual fee? As a graduate and friend of Adelaide University you will have valuable access to an extensive range of BSL resources! For further details call the Barr Smith Library, 08 8303 5370 or drop in and ask one of our friendly library staff.

### ADELAIDE UNI MERCHANDISE RANGE

View the new Adelaide University and Alumni Association 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 each engraved with the University logo, redwood paper weights and bowls and much more!

www.adelaide.edu.au/107

September 2001

**SUV Radio Adelaide 531.0m**

**The Learning Connection**  
In celebration of Adult Learners Week, five short features exploring *Lifelong Learning* in action in SA - where it's happening, how it's happening Mon - Fri Sept 3 - 7 7.35am & 12.35

**the 'SUV Sessions'**  
Support Student Radio's commitment to live local music with this fortnightly gig at the Crown & Sceptre, King William Street. **Thursday September 13** features **Hummel & Some Came Running**. Only \$3 entry - with funds going to upgrade student radio's ageing recording gear. And don't forget to listen to *Local Noise* each Tuesday night at 9pm to hear the bands playing live from the comfort of your own lounge room.

**Public Domain** including Adelaide radio's exclusive coverage of the **Festival of Ideas 2001** continues **Sundays at 11am**

**2 Sept** Festival of Ideas / Zaitun Mohamed Kasim, Tides of Change: Views from a Malaysian Activist

**9 Sept** Politics in the Pub / From Protest to Policy: Alternative Visions of Globalisation  
www.nowwiththepeople.org Recorded 26 July 2001 at the Gov. Hindmarsh Hotel

**16 Sept** A Conversation about Reconciliation  
Senator Aden Ridgeway, the Hon Fred Chaney & Dr Jane Lomax Smith Recorded at the Adelaide Festival Centre 23 June, 2001 for the Graham F Smith Peace Trust  
see our program guide for full Public Domain listings

Subscribe or resubscribe to SUV Radio Adelaide in September & you'll go into the draw for a trip for 2 adults 2 children & car on the **KANGAROO ISLAND SEALINK** valued at \$360 ring us on 8303 5000 for details

## Dance 'n' percussion at Elder Hall

AN EXPLOSIVE first-time collaboration between the Elder Conservatorium's award-winning percussionists and an elite group of dance graduates from the AIT Arts—Performing Arts dance course kicks off on 15 September at Elder Hall.

Dance 'n' Percussion is an innovative performance, and features the world premieres of two dance works. Choreographer Veronica Shum has developed a new work to the music of *Mudra* by Bob Becker of Nexus, and Sally Hederics is the choreographer for *A Doll's House Story* by contemporary Hungarian composer Istvan Marta.

Since graduating in 2000, Veronica Shum has been involved in a number of projects, including a recent collaboration at Sydney's Belvoir Street Theatre between dropArt and leading Australian aerial dance company *Legs on the Wall*.

Sally Hederics has worked with Melbourne choreographer Anna Smith on the Murray Dance Project and is a co-founding member of the Dance Construction Company.

Other dancers include Rachel Manik, Danya Puckeridge, Kirsty Pinnegar and Anna Bowers, and graduate Lighting Designer Steve Tilling will assist in transforming Elder Hall into a vibrant dance venue.

Dance 'n' Percussion includes a line-up of Australia's most outstanding percussionists from the Elder Conservatorium, now being acclaimed nationally and internationally. Under the leadership of James Bailey, student percussionists have been consistent winners of national percussion prizes over the past three years, and at the 2001 Sydney Percussion Eisteddfod in May, Paul Butler and Jamie Adam swept the board with three first awards and one second.



Choreographer Veronica Shum.

Performers for this project also include Nick Parnell, a finalist in the recent 2001 Symphony Australia Young Performers Awards, Joseph Fragnito, Tim Irrgang, Andrew Buchan, Katie Seaman and Kate Ross.

James Bailey, Nick Parnell and Tim Irrgang have also recently returned from Malaysia, where they gave performances in Kuala Lumpur and Penang with their world and fusion-style percussion ensemble *Hormingo*. They toured at the special invitation of the Australia Malaysia Business Council (SA), and were the only performers invited to represent South Australia as part of a government trade mission.



James Bailey.

Dance 'n' Percussion is funded by a grant from the Helpmann Academy and is part of the popular 2001 Elder Conservatorium Evening Concert Series.

