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UniSA News

A newspaper of the University of South Australia

July 2002 issue

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Main stories

Skin cancer breakthrough

Australia has the highest rates of sun-related cancers of the skin and lip in the world. Costs associated with skin cancer are estimated to exceed \$300 million annually, making it one of the most expensive cancers in terms of direct health costs. [full story](#)



Brooke hammers it home for Australia

It wouldn't be such an insult if Brooke Krueger told you she trusted you as far as she could throw you. [full story](#)



Nurses offer frontline defence against heart failure

A UniSA researcher has concluded that a small army of specialist heart failure nurses could dramatically reduce deaths from heart failure, and at the same time save large amounts in health care costs. [full story](#)

Trojan effort supports worthy scholar

Teresa Zelek almost didn't apply for the Trojan Workforce Scholarship. In the middle of exams, the thought of writing an application was almost a bit too much at the time. [full story](#)



Languages under the spotlight

UniSA's Research Centre for Languages and Cultures Education has won two nationally competitive Department of Education, Science and Training grants worth almost \$140,000. [full story](#)



Extras

Publishing without perishing

Getting your work published in top journals has long been viewed as a prerequisite to climbing the academic ladder, so it's no surprise that a recent seminar offering insight on how to deal with "remorseless reviewers, exasperating editors and jejune journalists" attracted a swarm of UniSA staff and students. [full story](#)

Art graduates light up Halifax development

Two South Australian School of Art graduates looked to the past for inspiration for a bright new sustainable public artwork in Adelaide's Halifax development. [full story](#)

Marketer on board at Mawson Lakes

Jayne Correll has joined the Division of Information Technology, Engineering and the Environment as the new marketing and alumni officer. [full story](#)

Other stories

[Research centre wins US\\$260,000 contract](#)

A team from the Research Centre for Gender Studies (RCGS) has successfully tendered for a US\$260,000 research and consultancy project to help Pacific Island governments develop public expenditure management systems responsive to gender and youth issues.

[Wanted - one small patch of grass](#)

Ask UniSA Librarian Dr Alan Bundy what the key 21st century societal issue is and he'll remind you of Thomas Jefferson's axiom that 'information is the currency of democracy'.

[Honorary doctorate at the cutting edge](#)

[Ultrasound research gives muscle pain the cold shoulder](#)

A few years ago, UniSA lecturer in ultrasound and Masters of Health student Maureen Wilkinson used ultrasound to study the effect of heavy performing on the shoulders of violinists and violists from the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. As a result of that study, she is currently completing work at the Centre for Allied Health Research that could one day lead to a reduction in workplace injuries.

[Physio gives SA softballers the hard edge](#)

Students in UniSA's School of Physiotherapy are now helping South Australia's top softballers become some of the fittest in the country.

Professor John Ralston, director of the Ian Wark Research Institute (IWRI), has been honoured with the conferral of the prestigious Honorary Doctor of Philosophy from the Åbo Akademi University in Finland.

[A better deal for aged care nurses](#)

Some might suggest that aged care nursing isn't as glamorous as nursing in an emergency or intensive care setting, but as those at the coalface will tell you, the role of the registered nurse working in aged care is complex and demanding, but often professionally rewarding.

[Wilkinson to head health at UniSA](#)

Professor David Wilkinson begins his appointment as the new Pro Vice Chancellor for the Division of Health Sciences at UniSA this month.

[Registrar retires after 25 years](#)

Surviving the Medici online enrolment experience has been one of the major highlights for UniSA's Registrar Liz Watson, who is retiring after a career spanning almost 25 years at the University and its antecedent institutions.

[Our people - Diana Iasiello](#)

Amanuensis-in-residence is just one of the titles I've gathered during the past 13 years of employment in the School of Communication, Information and New Media. I had to resort to the dictionary meaning and was relieved to find it meant note-taker or secretary.

[Academic Board](#)

[Research update](#)

[August 2002 issue of UniSANews](#)

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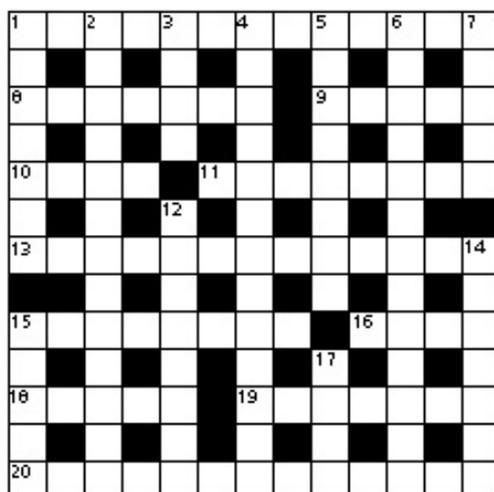
[Karen Williams](#)

The views expressed in UniSANews are not necessarily those of the University of South Australia or the Editor.

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Colgan's Cryptic Crossword



ACROSS

1. Taken from bed, nearly dies, but gets VC (6,7)
8. County Down after light (7)
9. Picture one in action (5)
10. Bird nestling in moor-heather (4)
11. Lubricated to renovate old quire (8)
13. Not behaving truly on the golf course (7,6)
15. The eternal issue of one being sponsored (8)
16. European and non-European toil arduously (4)
18. Board receiving approvals from Europe (5)
19. Study for a pupil (7)
20. Prods Head of School to speak, as you would expect (8,2,3)

DOWN

1. Join up, then cancel due to moisture (7)
2. Steal an animal and money from store (6,3,4)
3. Counsel from Shantung (4)
4. Container in kitchens and places of recreation (7,6)
5. Prepare security for cricketer (8)
6. Being on dessert, slow one returns afterwards to see the Beatles, say (13)
7. Return grant (5)

- 12. Run off with ecstatic follower (8)
- 14. Sin to wipe out wickedness? (7)
- 15. Developed a pronounced sigh (5)
- 17. Implement of ancient people (4)

More wine up for grabs! Last month's joint winners were Margaret Heslop and Sally Carpenter from the Research Office. For your chance to win, fax your completed crossword by Friday July 26 to (08) 8302 5785 attention: Len Colgan

D	E	N	I	S	E	B	R	A	D	L	E	Y
E		I		I		O		R		I		I
W	I	C	K	L	O	W		M	O	V	I	E
D		K		K		L		G		E		L
R	H	E	A		L	I	Q	U	O	R	E	D
O		L		H		N		A		P		
P	L	A	Y	I	N	G	A	R	O	U	N	D
		N		G		A		D		D		E
G	O	D	C	H	I	L	D		S	L	A	V
R		D		T		L		C		I		I
O	U	I	J	A		E	Y	E	B	A	L	L
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N	E	E	D	L	E	S	S	T	O	S	A	Y

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From the chancellery



The Minister for Education, Science and Training, Brendan Nelson, has recently released Higher Education at the Crossroads, a paper to focus discussion for his review of higher education. The paper seeks responses on learning experiences and outcomes; access and equity; the engagement of universities with their communities; universities specialising in areas of strength; efficiency and effectiveness; governance, including industrial relations in universities; how universities earn their income; how the public subsidy (as it is described) should be allocated; and reducing the red tape and reporting load on universities.

The AVCC has welcomed the review and the Minister's consultative approach to its conduct, including the establishment of a reference group of vice chancellors, amongst them Professor Bradley, industry leaders and other stakeholders. The university sector is over-ripe for policy debate, following a recent history of false starts and inaction, including the Vanstone cuts to university funding which proceeded in a policy vacuum, the West Review which has sat on the shelf, and former Minister Kemp's attempt to introduce funding changes which were rejected by the Prime Minister before the package got to Cabinet. All this at a time of unprecedented change in universities.

For any substantial change in the policies affecting universities to be effective, the Minister will have to gain support from the vice chancellors, business and government, and at least be able to ride out opposition from students and staff unions. To go back to the Minister's paper, the big question is whether any of the roads lead in a direction which will encourage the vice chancellors, business and Minister Nelson's Cabinet colleagues to

get aboard his policy bus.

What are the various directions in which we could go? There are three big questions to be considered here: How many people should go to university? How can this be funded? And what needs to change in universities for the nation and individual students to get maximum value for their investment in universities?

Crossroads canvasses various options for how universities can be funded, including increased payments by students (fee deregulation), increased enrolments of international and other fee paying students, philanthropy and commercial income. It does not consider any substantial increase in government funding.

Similarly, Crossroads seeks feedback on a range of measures which might increase the efficiency and effectiveness of universities, including compressing the time taken to get a degree, tightening quality assurance measures, funding universities to achieve particular outcomes such as contributions to regional development, course rationalisation, changes to industrial relations, improvement of university management and cutting bureaucratic red tape to free resources for teaching and research.

But on the first big question – how many people should go to university? Crossroads is largely silent, asking just once ‘How large should the Australian higher education system be?’ In other countries this has been the central question, with the UK government setting a target of 50 per cent of young people participating in higher education by the end of the decade. Crossroads provides data (table a5) showing that in 2000, 10.6 per cent of 15-19 year olds, 15.7 per cent of 20-24 year olds, and 5.3 per cent of 25-29 year olds were attending university. A 50 per cent participation rate would be a distant goal given our current situation. Crossroads also gives a table (a3) showing that the rate of participation in employment goes up with educational qualifications, from 61.4 per cent for those who have not gone beyond year 10, to 91.3 per cent for those with a postgraduate degree. The data suggests that future employment options for those without substantial post-school qualifications will be limited. But that is looking at it just from an individual point of view. From a national perspective, the same data suggests that our options for future economic development will be limited if the economy does not have available a workforce with substantial post-school qualifications.

By the 1970s, at the end of the long boom that followed first the great depression and then the second world war, Australia accepted that, to maintain our social and economic development in more uncertain times, 12 years of education should be available to all who might be able to complete it. Another 30 years on, and hoping to develop an internationally competitive knowledge economy, we face the question of whether we need as many as we can to complete several years of post-school education, and once again we need to consider how best to fund this major social and economic investment. The Minister's policy bus will have to take this question on board if it is to leave the crossroads for anywhere Australia wants to go.

[Professor Michael Rowan](#)

Pro Vice Chancellor and Vice President: Division of EASS

UniSA's submission to the Higher Education Review will be available at www.dest.gov.au/crossroads

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News in brief

Queen's birthday honours



[Associate Professor My-Van Tran](#) (pictured), [Emeritus](#)

[Professor Lloyd Sansom](#) and Dr Margaret Davy were all

named on the Queen's Birthday Honours List announced on June 10.

Prof Tran, from UniSA's School of International Studies, was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in

recognition of her service to the Vietnamese community and

for promoting multiculturalism and Asian studies. Prof Tran had previously received the OAM in 1986 for service to Australian-Asian relations.

Prof Sansom – who was Head of the School of Pharmacy and Medical sciences at UniSA from 1995-2000, and chaired the Australian Pharmaceutical Advisory Council – was made an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AO) for his services to pharmacology.

Dr Davy, trustee for UniSA's Davy Scholarship Committee and director of the Gynaecological Oncology Unit of the Royal Adelaide Hospital, was acknowledged with a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her service to medicine.

Schumacher snares international design prize

Industrial design lecturer [Peter Schumacher](#) has won a bronze leaf in the International Furniture Design Fair Asahikawa (IFDA) in Japan.

Schumacher competed against 820 entries from 46 countries to win the prize.

The IFDA has been held every three years since 1990. The specification was to design a piece of furniture made from timber. Schumacher's piece was a folding screen based on a fabric wing theme.

The aim of the competition is for furniture makers in Asahikawa to exchange ideas with designers from all over the world, the focus being on wooden furniture design.

First-time entrant Schumacher flew to Japan for the presentations on July 3.

Help for your research

Are you drowning in information but starved for knowledge? Trying to work your way through the plethora of information available today can be daunting, but help is on its way with the library conducting a program of workshops aiming to help staff and postgraduate students develop and update their information skills for research.

The workshops, called Strategies for successful research: Finding and managing information, last for one hour each, and are being held across different campuses at staggered intervals. Topics include tips on using EndNote, finding theses and dissertations, finding scientific information on the web, and many more.

For the full program of workshops, visit the website at www.library.unisa.edu.au/training/ssr/ssr.htm. Bookings are essential and can be done through the information desk at the appropriate campus.

UniSA International Business Week

UniSA is continuing as the principal and naming rights sponsor of International Business Week (IBW), to be held in Adelaide and regional centres from August 5 - 16.

IBW is South Australia's premier event for exporters and for companies considering the leap from domestic to world markets.

The UniSA IBW 2002 program of events includes 39 seminars and workshops covering some of the more critical issues exporters face when venturing overseas.

Experts from industry, government and the University will provide advice on various support programs, as well as market specific information in areas such as the law and cultural differences.

The regional program, to be held during the week August 5–9, will feature export service providers visiting the State's key regional areas to discuss export assistance programs and opportunities. The metropolitan program will feature seminars and workshops at various Adelaide locations from August 12–16.

For more information, registration and a full program visit the website at www.unisaibw.aspect.com.au or contact [John Kerr](#) from the Division of Business and Enterprise on

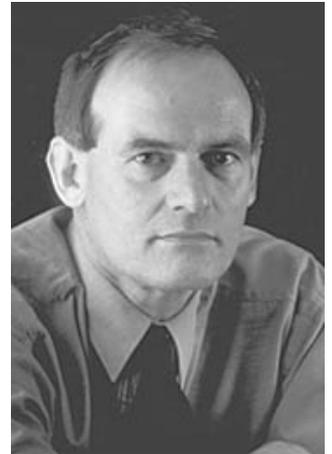
New appointments

Three schools are welcoming new heads, with the appointment of Professor Dennis Taylor as head of the School of Accounting and Information Systems, Professor Gus Guerson as head of the School of Marketing, and Professor Kay Lawrence as head of the South Australian School of Art.

Meanwhile, there are two new appointments to Council – Bruce Linn, executive director of the SA government account at EDS, and Bill Cossey, CEO of the State Courts Administration Authority.

Reid awarded fellowship

[Associate Professor of Education, Alan Reid](#) (pictured), has been selected from a national field of scholars to win the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) 2002-2003 Research Fellowship.



It is the first time the fellowship has gone to a South Australian since its inception five years ago.

Prof Reid (pictured above) was awarded the fellowship in recognition of his leadership in curriculum development for 'cradle to grave education' in South Australia and the 2001 research review of teacher education at UniSA.

Based in Canberra, the fellowship runs for 12 months and will allow Prof Reid to access departmental resources and data collections in order to complete a major piece of research for DEST. He will also contribute to the development of Commonwealth education policy and present seminars and conference papers on behalf of the department.



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Five to Nine

Fun for all ages at Family Day



"Hi, I'm Sammy the Clown – would you like a balloon?"

These were the words that greeted hundreds of children (with their mums, dads, grandmas and grandpas) to the magnificent Magill Campus for the Staff Family Fun Day on Sunday May 26.

Sammy was actually a UniSA staff member, who jumped at the chance to help entertain the kids on one of her days off. Sammy had plenty of helpers from amongst the staff. Disco Clown danced and Mickey Mouse gave out goodies, while the beautiful fairy princess – straight from the pages of your favourite fairytale – came alive to capture the hearts of all the children.

Storytellers dressed in witches' hats didn't frighten the children, who hung on their every word and begged for more stories from the eloquent witches. Nothing could drag them away – unless it was their turn to have their face painted.





Investigator Science Centre displays and activities educated and entertained, while those with energy to burn appreciated the range of Life Be In It activities available.

Mums and dads kept tarot card reader Madam Lyn busy, and when tiredness set in, the Three Blue Fish were there to entertain and soothe with their own brand of a cappella magic.

Special thanks go to Investigator Science Centre, St John Volunteers, Milo, Bellis Fruit Bars and Alba Gelati for supporting the day.

Whyalla joins in the fun

When Whyalla's marketing officer Cathy Hughes heard about the staff Family Fun Day to be held at Magill, she was determined that Whyalla staff would join in the fun. Travelling to Adelaide seemed a bit much so Cathy and her team of helpers decided to hold their own Family Fun Day.