—Di Kidd

Ticket prices are \$22 Adult, \$14 Seniors/Conc and \$8 Full-time students. (All Adelaide University staff qualify for the concession price by showing a staff card at any BASS outlet or at the door.)

### Advertisement

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## Jazz musician, teacher wins \$5000 Barossa prize

MUSIC lecturer and saxophonist Mike Stewart has won the first \$5000 Barossa Winemakers' Jazz Scholarship, Australia's biggest jazz prize for 18 to 30-year-olds.

He was presented with his award by trumpet legend James Morrison, then jammed with him on stage, at a concert at Elderton Wines, Nuriootpa last month, the climax of a highly successful inaugural Barossa Jazz Weekend.

Mike is a professional sax player who also teaches the instrument at Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium.

He has won a \$5000 travel scholarship, courtesy of Malaysia Airlines, to a destination of his choice to enhance his skills and knowledge of jazz musicianship.

Chairman of the judges Bruce Hancock,



head of jazz studies at the Elder Conservatorium, said the competition had been incredibly close and of a very, very high standard, showing the wealth of young jazz talent in South Australia.

The finalists included a number of Adelaide University students and graduates.

## Choral Society exults Mozart

ADELAIDE University's Choral Society will present Mozart's *Great Mass (Grasse Messe)* in C Minor at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral on Saturday 15 September.

The performance features one of Adelaide's most vibrant massed choirs and a complete "AUCestra" assembled from some of Adelaide's most accomplished freelance musicians.

Headlining the performance is Teresa La Rocca who will act both as a soloist for the *Great Mass* as well as presenting Mozart's *Exsultate Jubilate*.

Tickets can be purchased from BASS on 131 246: \$25 adults, \$20 concession and \$10 children. Where: St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wakefield St, Adelaide. When: 8pm Saturday 15 September.



## NEWSMAKERS

Hollywood-inspired headlines announced the news of **Professor Mary O'Kane's** resignation as Vice-Chancellor. "Showdown at the O'Kane corral" was the front-page banner in *The Australian's* Higher Education Supplement (8 August). Even more dramatic was the heading on the newspaper's editorial the same day, the Jaws-esque "Dark forces lurk in uni corridors". *The Advertiser* was demure by comparison, titling its Insight special "Something about Mary" (11 August).

Upheavals of a different sort—earthquakes—were discussed by **Professor Pat James** on *The Cordeaux Show* (5DN, 23 August). Professor James said that "a fairly large earthquakes" strikes South Australia about every 10 years but minor tremors go unnoticed. One

of those active in South Australia is known as the Eden Burnside fault which runs down the coast just south of Flinders University.

On 891 ABC (8 August) **Lindsay Doherty** explained to Philip Satchell the usefulness of Meccano as a training tool for engineering. Another Satchell interviewee was **Andy Austin** who previewed a gathering in Canberra of the Australian Entomological Society, of which he is president. Leon Byner (5AA, 9 August) Ken Dickin (5DN, 15 August) and others also interviewed Professor Austin about the prevalence of European wasps in South Australia.

The inclusion of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* in Gothic literature classes brought a round of

media interviews for **Dr Catherine Driscoll**. The Buffy story ran in *The Australian's* Higher Education Supplement (15 August), on 891 ABC's Drivetime (15 August), Radio National (20 August), and 891 ABC's Breakfast Show, among other outlets.

Channel 10's *Savvy TV* called on the expertise of University staff and students for several news stories. **Pascale Quester** spoke about the influence of corporate image on the consumer mindset (18 August), while PhD student **Megan Warin** contributed to a segment on anorexia in the same program. **John Spoehr** also appeared on *Savvy TV* (11 August) speaking about the five-year economic outlook for South Australia.

The ethics of heroin trials were explored by **Matt Gaughwin** in an article in *The Australian* (20 August). In *The Advertiser* (14 August) **Dr Meredith Wallwork** demonstrated a new microscope that uses the latest in computer and laser technology, enabling scientists to look at the innermost workings of micro-organisms in a non-invasive way. *The West Coast Sentinel* (9 August) gave prominent coverage to an international conference in Adelaide at which **Professor Sally Smith** spoke about mycorrhiza, a symbiosis between beneficial fungi and plant roots. In *The Advertiser* (10 August) **Professor Jack McLean** suggested a simple way of reducing metropolitan road casualties by 16%: everyone sticking to the 60kph speed limit.