Fifteen Whyalla staff got the day off to an early start by joining in the Terry Fox Fun Run to raise money for the local cancer support group. Team UniSA raised \$300, Joanne Dollard won the women's 5km run and the team snared a prize for best decked-out team. Then it was on with the barbeque and fun for 100 staff and children as The Blue Crabs, Gold Fish and Red Roosters competed in a variety of fun events, with the Gold Fish proud recipients of the inaugural Family Fun Day trophy.

Special thanks go to the South Australian Centre for Rural and Remote Health (SACRRH) and Cadbury's for supporting the day.

Please email all leads, ideas and contributions for Five to Nine to [Gerry Clarke](#) or phone (08) 8302 0965

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Browser briefs

Free public access a priority

This site has been voted as one of the top five most popular Australian websites, with good reason. The Australasian Legal Information Institute (AustLII) provides free internet access to Australian legal materials. Its broad public policy agenda is to improve access to justice through better access to information. It publishes public legal information – primary legal materials (eg. legislation, decisions of courts) and secondary legal materials created by public bodies for purposes of public access(eg. law reform reports). In addition, it also provides a large index of other legal websites from around the world. This joint facility of UTS and UNSW Faculties of Law is one of the largest sources of legal materials available on the internet, with over1.5 million searchable documents. It cannot provide you with legal advice, but you can find documents and legislation relating to matters of your particular interest. An overview of the AustLII project is available at www.austlii.edu.au/austlii/brochure.html. FAQs are answered at www.austlii.edu.au/austlii/faq/.

www.austlii.edu.au/

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Life Lines

House prices going through the roof?



Real estate, and especially residential real estate, is an endlessly fascinating topic – and why not? We all live somewhere and if we are Australian, most of us own or aspire to own our own home. But Australian households are not at the top of the world's home ownership scale – we are

actually fourth behind Ireland, Spain and Italy and only just ahead of Britain and the United States.

Over the last decade, virtually the whole of the Western world has seen quite a rapid escalation in house prices, with Australia joining right in. Given a fairly fixed housing stock, house price inflation has been caused by increases in demand for houses. Most of us have mixed motives when we demand housing. We want houses for the accommodation they provide, their amenities, their prestige – in other words we want them as consumer goods. But, unlike most of our other consumer purchases, we often have an investment motive too. We have seen both consumer and investment motives happily working together to raise prices, and both have been fueled by continuing low interest rates.

So what will be the effect of the interest rate rises that are expected over the next year or so? To judge by the current media stories, if you just bought your own home the interest rate rises will bankrupt you! Banks are on a pretty good thing with owner-occupied housing because most people will work very hard to pay their mortgage and to keep their house. But banks usually "crash test" their housing consumer loans – they tend not to lend you money for your house if your income won't withstand a couple of percentage points interest rate rise.

The main (and intended) effect of interest rate rises is to dampen demand. There are indications that the policy is starting to work in Adelaide, despite the usual suspects continuing to talk the market up. In any event, the Adelaide housing market has shown a fairly consistent pattern over the last 30 or so years – one or two years of rises

followed by five to seven years of stagnation – and we are near the end of our two years' mini-boom.

Over the same 30 or more years, Adelaide house prices have almost exactly matched inflation – in other words they have not increased at all in real terms. You would not know this from the regularly published figures for "median house prices in your suburb", because these prices are not adjusted for the undeniable fact that houses have become bigger and better appointed over the years. Over the long term, houses are maintaining their real value (not to be sneezed at), but prices are increasing because we are buying more house. This is not to say that you can't make real gains if you play the market wisely over the relatively short term – but watch those transaction costs!

While the (untaxed) real capital gains from owning the house you live in are usually exaggerated, there is a positive aspect that is all but ignored. If you rented the house to someone else, you would have to pay tax on the rental income. But in effect you are renting the house you live in to yourself and that rental "income" is not taxed, so the tax saving is part of the "investment" return on the property. Some countries do tax the notional rent for owner-occupied housing, which rather unsurprisingly results in comparatively low home-ownership rates.

Real estate bought for purely investment purposes is another story, which I may cover in a future column.

[Rob Kooymans](#)

Lecturer in corporate real estate

School of International Business

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Classifieds

Advertising in the classifieds section is available to staff of UniSA. Email classifieds to unisa.news@unisa.edu.au.

Accommodation

Available for rent large 3 bdrm part furn house in Brighton. Close all facilities. Secure garden, carport, shed and pool. \$250 per week neg (not including other costs). Bond \$1,000. Avail from Jul 24 to Dec 18, 2002. Contact Phil or Elena on (08) 8377 3129

Colonial unit for rent, in quiet cul-de-sac off Anzac Hwy. Large lounge, kit/din area, LUG, inground pool. Close transport and beach, available Jul 2002. Call 0407 725 776

Cottage for rent in Goodwood 2 bdrm unfurn. Walk to city, parklands and shops \$240 pw. Phone 0414 511 190

House-sitter available (my house being rebuilt). Mature-age, editor, part-time student. Non-smoker, organic gardener. Will take good care of your house, garden, pets. Bond and refs can be supplied. Avail anytime from now on. Contact Jenny on 8364 4984 or 0418 852 566

UK house exchange wanted 11 rm furn Federation villa in Toorak Gardens, 2km from city. Like to exchange for UK house for 12 mnths from August 2002 (dates negotiable). May rent if cannot exchange. Contact nigelcoombe@aol.com or phone (08) 8331 8548

Unit to let 1 bdrm fully furn unit in Seaton. Close rail, bus and shops. Avail from Aug 2002 for 1 year. \$90 pw. Phone (08) 8345 0557 or 0415 512 417

Wanted to rent or housesit furn 3 bdrm house, between city and Magill campus, Sep/Oct 2002 to Jun 2003. For USA academic. Dates can be flexible. Preferably close to a school. Email sanjugta.vasdev@unisa.edu.au

For sale

Bargain 34 cm colour TV. Ideal as second TV or for kids' Nintendo. \$60 phone(08)

8302 0096

Bedroom Furniture – wardrobe, bedside 3 x drawers and desk, all brand new, all matching white melamine. Urgent sale \$280. Phone Noelleen on 8445 9548

Household items – for the following four items, contact Robyn on (08) 8302 2390 or 0408 894 139

Black wrought iron candelabra \$60 ono Black wrought iron/glass hall table \$65 ono
Chef Rangehood and Flue \$150 ono Large metal extending ladder \$100 ono

Two x 2-day passes for Bathurst 1000 on Sat Oct 12 and Sun Oct 13, 2002. Cost \$78 each , sell for \$60 each. Phone Roger on 0417 839 517

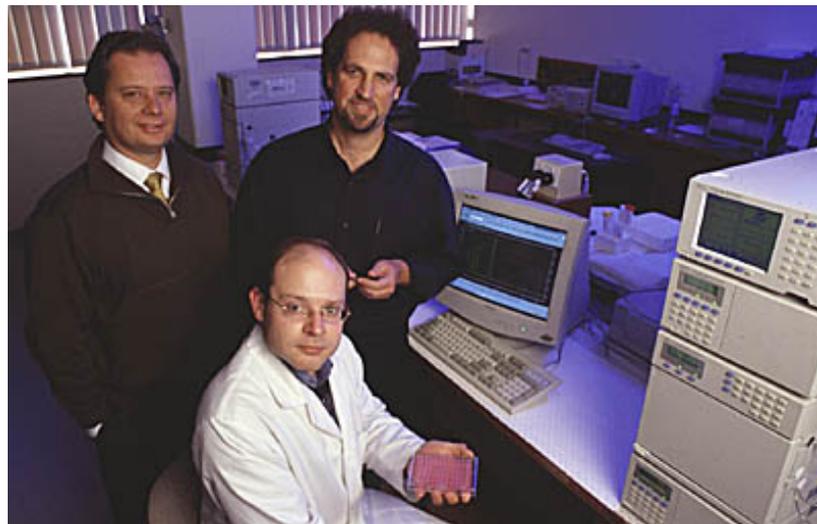
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Skin Cancer Breakthrough

Research with potential to save lives and millions of dollars

by [Geraldine Hinter](#)



Australia has the highest rates of sun-related cancers of the skin and lip in the world. Costs associated with skin cancer are estimated to exceed \$300 million annually, making it one of the most expensive cancers in terms of direct health costs.

But that could soon change following ground breaking research at UniSA's Centre for Pharmaceutical Research (CPR), where researchers have discovered a treatment with the potential to prevent skin cancers from developing. The treatment could also reduce the incidence of skin cancers in pets, according to Director of the centre, [Associate Professor Allan Evans](#).

By adding a particular drug to a human skin cancer cell line, the CPR team discovered that the drug inhibited the growth of cancer cells. They believe this was by inducing a process called apoptosis (natural cell death – when cells stop multiplying after growing to a certain stage of development).

One of the reasons cancer cells behave as they do is because they lose the ability to stop growing, according to Prof Evans, who is working with researchers [Associate Professor Ross McKinnon](#) and a student, Shwu Fen Loh, from UniSA's School of

"Funded initially by the school, the aim of our research was to develop a topical formulation that could be applied directly to the skin to prevent new skin cancers developing, especially in those people who have a history of skin cancers," Prof Evans said.

Working with Dr Ian Record from the CSIRO, the researchers conducted controlled studies on a breed of hairless mice that spontaneously develop skin cancers as a result of normal exposure to the UV rays in sunlight.

"We formulated our drug as a topical preparation and applied it directly to the skin of the mice being monitored. While some of the animals received the CPR drug, others were given a 'control' treatment without the drug. We were excited to find that our treatment caused a significant delay in the onset of tumours. Moreover, animals that were given the drug showed significantly fewer tumours that were much smaller and not nearly as aggressive as the tumours on the 'control' mice," Prof Evans said.

"This is the first time in which a topical therapy of this type has been shown to prevent the generation of skin cancers as a result of UV light exposure.

"The good thing about this particular drug is that it has been used for many years in other forms of medicine, so it is recognised as being safe for long-term use, as opposed to a new drug, which has to undergo extensive clinical testing before it can be used by humans.

"We have filed a provisional patent, and are looking at forming a spin-off company or venture, with the backing of a US pharmaceutical company. We are also keen to conduct our clinical testing on patients with a history of skin cancers here in Australia."

According to Prof Evans, this is an excellent example of how basic research can lead to exciting discoveries with enormous practical outcomes. The Cancer Council South Australia has provided funding for further studies to gain a better understanding of how the drug works at a cellular level.

Skin Cancer

Statistics

- 23,400 South Australians are diagnosed with sun-related cancers each year
- melanoma is the most lethal form, responsible for 75 per cent of fatalities, and is one of the most common cancers in 15-44 year olds
- surgery is the main form of treatment for about 95 per cent of skin cancers in Australia

Statistics from the Cancer Council of South Australia

UniSA researchers hope to test the drug on animals by conducting a study through veterinary clinics. This is seen as an ideal avenue to recruit animals such as white cats, which are prone to develop cancers around the face and ears, and would give owners the opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment on pets with skin cancers, and possibly avoid surgery.

"We anticipate starting human trials in the next 12-24 months and, all going well, would expect to have our product on the market in three to five years," Prof Evans said.

"Until now nobody has developed a medication that would be suitable for people who have a predisposition to skin cancer. We believe we can provide these people with a therapeutical option that they currently don't have.

"Skin cancers can develop many years after we have exposed our unprotected bodies to the harmful effects of solar radiation. If our treatment could be used to stop or slow down the development of these skin cancers, it could reduce the need for surgery and potentially reduce the development of serious and perhaps life threatening forms of skin cancers. This will mean huge savings in the costs of health care and real benefits for our community."

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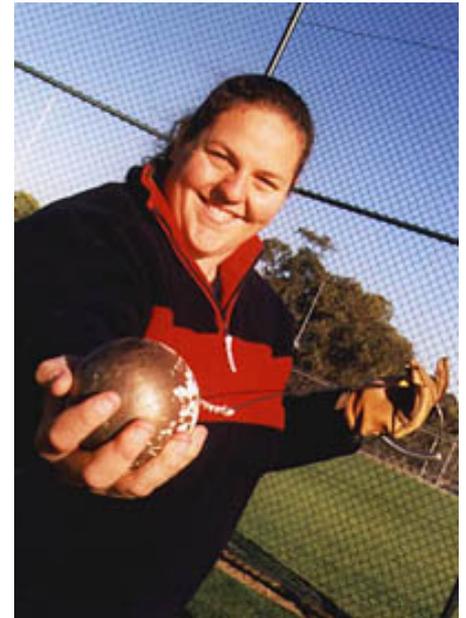
Brooke hammers it home for Australia

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)

It wouldn't be such an insult if Brooke Krueger told you she trusted you as far as she could throw you.

After all, the 22-year-old UniSA Bachelor of Education (Primary and Junior Primary) student can throw a four kilogram weight more than 66 metres.

While most third year education students will have finished their placements and be enjoying the mid-year break, Brooke (pictured) has been preparing to represent Australia in the hammer throw event at the Commonwealth Games in Manchester.



Competing at the games – to be held from July 25 to August 3 – will be the culmination of seven years of commitment to hammer throwing for Brooke. She first tried the sport in her home town Tailem Bend in 1995 and threw 29 metres – enough to qualify for the junior nationals.

Since then Brooke has progressed to become the seventh Australian to throw more than 60 metres. She sealed her Commonwealth Games selection with a second place in the Telstra A-Championships in April this year, where she threw a personal best of 66.11 metres to become the number three female thrower in Australian history. She's also the reigning women's champion in the Port Lincoln Tuna Competition, where she threw a nine kilogram frozen tuna fish 21 metres.

"Getting on to the Commonwealth team is definitely my greatest sporting achievement," says Brooke. "It's my first senior team."

"My long term goal is to represent Australia in the Olympics in 2004. In the short term

it's to go over to Manchester and just throw the best I can – and who knows? – I might pick up a medal."

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Nurses offer frontline defence against heart failure

by [Michèle Nardelli](#)

A UniSA researcher has concluded that a small army of specialist heart failure nurses could dramatically reduce deaths from heart failure, and at the same time save large amounts in health care costs.

[Professor Simon Stewart](#) from the School of Nursing and Midwifery, and Professor John Horowitz from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital have published research findings in the world's premier cardiovascular health journal *Circulation* that show specialist heart failure nursing can reduce deaths from heart failure and ease the burden on public hospitals.

An editorial in the journal hailed the study as significant and an important extension to the ground-breaking research they have previously published in the area.

"Our research has shown when people have home-based heart failure nursing care their likelihood of going back to hospital with severe problems drops by 30-60 per cent," Prof Stewart says.

"This would be especially valuable in reducing the typical peak in heart failure admissions during winter months."

The study examined the progress of patients with heart failure over a six-year period after receiving specialist-nursing care in the home and compared it to a group of patients who received standard care. Patients who received extra care were less likely to be admitted to hospital and to die during this period.

In another of his studies examining the economic benefits of a program that would enlist specialist heart failure nurses to manage patient care and treatment in the United Kingdom, Prof Stewart found that funding for a UK-wide home based heart failure nurse program would be more than balanced by savings to the public hospital system.

"In the context of our own state we believe that while funding for a team of specialist

nurses may cost \$150,000 a year, we would make about \$1 million in savings in other areas such as hospital stays and readmissions ... Heart failure is at epidemic proportions in many western societies and in winter increases in chest and respiratory infections add to the problem.

"It is well documented that, while people who have had a severe incident of heart failure respond to the drugs prescribed such as beta blockers, prolonged survival and improved quality of life is achieved with a more individualised approach to care and support for self care.

Prof Stewart said the research has already made an impact on service provision in the UK where the heart failure nursing services were now successfully in operation. NSW is implementing similar services with 80 nurses being recruited to provide care for patients with heart failure.

"We are really keen for this research to be taken up in our own home state where we believe it will represent big savings, primarily in lives but also in costs to the public hospital system and in reducing waiting lists for people generally," he said.

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Trojan effort supports a worthy scholar

by Karen Williams

Teresa Zelek almost didn't apply for the Trojan Workforce Scholarship. In the middle of exams, the thought of writing an application was almost a bit too much at the time.

But she applied and, to her delight, the 21-year-old student is the 2002

winner of the scholarship, which was presented on May 15 at City West campus.

The \$5,000 scholarship is made available to full-time students enrolled in the Bachelor of Management (Employment Relations) program at the School of International Business. Zelek is in her third year.

The scholarship aims to assist financially disadvantaged students, and to strengthen the existing relationship between Trojan and UniSA.

Trojan, a national employment agency, provides casual maintenance and administrative staff placements for UniSA, and wanted to "give something back" to the University.

They targeted the employment relations stream of the Bachelor of Management program as it is most appropriate to their industry.

Manager of Trojan's South Australian branch, Peter Forbes, said the idea was to help the winner obtain an education that may not have previously been possible, or at least to help ease the financial burden for someone in need.

Applicants had to explain how they would use the money, and Zelek said that the money would go towards books and fees. Perhaps there are no surprises in that, but it



has made her life just that bit easier.

"I study full-time externally and work part-time, as well as helping out with family responsibilities at home. So the money is certainly being put to good use, and enables me to concentrate more on my study rather than needing to do more part-time work," she said.

This is the first year the scholarship has been offered. Further information about scholarships at UniSA is available on the website at www.unisa.edu.au/indexes/scholarships.htm. For information regarding the Trojan scholarship contact Hellen McIver at the School of International Business on 8302 0508.

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Languages under the spotlight

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)

UniSA's Research Centre for Languages and Cultures Education has won two nationally competitive Department of Education, Science and Training grants worth almost \$140,000.

Fifty thousand dollars will go towards a research project that aims to develop a framework that primary and secondary teachers can use to integrate language and culture more effectively in teaching languages. This project will be undertaken by UniSA's Leo Papademetre and Michele Kohler in partnership with Griffith University.

The second project (granted \$88,000) aims to develop nationally agreed outcome measures for students studying Japanese and Indonesian, and will be undertaken by UniSA's [Angela Scarino](#) and [Andrew Scrimgeour](#), in conjunction with the Language Testing Research Centre at the University of Melbourne.

Funded under the National Asian Languages and Studies in Australian Schools (NALSAS) strategy, the project comes at a critical time for Asian language teaching in Australia, following the Federal Government announcement that NALSAS funding will be discontinued in 2003.



Scarino (pictured), head of UniSA's School of International Studies, said the task of getting national agreement from schools, both public and private, would be a big challenge. "Achieving consensus across the different jurisdictions won't be easy, but what's great about it is it enables us to contribute to NALSAS before it closes at the end of the year."

She said policies guiding what languages are taught in Australian primary and secondary schools – and how they are taught – had been chopped and changed since the launch of the first national policy for languages (written by Jo Bianco) in 1987. The 1987 policy had an emphasis on linguistics and cultural

pluralism, and it covered Aboriginal, Asian and European languages as well as taking into account factors such as library services, industry and SBS. It was seen as the strongest language policy statement ever and other countries looked to Australia with envy.

However the policy was labelled "unruly" and replaced in 1991 with John Dawkins' policy push for more of an emphasis on English language literacy. In 1994 the NALSAS strategy was born, following a report recommending an increase in the teaching of Chinese, Indonesian, Japanese, and Korean.

Scarino said she hoped that both State and Federal Governments would support a return to a more comprehensive approach to languages.

"In Europe all students leave school either bi or tri lingual, and in Asia they have made English compulsory."

"Australia is a multicultural society and cannot ignore its pluralistic composition ... I'm hoping that both the Commonwealth and the States reaffirm their commitment – not just in funding but also in policy."

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Publishing without perishing

The low-down according to Bobby Banerjee

Getting your work published in top journals has long been viewed as a prerequisite to climbing the academic ladder, so it's no surprise that a recent seminar offering insight on how to deal with "remorseless reviewers, exasperating editors and jejune journalists" attracted a swarm of UniSA staff and students.



Professor [Bobby Banerjee](#), a new recruit to the International Graduate School of Management, entertained and educated the audience with insights gained from seven years of hard slog on the management and marketing journal circuit.

His aim was to demystify the publication process. As he put it: "It's not rocket science, it's just understanding how the game is played."

First rule of thumb: the editorial process can be lengthy. Top journals usually require two to three revisions before they accept a paper, and many have long backlogs of articles waiting to be published, said Banerjee.

He cited an instance where one of his articles took four and a half years to print – "I had fantasies of strangling the editor" – and suggested that if you want two or three articles published each year, you need five on the go at any one time.

Another tip: work from the top down. "I've been advised to go the working paper, conference paper, minor journal, major journal route – but one of the good things about advice is you don't have to take it," he said.

While pointing out the need to match the quality of work with the quality of the publication, Banerjee said submitting to the top journals first could be a useful exercise: "You may get rejected, but the A journals usually send back pages of feedback which you can use to rework your article and get it accepted by an A-minus publication."

When it comes to having your work reviewed, Banerjee had a word of warning: "The

reviewers are as bright as you are – it's just that they tend to be nastier." But many a reputation has been saved after a nasty review by the 'accept and deflect' principle, whereby the author responds to criticism by acknowledging the reviewer's point, but emphasising that the information the reviewer bemoaned the absence of was outside of the paper's terms of reference.

One last tip: good writing will get you everywhere. "It's amazing how much rigour you can escape if you're a good writer," Banerjee said.

[Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)

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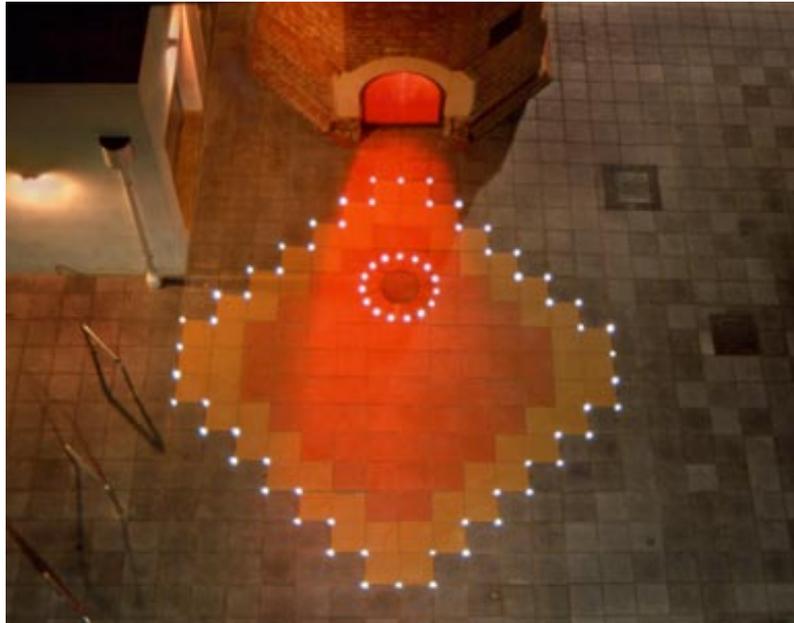
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Art graduates light up Halifax development



Two South Australian School of Art graduates looked to the past for inspiration for a bright new sustainable public artwork in Adelaide's Halifax development.

Adjacent to a heritage chimney on Halifax Street, Sue and Trevor Rodwell's work, *Retrace*, was opened by Adelaide's Lord Mayor, Alfred Huang, on May 30.

When researching the history of the site, the artists discovered that Destructor furnaces were used for the incineration of rubbish from 1909. The furnaces produced so much heat they were used to generate electricity to power the site and the excess was sold to the Adelaide Electric Company for illuminating city streets. As a by-product of the incineration process, clinker was harvested from the furnaces, milled, cement was added and pavers were manufactured at a rate of twenty per hour and sold for three shillings each.

The artwork has two elements: a slumped glass panel set within the arched chimney opening (creating a pattern with its edges catching the sun during the day and adding dramatic emphasis when backlit at night), and a paving pattern (reminiscent of the earlier paving manufacture that took place at the site.)

The coloured backlighting which operates during darkness is red, orange and yellow,

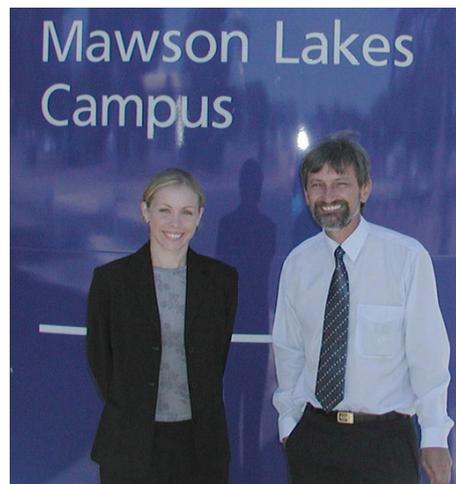
referencing the furnaces that were once connected to the chimney. A photovoltaic solar power system feeds power into the grid from which the lighting systems operate.

Retrace is on permanent display at 75 Halifax Street Adelaide.

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Marketer on board at Mawson Lakes



[Jayne Correll](#) has joined the Division of Information Technology, Engineering and the Environment as the new marketing and alumni officer.

Correll (pictured with Brad Williams), who completed her Masters in Communication Management last year with UniSA, comes from Adelaide advertising agency Killey Withy

Punshon (kwp!), where she was the public relations and marketing coordinator. Also experienced in magazine editing and response media liaison from her time with the Country Fire Service, Correll brings a wealth of experience to the marketing and alumni role.

"It's been a non-stop, action packed adventure since I started work here," said Correll, who started work at UniSA in April.

"All staff have been extremely welcoming, encouraging, supportive and full of fantastic ideas to kick-start our marketing initiatives within ITE&E," she said.

"Whilst marketing strategies associated with student recruitment will be a pivotal element in my role, I'm really keen to develop opportunities in the northern suburbs – Mawson Lakes' prime catchment area."

Meanwhile, a familiar face has returned to the Division of ITE&E. [Brad Williams](#), the division's infrastructure, publicity and marketing manager has reprised his old role following a 24-month stint with Medici.

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Research centre wins US\$260,000 contract

A team from the Research Centre for Gender Studies (RCGS) has successfully tendered for a US\$260,000 research and consultancy project to help Pacific Island governments develop public expenditure management systems responsive to gender and youth issues.

Headed by [Associate Professor Rhonda Sharp](#), the group beat an international field of competitors to win the Asian Development Bank funded contract.

The project – one of the most lucrative to be undertaken by both RCGS and its umbrella organisation the Hawke Institute – aims to develop a youth-sensitive approach to budgets in Samoa, and gender-sensitive budgets in the Marshall Islands.

Joining Prof Sharp on the team are John Spoehr (a UniSA PhD student and executive director of the University of Adelaide's Labor Research Centre), Jan Connolly (former UniSA executive director of resources), and Dr Anne Ryan (from the National University of Ireland).

Prof Sharp said youth issues were becoming increasingly important in Samoa, with 50 per cent of the population younger than 25.

"Samoa is a hierarchical society where youth have usually been spoken on behalf of," she said. "It's also a very Christian country, but globalisation has put the old structures under threat and it's the youth who are being exposed to these other influences. A range of youth related issues, including participation, education, employment, drug abuse, family conflict have emerged which are better tackled if a youth perspective can be integrated across the government budget".

In contrast, the Marshall Islands are much poorer – still bearing the effects of US nuclear testing after WW2 – and are totally dependent on US aid. "While the Micronesian culture gives some space for women, that space has to be fought for," Prof Sharp said. "And because the government is poor, fostering gender equity hasn't been very high on the agenda."

Prof Sharp has extensive experience advising state, federal and international governments on how to address equity issues. "We are aiming to get the governments to link policies to budgets and realise that issues of gender and youth cut across all government departments ... at the end of the day progress towards equity requires closing the yawning gap between policy development and that of budget appropriation."

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Wanted - one small patch of grass

Ask UniSA Librarian [Dr Alan Bundy](#) what the key 21st century societal issue is and he'll remind you of Thomas Jefferson's axiom that 'information is the currency of democracy'.

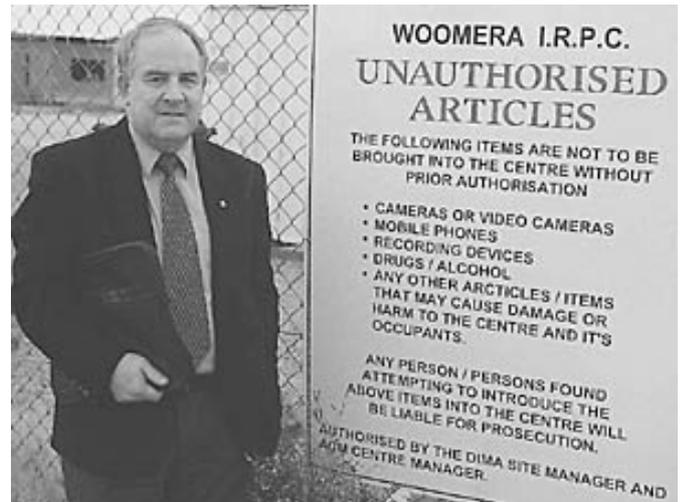
"The misinformation about the Tampa, the children overboard, the so-called refugee queue, and the detention centres demonstrate all too well the point Jefferson was making," he asserts.

Dr Bundy is not just one for words, however. During his 2001/2002 presidency of the Australian Library and Information Association, he initiated negotiations with Immigration Minister Philip Ruddock's office and Australasian Correctional Management to permit a review of library and information resources in Australia's mainland detention centres.

And his recent visit to Woomera left some powerful impressions.

"Woomera's visual brutality, like that of the new Baxter Centre outside of Port Augusta, is overwhelming – but we found the welfare staff and teachers to be caring professionals determined to do their best for the detainees, especially the women and children," he said.

"A new library (but no legal resources), computer room (but no internet access) and playground have just been completed and library and other educational resources are now being purchased. But instead of the 3,720 items claimed to be held in the library in a letter to me in 2001, we found less than 2000. Select groups of detainees are also now able to visit the Woomera Public Library."



Teams of librarians have now also reviewed the Maribyrnong, Villawood and Perth Centres. That team, led by Grant Stone from Murdoch University Library, is soon to visit Port Hedland and Curtin in WA.

"Once all of the reports are in I'll be collating them, with recommendations for the Minister and ACM," says Dr Bundy.

Asked about the reality of Woomera, Dr Bundy had this to say: "It is a sad waste of human lives and public money, it's totally dehumanising and at minimum no place for children and families. The UN's assessment of the collective depression in such a place is not surprising," he said.

"A small patch of grass and just a few trees, were the dearest wish of one family incarcerated for 18 months. If every Australian could visit Woomera, they'd understand why."

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Honorary doctorate at the cutting edge



[Professor John Ralston](#), director of the Ian Wark Research Institute (IWRI), has been honoured with the conferral of the prestigious Honorary Doctor of Philosophy from the Åbo Akademi University in Finland.

The doctorate, from the university's Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, was conferred by Professor Clas Zilliacus at a graduation ceremony in Turku, Finland on May 24. Prof Ralston was presented with the university's sword in recognition of his contribution to the research and internationalisation of material, surfactant and colloid sciences, and his support for research and education within these areas at Åbo Akademi University.

As director of IWRI and Professor of Physical Chemistry and Minerals Processing, Prof Ralston was instrumental in the IWRI's success in gaining Australian Research Council Special Research Centre status in 2000 for some of the most sophisticated particle and interface science research undertaken in the world.

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Ultrasound research gives muscle pain the cold shoulder

by Adam Barclay

A few years ago, UniSA lecturer in ultrasound and Masters of Health student [Maureen Wilkinson](#) used ultrasound to study the effect of heavy performing on the shoulders of violinists and violists from the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. As a result of that study, she is currently completing work at the Centre for Allied Health Research that could one day lead to a reduction in workplace injuries.



Finding that the musicians' shoulder muscles remained swollen for a few days after playing, it occurred to Wilkinson that the activities people carry out in everyday life probably result in large variations of shoulder muscle size throughout the day.

Wilkinson studied two groups of people – a control group who did not alter their daily routines, and a group who were asked to perform a structured exercise program in the gym.

She found that, while a person's shoulder muscles did vary in size considerably over the course of a day, this variation wasn't affected by the exercise – the changes in muscle size experienced by the control group were the same as those in the exercise group.

However, many ordinary activities resulted in muscle swelling. People who had stayed up late studying, for example, often experienced a very swollen trapezius – the muscle at the back of the neck that feels tight and sore when you're stressed and tired.

Importantly, the research has resulted in the establishment of a normal range of

variation in muscle size, something that had never previously been studied. Without such information, it had been impossible to tell if somebody's muscle swelling was normal and nothing to worry about, or something that needed medical intervention and attention.

Researchers will now be able to study groups who are traditionally susceptible to shoulder problems, such as musicians, car assembly workers, painters, tilers and roofers – people who use their arms at or above head height and make repetitive shoulder movements.

"This type of work can lead to chronic shoulder pain and stiffness and a limited range of movement severe enough to prevent people from working," said Wilkinson.

The results of Wilkinson's study will hopefully lead to the development of an early warning system that would let people know if their shoulder muscles were damaged and needed rest or treatment.

"An early warning system would be excellent – it may save a lot of pain and a lot of money. These types of injuries cost millions of dollars each year," said Wilkinson.

The potential benefits of the study are considerable. As well as using Wilkinson's results to develop an early warning system for shoulder injury, researchers should be able to use the same techniques to study other areas of the body.

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Physio gives SA softballers the hard edge



Students in UniSA's School of Physiotherapy are now helping South Australia's top softballers become some of the fittest in the country.

The strength and conditioning program is being run by senior lecturer [Dr Mary Magarey](#), who is an Australian Physiotherapy Association titled sports physiotherapist and has a position as sports science consultant for the Australian Softball Federation Academy (SA).

Master of Physiotherapy (Sports Physiotherapy) students are performing fitness testing and musculoskeletal screening, as well as assisting and supervising the athletes during the exercise sessions, which are held twice a week.

Individual programs are being tailored for each softball player, to be incorporated into their regular training sessions, as well as additional homework as required.

Run in conjunction with the Physiotherapy Clinic and the school's gym, the program has so far been highly successful. The clinic and gym facilities are well suited to the sessions, as equipment is available for most of the athletes' requirements, although each athlete has purchased their own Swiss ball (large, inflatable balls) on which much of their motor control work is based.

"This program is a wonderful opportunity for the sports physiotherapy students to

obtain 'hands-on' experience working with elite athletes through an out-of-season program designed to improve aerobic fitness, strength, conditioning and awareness of correct movement patterns and sport-skill development," Dr Magarey said.

"The athletes are also benefiting from the close attention of post-graduate physiotherapy students, who are already appreciating the improvement they can see from the start of the fitness program five weeks ago.

"It's a good initiative for the school. We're having huge fun and it's working really well. And the clinic is a colourful site when fifteen athletes on different coloured large balls are working out as a group," she said.

The program aims to have athletes in peak playing condition for the start of the 2002-2003 season, which runs from October to March 2003, with national championships in January.

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A better deal for aged care nurses

Some might suggest that aged care nursing isn't as glamorous as nursing in an emergency or intensive care setting, but as those at the coalface will tell you, the role of the registered nurse working in aged care is complex and demanding, but often professionally rewarding.

Finding ways to both strive for excellence in, and improve the image of, aged care nursing has been the focus of a two-year study carried out by UniSA's Centre for Research into Nursing and Health Care in partnership with the Aged Care Housing Group.

The innovative research project sought to understand what was happening to residential care nurses in an industry that was finding nurses increasingly hard to recruit and to retain.

The project report, *Ensuring Excellence: An investigation into the issues that impact on the registered nurse providing residential care to older Australians*, stated that the job is highly skilled, wage levels are not comparable with other areas of nursing, there is an increasing expectation for nurses to move beyond clinical care responsibilities in their job, and educational support is needed to help nurses acquire and update skills for this specialist area.

"The report identifies that the role of registered nurses in the residential care setting may need to be rewritten to meet the demands of this dynamic industry and to guide both future nurse education and the career needs of nurses moving into and out of this specialist field," said research leader, Professor Julianne Cheek.

"Maintaining and recruiting quality staff will also be very much dependent on looking at the wages and conditions provided for nurses working in the residential aged care sector and in identifying and promoting the very real professional and personal rewards nurses experience through their work."

The project and the national advisory board's review of the research have resulted in nine recommendations, ranging from improved wages and working conditions to

benchmarking of quality care standards.

"The recommendations make it clear that nationally we need to encourage a consistent approach and dedication to improving the image and operation of the sector," Prof Cheek said.

"This research report and the recommendations are an important step nationally in improving the working life of nurses who want to build a specialist career or want to ensure they can make residential care nursing a part of their career development. It represents a new level of cooperation and understanding nationally about the important issues facing nurses and indeed the residential care industry into the future."

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Wilkinson to head health at UniSA



[Professor David Wilkinson](#) begins his appointment as the new Pro Vice Chancellor for the Division of Health Sciences at UniSA this month.

Prof Wilkinson (pictured below), who succeeds Professor Ruth Grant, was previously the director of the Spencer Gulf Rural Health School (SGRHS), a joint initiative between the University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide.

Prof Wilkinson said that UniSA's Division of Health Sciences enjoyed a strong international and national reputation for teaching and research and that he was looking forward to building on the work done by Professor Grant.

"Health science is a rapidly expanding, constantly changing field, and our challenge is to graduate the very best health science professionals and conduct significant research from UniSA."

Under Prof Wilkinson's leadership, the SGRHS generated more than \$6 million in income, published more than 30 papers in peer-reviewed journals and established several major projects, including a Rural Clinical School with funding of \$13.5 million over five years.

Before moving to Australia he was the specialist scientist and division head for the Centre for Epidemiological Research in South Africa, where he established a research agenda in sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and health systems.

In 2001 Prof Wilkinson was awarded Membership of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP) of London, recognising what was described as his 'exceptionally distinguished contributions to the field of medicine'.

His qualifications include a Doctorate in Philosophy from UniSA, a Doctorate in Medicine from the University of Natal, a Master of Science in epidemiology from

Columbia University, a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, and Bachelor of Science in pharmacology from the University of Manchester.

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Registrar retires after 25 years

by [Geraldine Hinter](#)

Surviving the Medici online enrolment experience has been one of the major highlights for UniSA's Registrar Liz Watson, who is retiring after a career spanning almost 25 years at the University and its antecedent institutions.

But the transition to online facilities for staff and students is only one of the significant changes that Watson has experienced.

Being involved in the genesis of a new university in 1991 was also memorable. Her escape from the multiple mergers of the college sector in the 1980s

to the relative stability of the South Australian Institute of Technology (SAIT) did not last long. Only two years after her appointment as Registrar of SAIT in 1989 (the first female Registrar of an institute of technology in Australia), SAIT and the South Australian College of Advanced Education merged to form the University of South Australia and established a new culture, direction and set of values.

At a more grass roots level, the new university's requirement to develop a standard set of academic policies, procedures and business processes provided a stable basis for the transition to online processes, a huge advantage in an environment of rapid and radical change.

The introduction in the mid '80s of fees for higher education students in the form of the Higher Education Administrative Charge and HECS was another major change which brought with it a real focus on service and accountability and an increase in student litigation.

It was her interest in this area which led to one of Watson's personal highlights – an invitation to present her first keynote address at last year's inaugural conference of the

West Indian University Administrators in Kingston, Jamaica, on the topic of student fees and litigation.

Treated like royalty, she travelled with the Governor and appeared on television and radio talkback shows – a fitting end to her public speaking career.

As for the future, Watson hasn't discounted the notion of doing a PhD if she finds an exciting topic, but travelling overseas is high on the agenda.

[Transcript of Liz Watson's retirement speech](#)

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Our People: Diana Iasiello

Amanuensis-in-residence is just one of the titles I've gathered during the past 13 years of employment in the School of Communication, Information and New Media. I had to resort to the dictionary meaning and was relieved to find it meant note-taker or secretary.



In 1989 I started as a technical assistant in the days before desktop publishing. A computer the size of a fridge was used to produce the student newspapers which were distributed to 2000 homes in the Magill area, when 12-hour days were not uncommon for keen students to meet their deadline.

Apart from a few months in Campus Services and psychology my job has centred around journalism and public relations. One of the most enjoyable aspects of my job has been helping international students. Recently I drove a group of students who were from South Africa, Italy, Norway and China to a funeral parlour (which they were visiting as part of their journalistic training I might add) and to lighten up their day we did a mini tour of the city and North Adelaide.

Catching up on TV, radio or print news wouldn't be the same without recognising a graduate from the journalism program. From the whacky Richard Marsland to the cosmopolitan Indira Naidoo and the effervescent Sean Fewster in fact all the students that have studied journalism have added a new dimension to my days here.

Surrounded by the helpful, cheerful and diverse personalities in the school staff, I find the six kilometre bike ride to Magill a pleasant prelude to the day and an exhilarating exodus. With a 'busy fingers are happy fingers' outlook to my job, I look forward to each day in the idyllic setting of the Magill Campus.

[Diana Iasiello](#) is an administration officer for the School of Communications,
Information and New Media

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Academic board

The following was noted at the June 2002 meeting of the Academic Board.

Corporate planning

The Vice Chancellor introduced the draft Teaching and Learning, Research, Research Education and Consultancy, and People and Resources appendices to the Corporate Plan 2002-2003.

This year the Plan will follow a similar format to that introduced in 2001. A public document will comprise a report on UniSA's performance in 2001, activities and priorities in 2002, and Key Performance Indicator (KPI) targets for 2003-2005. Appendices on teaching and learning, research, research education and consultancy, people and resources, and the provisional budget will be attached for internal use only.

The Corporate Planning Group has been informed by reviews of the performance of divisions and portfolios during 2001, which reveal UniSA is on course as a flexible, innovative, responsive and responsible institution. The reviews also show:

- local student demand is down, and UniSA experienced a decline in first preferences in 2002. Competition continues to grow with other higher education providers using aggressive marketing strategies to counter our majority share of first preferences in SA
- ongoing growth in international student numbers will require extra emphasis on quality assurance, and increased resources flow to support services
- the new Research Training Scheme (RTS) funding model has introduced challenges for research directions
- like all universities, staff workloads continue to increase, and efforts must be continued to achieve sustainable workloads
- a strategy is being prepared to improve graduate employment outcomes

- further deregulation of the university sector will have serious implications for UniSA. The Corporate Plan will be influenced by external factors such as the outcome of the Commonwealth Review of Higher Education.

The corporate planning priorities for 2003 include: further development of transnational education and internationalisation; fostering a productive workplace; improving our research education environment; continuing emphasis on costing and profitability analysis; and extending UniSA's Northern Adelaide Strategy by consolidating existing initiatives and enhancing community development in conjunction with schools and TAFE.

Important teaching and learning issues continue to be student demand, feedback and satisfaction, and graduate employment outcomes. Program profile is inextricably linked to demand, and UniSA must ensure the right programs are in place, and are viable. We must remain innovative in program delivery, mode, content and support. The University's commitment to an online teaching and learning environment will be enhanced by the implementation of UniSAnet#2.

While UniSA's research performance continues to grow, the major research issue is degree completion rates. Commonwealth Government initiatives have placed increased weighting on research degree and publication outputs and commercialisation of research. We are well placed to hold our own in the new environment, but to grow we must look at our mature research concentrations, build new skills and alliances across disciplines, strengthen our commercialisation initiatives and industry links, and adopt a more global perspective.

In the area of people and resources, UniSA seeks to provide a safe, fair, productive and innovative workplace. We will strengthen our systems to support a service environment accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The implementation of Blueprint 2005 Capital Plan will see new buildings erected and existing facilities refurbished.

Program development

The following new programs were approved: Master of Advanced Business Practice (Division of BUE); Master of Physiotherapy – postgraduate entry (Division of HS); Graduate Certificate in Applied Science (Division of ITEE); Master of Rural Health (Whyalla).

Peter Cardwell

Executive Officer

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Research Update

Below is a list of new grant and fellowship opportunities that have become available in the last month. If you would like details of other current grant or fellowship opportunities please visit our website:

Current Grant Opportunities

<http://www.unisa.edu.au/orc/grants/grants.htm>

Current Fellowship and Award Opportunities

<http://www.unisa.edu.au/orc/grants/fellowships.htm>

For further information please contact the Grants Officer on 8302 3954 or by email

Maria.A.Arena@unisa.edu.au

New Grant Opportunities

The Apex Foundation

Research into Intellectual Disability Research Grants

Grants may be awarded where the research is concerned with the causes, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of intellectual disability and allied conditions.

www.research.uwa.edu.au/ops/sum/grants/apex.html

Internal closing date 17 July 2002

External closing date 31 July 2002

Australian Research Council

Linkage-Projects (Round 2) – readvertised

Aim to encourage and develop long-term strategic research alliances between higher education institutions and industry in order to apply advanced knowledge to problems.

www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/linkage/projects/default.htm

Internal closing date 22 November 2002

External closing date 6 December 2002

Land and Water Australia

R&D Projects

The sponsor provides funding for a range of research and development projects about land and water.

www.lwa.gov.au/other/applyfund_general_call.asp

Internal closing date 5 July 2002

External closing date 12 July 2002

Myer Foundation

Water and Environment Funding

The Myer Foundation supports initiatives that seek ways to improve the sustainable use of inland, estuarine and coastal waterways.

www.myerfoundation.org.au/applying/index.html

Internal closing date 23 July 2002

External closing date 30 July 2002

National Health and Medical Research Council

Development Grants

The purpose of these grants is to provide pre-seed funding for research commercialisation at the early “proof-of-concept” stage.

Internal closing date 25 July 2002

External closing date 1 August 2002

River Basin Management Society (Inc)

Ernest Jackson Memorial Research Grants

Aims to provide support and assistance in meeting costs associated with student research projects being undertaken in any field of study allied to river basin management.

Internal closing date 19 July 2002

External closing date 26 July 2002

WorkCover

Grants Scheme – over \$40,000

Grants are available for projects that specifically target occupational health and safety, rehabilitation and represent safe return-to-work initiatives. www.workcover.com/resources/resGrantsProcess.html

[resources/resGrantsProcess.html](http://www.workcover.com/resources/resGrantsProcess.html)

Internal closing date 2 August 2002

External closing date 9 August 2002

International Grant Opportunities

Australian-American Fulbright Commission

US Fulbright Senior Specialist Award

Aims to support Australian educational institutions in bringing US senior specialists to

Australia for two to six week periods. <http://www.fulbright.com.au>

External closing date 16 September 2002

Australian Academy of Science

International Exchange Program

Aims to improve Australian access to science and technology, and to increase awareness of Australian research. Please note the following closing dates:

Scientific Visits to Japan, Postdoctoral Fellowships in Japan Awards, Invitation Fellowship for research in Japan (short-term), Invitation Fellowship for research in Japan (long-term), Scientific visits to Taiwan, Scientific visits to China

Internal closing date 9 August 2002

External closing date 23 August 2002

Scientific Visits to Europe

Internal closing date 6 September 2002

External closing date 27 September 2002

www.science.org.au/internat/index.htm

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases – USA

Innovative Approaches for Combating Antimicrobial Resistance

Provides support for research to enhance the understanding of the factors affecting the development of resistant pathogens, and more.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-02-009.html>

External closing date 10 September (for letter of intent) and 10 October 2002 (for full application)

Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases Research Opportunities

Aims to expedite research leading to the prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment of disease caused by potential bioterrorism agents.

www.niaid.nih.gov/dmid/bioterrorism/rfalplat.htm

External closing date 1 October. Applicants are asked to submit a letter of intent at least six weeks before the planned application submission.

Searching for a scholarship?

The Joint Academic Scholarships Online Network (JASON) is a national online system of postgraduate scholarships. It contains information on scholarships available for postgraduate research projects and coursework. It includes overseas scholarships that may be tenured in Australia, and other possible countries to study. Load your own profile and obtain regular updates available in your discipline.

www.jason.unimelb.edu.au/

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